

¹وَلَمَّا رَجَعَ شَاوُلُ مِنَ وَرَاءِ الْفِلِسْطِينِيِّينَ أَحْبَرُوهُ، هُوَذَا دَاوُدُ فِي بَرِّيَّةِ عَيْنِ جَدِي.² فَأَخَذَ شَاوُلُ ثَلَاثَةَ آلَافِ رَجُلٍ مُنْتَحِبِينَ مِنْ جَمِيعِ إِسْرَائِيلَ وَذَهَبَ يَطْلُبُ دَاوُدَ وَرِجَالَهُ عَلَى ضُحُورِ الْوُغُولِ.³ وَجَاءَ إِلَى حَطَايِرِ الْعُغَمِ الَّتِي فِي الطَّرِيقِ. وَكَانَ هُنَاكَ كَهْفٌ قَدْ خَلَّ شَاوُلُ لِحَاجَةٍ لَهُ وَدَاوُدُ وَرِجَالُهُ كَانُوا جُلُوسًا فِي مُوَحَّرَةِ الْكَهْفِ.⁴ فَقَالَ رَجُلٌ دَاوُدَ لَهُ، هُوَذَا الْبُيُوتُ الَّتِي قَالَ لَكَ عَنْهُ الرَّبُّ، هَتَدًا أَذْفَعُ عَدُوَّكَ لِيَدِكَ فَتَفْعَلْ بِهِ مَا يَحْسُنُ فِي عَيْنَيْكَ. فَقَامَ دَاوُدُ وَقَطَعَ طَرَفَ جُبَّةِ شَاوُلَ سِرًّا.⁵ وَكَانَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ أَنَّ قَلْبَ دَاوُدَ صَرَبَتْهُ عَلَى قَطْعِهِ طَرَفَ جُبَّةِ شَاوُلَ،⁶ فَقَالَ لِرِجَالِهِ، خَاشَا لِي مِنْ قِتْلِ الرَّبِّ أَنْ أَعْمَلَ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ بِسَيِّدِي يَمْسِيحِ الرَّبِّ، فَأَمُدَّ يَدِي إِلَيْهِ لِأَنَّهُ مَسِيحُ الرَّبِّ هُوَ.⁷ فَوَجَّحَ دَاوُدُ رِجَالَهُ يَالْكَلَامَ وَلَمْ يَدْعُهُمْ يَقُومُونَ عَلَى شَاوُلَ. وَأَمَّا شَاوُلُ فَقَامَ مِنَ الْكَهْفِ وَذَهَبَ فِي طَرِيقِهِ.⁸ ثُمَّ قَامَ دَاوُدُ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ وَخَرَجَ مِنَ الْكَهْفِ وَتَنَادَى وَرَاءَ شَاوُلَ، يَا سَيِّدِي الْمَلِكُ. وَلَمَّا التَفَتَ شَاوُلُ إِلَى وَرَائِهِ خَرَّ دَاوُدُ عَلَى وَجْهِهِ إِلَى الْأَرْضِ وَسَجَدَ.⁹ وَقَالَ دَاوُدُ لِسَاوُلَ، لِمَذَا تَسْمَعُ كَلَامَ النَّاسِ الْقَائِلِينَ، هُوَذَا دَاوُدُ يَطْلُبُ أَدَبَتَكَ.¹⁰ هُوَذَا قَدْ رَأَيْتَ عَيْنَاكَ الْيَوْمَ هَذَا كَيْفَ دَفَعَكَ الرَّبُّ لِيَدِي فِي الْكَهْفِ، وَقِيلَ لِي أَنْ أَقْتُلَكَ، وَلَكِنِّي أَسْفَعْتُكَ عَلَيْكَ وَقُلْتُ، لَا أَمُدُّ يَدِي إِلَى سَيِّدِي لِأَنَّهُ مَسِيحُ الرَّبِّ هُوَ.¹¹ قَانِظُرْ يَا أَبِي، انْظُرْ أَيْضًا طَرَفَ جُبَّتِكَ بِيَدِي. فَمِنْ قَطْعِي طَرَفَ جُبَّتِكَ وَعَدَمَ قَلْبِي إِيَّاكَ أَعْلَمُ وَانْظُرْ أَنَّهُ لَيْسَ فِي يَدِي سَرٌّ وَلَا جُرْمٌ، وَلَمْ أَخْطِئْ إِلَيْكَ، وَأَنْتَ تَصِيدُ نَفْسِي لِتَأْخُذَهَا.¹² بَقِضِي الرَّبُّ بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَكَ وَبَسِّقْهُ لِي الرَّبُّ مِنْكَ، وَلَكِنْ يَدِي لَا تَكُونُ عَلَيْكَ.¹³ كَمَا يَقُولُ مَثَلُ الْقُدَمَاءِ، مِنْ الْأَسْرَارِ يَخْرُجُ سَرٌّ. وَلَكِنْ يَدِي لَا تَكُونُ عَلَيْكَ.¹⁴ وَرَاءَ مَنْ خَرَجَ مَلِكُ إِسْرَائِيلَ، وَرَاءَ مَنْ أَنْتَ مُطَارِدٌ. وَرَاءَ كُلِّ مَيِّتٍ، وَرَاءَ بُرْغُوثٍ وَاجِدٍ.¹⁵ فَيَكُونُ الرَّبُّ الدَّبَّانَ وَبَقِضِي بَيْنِي وَبَيْنَكَ، وَبَرَى وَبُحَاكِمُ مُحَاكِمَتِي وَبِنِقْدِي مِنْ يَدِكَ.¹⁶ فَلَمَّا فَرَغَ دَاوُدُ مِنَ التَّكَلُّمِ بِهَذَا الْكَلَامِ إِلَى شَاوُلَ قَالَ شَاوُلُ، أَهَذَا صَوْتُكَ يَا ابْنِي دَاوُدَ. وَرَفَعَ شَاوُلُ صَوْتَهُ وَبَكَى.¹⁷ ثُمَّ قَالَ لِدَاوُدَ، أَنْتَ أَبَرُّ مِنِّي لِأَنَّكَ جَارَيْتَنِي خَيْرًا وَأَنَا جَارَيْتُكَ سَرًّا.¹⁸ وَقَدْ أَطْهَرْتَ الْيَوْمَ أَنَّكَ عَمِلْتَ بِي خَيْرًا لَأَنَّ الرَّبَّ قَدْ دَفَعَنِي بِيَدِكَ وَلَمْ تَقْتُلْنِي.¹⁹ فَإِذَا وَجَدَ رَجُلٌ عَدُوَّهُ، فَهَلْ يَطْلُقُهُ فِي طَرِيقِ خَيْرٍ. قَالَ الرَّبُّ يُجَارِيكَ خَيْرًا عَمَّا فَعَلْتَهُ لِي الْيَوْمَ هَذَا.²⁰ وَالْآنَ فَإِنِّي عَلِمْتُ أَنَّكَ تَكُونُ مَلِكًا

