

5 smooth stones

3, a person of no consequence - I Sam 17:12-24

There's that bear again! I scared it away the last time when I ran at it, yelling and throwing rocks. It won't run this time though! It has to die or some of the sheep will.

12 Now David was the son of the Ephrathite (*ef'-rath-ite*) of Bethlehem in Judah, whose name was Jesse, and he had eight sons. And Jesse was old in the days of Saul, advanced in years among men.

13 The three older sons of Jesse had gone after Saul to the battle. And the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and the second to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

14 David was the youngest. Now the three oldest followed Saul, 15 but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's flock at Bethlehem.

[1.] v:12, Now David, Reviewing Ruth 4:16-22, write down the name of David's great-grandparents on his father's side.

[2.] v:12 again, Ephrathite, Looking at Genesis 35:16-19, why was Jesse referred to as an Ephrathite?

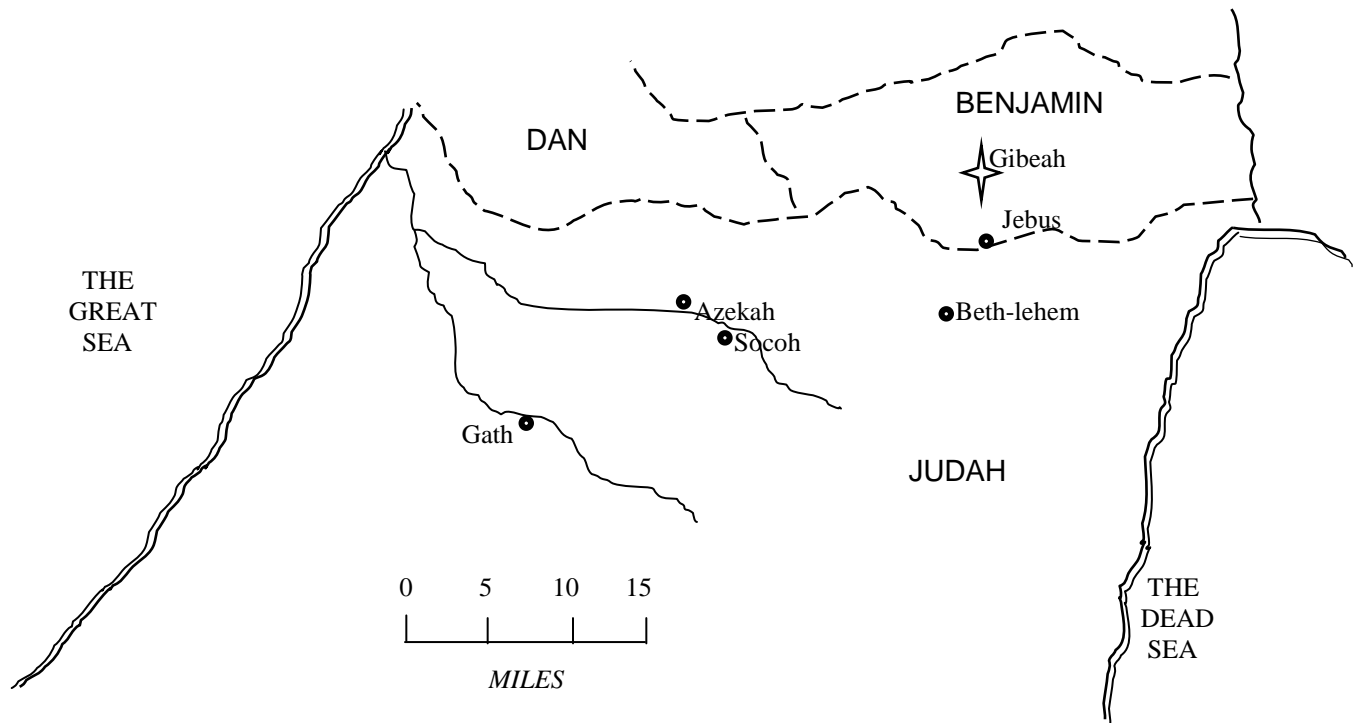
[3.] v:13, The three older sons, Considering I Samuel 8:11-12, why or why wouldn't you think these three sons were volunteers?

[4.] v:14, At this time David had two main tasks. What were they?

[5.] v:15, back and forth, Reviewing your map, next page, how far was a round trip?

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MINI STUDY

While you are still looking at the map, let's consider the place, just North of David's home, called Jebus. (Josh 15:63, I Ch 11:4-5)

Use your Bible and your Bible dictionary (or the one in the church library), to answer the following.

[6.] Who was living at Jebus when David was a boy?

[7.] If they're the bad guys, why weren't they driven out during the time of Joshua?

[8.] Why was this place called Jebus?

[9.] How long was this place called Jebus?

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16 The Philistine came forward morning and evening for forty days and took his stand.

17 Then Jesse said to David his son, " Take now for your brothers an ephah of this roasted grain and these ten loaves and run to the camp to your brothers. 18 " Bring also these ten cuts of cheese to the commander of their thousand, and look into the welfare of your brothers, and bring back news of them. 19 "For Saul and they and all the men of Israel are in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines."

20 So David arose early in the morning and left the flock with a keeper and took the supplies and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the circle of the camp while the army was going out in battle array shouting the war cry.

21 Israel and the Philistines drew up in battle array, army against army. 22 Then David left his baggage in the care of the baggage keeper, and ran to the battle line and entered in order to greet his brothers.

[10.] v:16, The Philistine, **What was the duration of the stand off?**

[11.] v:17-19, Jesse said to David, **At this point, identify whom Jesse seemed to take the most interest in?**

[12.] I Samuel 16:11-13 again, write down some things David had going for him.

[13.] v:20, left the flock with a keeper, **Why didn't David just leave the flock alone and go?**

[14.] v:20 again, as Jesse had commanded him, **This is not in scripture but why might God take notice of David's obedience to his earthly father?**

[15.] v:21-22, ran to the battle line, **Reviewing v:17-19, write down David's purpose for being in Elah and then compare it with what really drew his interest?**

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23 As he was talking with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine from Gath named Goliath, was coming up from the army of the Philistines, and he spoke these same words; and David heard *them*.

24 When all the men of Israel saw the man, they fled from him and were greatly afraid.

[16.] v:23, and David heard *them*. Once again, what did Goliath speak?

[17.] v:24, fled from him, OK, Assume the whole army, including David, bailed. But, in his minds eye, what might have David seen when he heard and saw the bellowing giant?

[18.] v:24 again, greatly afraid, Considering how much time David spent alone, and the hazards he faced, why can we conclude that he experienced fear but, still functioned very efficiently.

He asked for the Lord's protection and checked his knife. Carefully selecting a smooth stone from his shepherd's bag, he placed it in his sling. Taking a deep breath he started sprinting, quickly closing the thirty meters to where the bear was watching. The loaded sling made a whistling noise as the boy whipped it faster and faster. The monster's attention, completely on the boy now went up on its rear legs rattling the boy's eardrums with a bellowing rage. That open mouth was what the boy was looking for. In that instant he launched the missile at the open throat, dropped the sling and pulled his knife. The stone had driven into back of the bear's throat and approached its brain. With the bear stupefied the boy quickly drove his knife into its heart. As the beast fell the boy deftly withdrew the knife, sidestepped the fall and tore open its throat.

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NOTES