

A person in a grey hoodie is kneeling in prayer under a large tree with golden leaves. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow. The person is holding a long staff or pole. The background shows a field of tall grass and more trees in the distance.

A Heart Like
God's

Part 17: Finding Courage in God

1 Then David said to himself, “*Now I will perish one day by the hand of Saul.* There is nothing better for me than to escape into the land of the Philistines.

1 Samuel 27:1

NASB95

Saul then will despair of searching for me anymore in all the territory of Israel, and I will escape from his hand.”

Failing to keep God's
Promise in focus opens the
door for a spirit of
despair.

Despair in the heart is revealed when we find ourselves taking refuge in something apart from God — even in "enemy territory."

2 So David arose and crossed over, he and the six hundred men who were with him, to Achish the son of Maoch, king of Gath.

1 Samuel 27:2-7

NASB95

3 And David lived with Achish at Gath, he and his men, each with his household, *even* David with his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the Carmelitess, Nabal's widow.

4 Now it was told Saul that David had fled to Gath, so he no longer searched for him.

5 Then David said to Achish, "If now I have found favor in your sight, let them give me a place in one of the cities in the country, that I may live there; for why should your servant live in the royal city with you?"

6 So Achish gave him **Ziklag** that day;
therefore **Ziklag** has belonged to the kings
of Judah to this day.

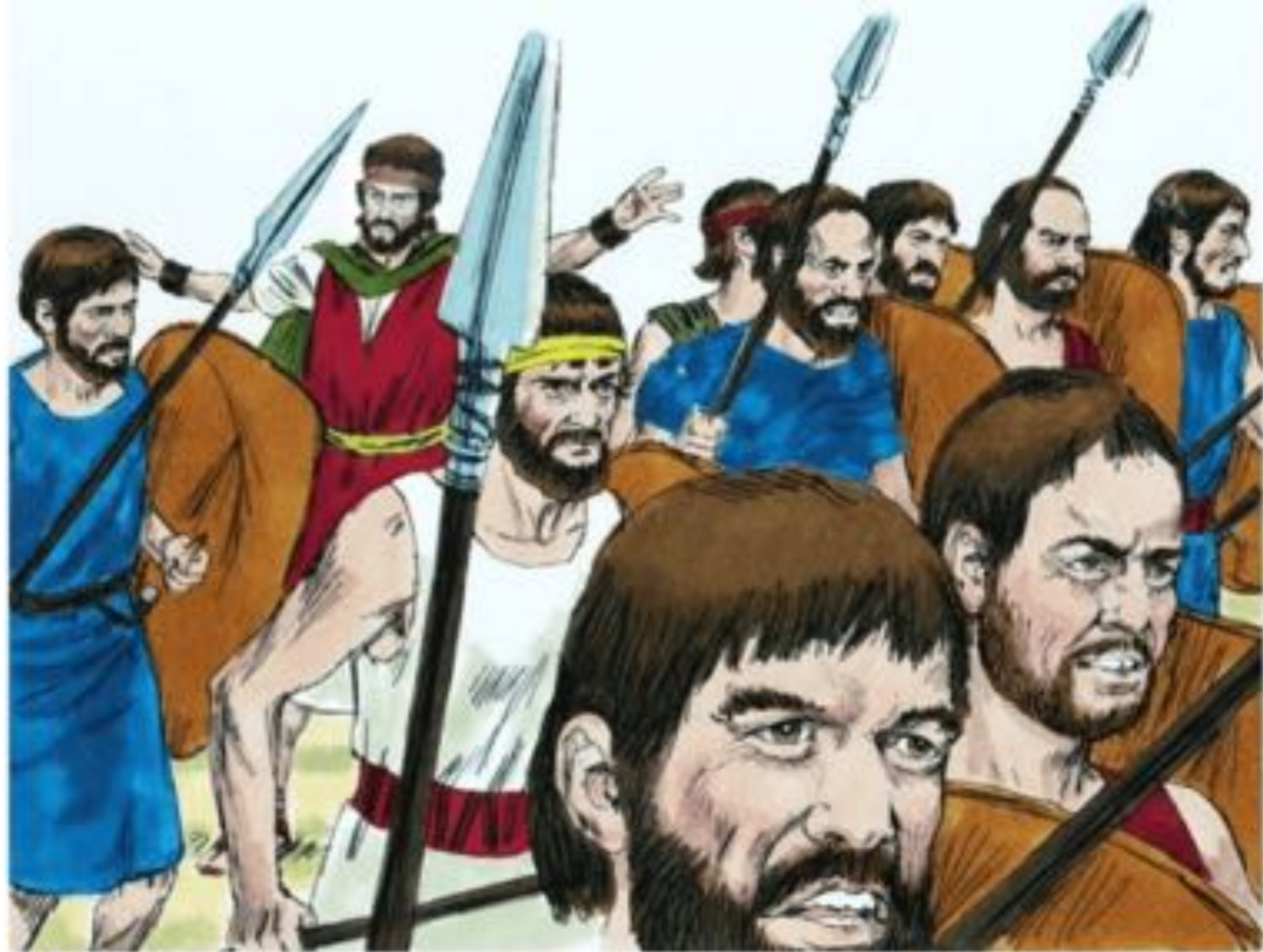
7 The number of days that David lived in the country of the Philistines was a year and four months.

Even when all seems lost,
if the hand of God is
with us, we have His favor
even with our "enemies."

Ziklag

("pouring out as water/
pressing to extract what is
within")

is where we find out what
is truly in us.











1 Then it happened when David and his men came to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had made a raid on the Negev and on Ziklag, and had overthrown Ziklag and burned it with fire;

1 Samuel 30:1-6

NASB95

2 and they took captive the women *and*
all who were in it, both small and great,
without killing anyone, and carried *them*
off and went their way.

3 When David and his men came to the city, behold, it was burned with fire, and their wives and their sons and their daughters had been taken captive.

4 Then David and the people who were with him **lifted their voices and wept** until there was no strength in them to weep.

5 Now David's two wives had been taken captive, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite.

6 Moreover David was greatly distressed because *the people spoke of stoning him*, for *all the people were embittered*, each one because of his sons and his daughters.

But David strengthened himself in the LORD
his God.

The turning point in our
life story is always when
we choose to turn toward
God instead of away
from Him in our moments
of truth.

We open up a Supernatural
storyline in our lives the
moment we invite the
Grace of God to fill us
when we are empty.



To get the clear
water in the depths
of the well, you
have to first clear
out what's in the
pipe...



Maybe we believe we
are filled with
putrid things because
we stopped pouring
out our hearts to
God before we got
to what's *really* in us.

For the choir director. A Psalm of
David.

Psalm 13

NASB95

1 How long, O LORD? Will You
forget me forever? How long will
You hide Your face from me?

2 How long shall I take counsel in
my soul, *Having* sorrow in my heart
all the day? How long will my
enemy be exalted over me?

3 Consider *and* answer me, O
LORD my God; Enlighten my eyes,
or I will sleep the *sleep* of death,

4 And my enemy will say, "I have overcome him," *And* my adversaries will rejoice when I am shaken.

5 But *I have trusted in Your
lovingkindness; My heart shall rejoice
in Your salvation.*

6 I will sing to the LORD, Because
He has dealt bountifully with me.