¹And it came to pass, when Saul was returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, Behold, David is in the wilderness of Engedi.² Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats.³ And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave.⁴ And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily.⁵ And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt.⁶ And he said unto his men, The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD.⁷ So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way.⁸ David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself.⁹ And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?¹⁰ Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not

وَتَبَّثْتُ يَدِيكَ مَمْلَكَةً إِسْرَائِيلَ.²¹ فَاخْلِفْ لِي الْآنَ يَا رَبُّ
إِنَّكَ لَا تَقْطَعُ نَسْلِي مِنْ بَعْدِي، وَلَا تُبِيدُ اسْمِي مِنْ بَيْتِ
أَبِي.²² فَحَلَفَ دَاوُدُ لِسَاوُلَ. ثُمَّ دَهَبَ سَاوُلُ إِلَى بَيْتِهِ،
وَأَمَّا دَاوُدُ وَرَجَالُهُ فَصَعِدُوا إِلَى الْجِصْنِ.

put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the LORD's anointed.¹¹ Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it.¹² The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.¹³ As saith the proverb of the ancients, Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked: but mine hand shall not be upon thee.¹⁴ After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea.¹⁵ The LORD therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand.¹⁶ And it came to pass, when David had made an end of speaking these words unto Saul, that Saul said, Is this thy voice, my son David? And Saul lifted up his voice, and wept.¹⁷ And he said to David, Thou art more righteous than I: for thou hast rewarded me good, whereas I have rewarded thee evil.¹⁸ And thou hast shewed this day how that thou hast dealt well with me: forasmuch as when the LORD had delivered me into thine hand, thou killedst me not.¹⁹ For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore the LORD reward thee good for that thou hast done unto me this day.²⁰ And now, behold, I know well that thou shalt surely be king, and that the kingdom of Israel shall be established in thine hand.²¹ Swear now therefore unto me by the LORD, that thou

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wilt not cut off my seed after me, and that thou wilt not destroy my name out of my father's house.²² And David sware unto Saul. And Saul went home; but David and his men gat them up unto the hold.