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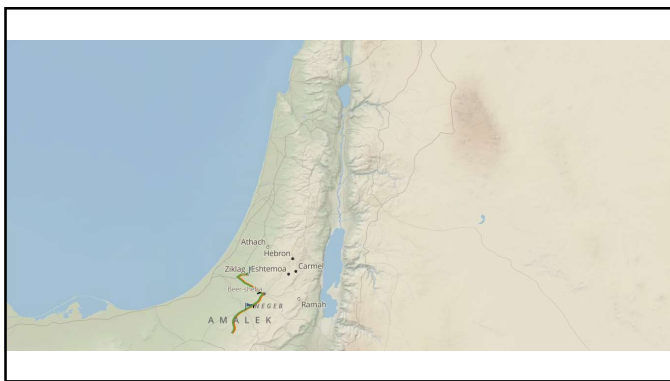
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Saul's reign as King of Israel. 12:1-31:13

- David chosen and positioned to be the next king of Israel. 16:1-30:30
  - David's rejection by the Philistine leaders and the destruction of Ziklag by the Amalekites. 29:1-30:31
    - The attempt by Achish to have David and his men join in the battle with Israel is rejected by the other Philistine leaders.
    - David and his men returned to Ziklag to find that the town had been attacked, burned, and all their family members had been taken captive by the Amalekites.

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Saul's reign as King of Israel. 12:1-31:13

- David chosen and positioned to be the next king of Israel. 16:1-30:30
  - David's rejection by the Philistine leaders and the destruction of Ziklag by the Amalekites. 29:1-30:31
    - David and all the people were greatly distressed.
    - The men looked for someone to blame.
    - David looked to God for direction.
    - On God's revelation that David and his men would overtake the Amalekites and rescue their families, they immediately set out to do so.

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Saul's reign as King of Israel. 12:1-31:13

- David chosen and positioned to be the next king of Israel. 16:1-30:30
  - David's rejection by the Philistine leaders and the destruction of Ziklag by the Amalekites. 29:1-30:31
    - The bulk of David's army were probably foot soldiers and after almost three days of returning to Ziklag and now pursuing the Amalekites, 200 of them were too exhausted to go beyond the brook Besor.
    - David's men found a young Egyptian who had been left behind by his Amalekite master and he agreed to guide David to the Amalekites.

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Saul's reign as King of Israel. 12:1-31:13

- David chosen and positioned to be the next king of Israel. 16:1-30:30
  - David's rejection by the Philistine leaders and the destruction of Ziklag by the Amalekites. 29:1-30:31
    - The Amalekites, distracted by their indulgence in the spoils taken, were defeated by David and totally wiped out except for 400 men who fled on camels.
    - All the family members and the things taken were recovered.
    - Some of the 400 wanted to deprive the 200 of the share in the things recovered except for their family members but David made a rule that everyone would share alike.

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Saul's reign as King of Israel. 12:1-31:13

- David chosen and positioned to be the next king of Israel. 16:1-30:30
  - David's rejection by the Philistine leaders and the destruction of Ziklag by the Amalekites. 29:1-30:31
    - David also shared the spoils with the bordering towns of Judah.

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Lessons

- Any time God interrupts your plans, recognize He has a bigger view of events.
- Assigning blame is rarely helpful.
- Times of distress are times to turn to God for guidance and direction.
- A little kindness goes a long way.
- Never let your guard down.
- As we work together at God's direction the contribution of each person is important and significant.
- Being generous honors God as the source of our blessings.

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