

1 Samuel 24:1-22

1. David encountered Saul in a _____ near En Gedi (1 Samuel 24:1-7)
 - A. Saul, along with _____ soldiers, pursued David to En Gedi.
 - B. David and his men were in the cave Saul entered to _____ himself.
 - C. David's men thought God had provided David with the perfect _____ to rid himself of the threat of Saul.
 - D. David cut off the corner of Saul's _____, but did not allow any harm to come to Saul.
2. Saul acknowledges David's right to _____. (1 Samuel 24:8-22)
 - A. David made _____ to Saul what he had done and the opportunity he had.
 - i. David laid out his _____ before Saul.
 - ii. David told Saul of the cave _____.
 - iii. David appealed to God to _____ him before Saul.
 - B. Saul _____ his understanding that David will be king.

Discussion Questions

1. In 1 Samuel 24, David had an opportunity to take revenge on Saul but chose not to. What does this episode reveal about David's character and relationship with God? How does this compare to how you might react in a similar situation?
2. The chapter begins with Saul pursuing David and ends with Saul acknowledging David's righteousness. What events and emotions lead to this transformation in Saul's attitude towards David? Do you think Saul's change of heart is genuine or merely a reprieve?
3. In 1 Samuel 24:12, David acknowledges that only God can judge between him and Saul. What does this statement reveal about David's trust in God's sovereignty? How can we apply this principle to conflicts in our own lives?
4. What does this story teach us about the importance of forgiveness and leaving justice in the hands of God? How can we apply these principles in our modern lives?
5. How does the concept of "anointed leadership" play a role in 1 Samuel 24?
6. How does David's respect for Saul's anointed status influence his actions? What lessons can we draw from this regarding respect for authority figures in our own lives?

7. The cave of En Gedi, where this encounter takes place, is known for its natural beauty and abundant water sources. How might the setting of this story symbolically reflect the themes of refreshment, protection, and God's provision in times of trouble?