

David in the Cave

1 Samuel 22:1-2

1 Sam 22:1

Cave Adullam: Named after the nearby city.

Valley of Elah

13 miles West of Bethlehem, David's home town.

Easton's Bible Dictionary: ... *Some of these caverns are large enough to hold 200 or 300 men.*

Jamieson... *supposed to be that now called Deir-Dubban, a number of pits or underground vaults, some nearly square, and all about fifteen or twenty feet deep, with perpendicular sides, in the soft limestone or chalky rocks.*

Conder, Tenting in Palestine, vol. 2, p. 159: ...*but still more interesting was the discovery of a separate cave, on the hill itself, a low, smoke-filled, blackened burrow which was the home of a single family...*

The lowest moment of David's life.

Psa 142:1-7 *my spirit was overwhelmed within me,: refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul.*

...5 *I cried unto thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art my refuge and my portion in the land of the living...*

Swindoll: ...*When the sovereign God brings us to nothing, it is to reroute our lives, not to end them.*

22.1b... and when his brethren and all his father's house heard it, they went down thither to him.

Doing his best to survive

He sees a large number of family members, including his father, coming to live with him.

1 Sam 22:2

Initial formation of David's army.

The Troubled.

Distress: under pressure, under stress.

The Threatened.

Debt: to lend on interest, to have a number of creditors.

The Tormented.

Discontented: bitter in soul. 1 Sam 1:10-11

David ends up with cave full of discontented, dissatisfied and disgruntled people.

Swindoll: *Can you imagine that? It's bad enough to be in there alone feeling like a worm. But to have over 400 more worms crawl in there with you, that's a mess!*

Sometimes when you're in the cave, you don't want others around.

He begins to make some very important transitions in life:

- From cave of despair to cave of hope
- From escape hatch to training ground.
- From malcontents to mighty men of valor.
- From darkness to light
- From despair to hope

Transition from being beaten down to being leader of mightiest men of Israel.

Swindoll: *David became a sort of Robin Hood. His Sherwood Forest was the rugged Judean wilderness, with its mountains, caves, and deep wadis (An oasis). There, he commanded a group of mavericks because God wanted him to become a maverick king. Israel would never see another king like David.*

Why such a major change in the direction of David's life?

1. Transparent.
2. Humble
3. Teachable

God turned cave into training center.

Remember, the conversion of a soul is the miracle of the moment, but the making of a saint is the task of a lifetime. Swindoll

Psa 31:1-10