

En Gedi
Trusting Faith
(1 Sam. 24:1-22)

~ INTRO ~

En Gedi is a Hebrew word meaning =Lit. *spring of the young goat*.

- *Ein* = Spring
- *Gedi* = Young goat

THESE HILLS...

- Are part of the Judean Wilderness...
 - AND the *Nubian Ibex* - *wild goat* (1 Sam. 24:2) NLT
 - Is a frequent guest here.

THERE'S TWO WATER FALLS...

- In this 250-acre *Nature Reserve*
 - A lower fall...
 - AND an upper fall – **called David's Waterfall.**

NOW...

- The reason we visit this spot is to remember David...
 - Who hid in these caves as he was running...
 - From King Saul who was trying to kill him.

*The background imagery for this story comes from: (Ps. 57) & (Ps. 63).

(Ps. 57:1) NLT

David says...

"Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy! I look to you for protection. I will hide beneath the shadow of your wings until the danger passes by."

(Ps.63:1) NLT

"O God, you are my God; I earnestly search for you. My soul thirsts for You; my whole-body longs for You in this parched and weary land..."

~ A FEW OBSERVATIONS ~

BIBLE TEACHERS...

- Tell us this desert was where God shaped & matured David...
 - Before He gave him the kingdom to lead.

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AND... THAT'S A POWERFUL LESSON FOR US TOO!

- Because God often uses desert seasons...
 - Before He raises us into places of service –
 - (Ps. 75:7)... *God raises up & puts down.*

IN (1 Sam 24:3-5) NLT

- David cut the corner of Saul's robe off...
 - When he *relieved himself* in one of these caves.

SOME INTERPRET THIS...

- As using the restroom...
 - **Others** interpret it as oiling & massaging his feet & legs.

BECAUSE... SAUL WAS NEARLY 40-YRS OLD...

- And he just marched out of Jerusalem... thru the desert... to Ein Gedi...
 - With an army of much younger men.

SO... IN A CAVE...

- He took some much-needed care of himself.

BUT... EITHER WAY...

- David did to Saul... what Saul had done to Samuel (1 Sam. 15:27).

SAUL HAD TORE...

- The corner of Samuel's garment.

SO TOO...

- David took the same corner of Saul's garment in the cave...
 - (1 Sam 24:4) again indicating the kingdom was being taken...
 - From Saul.

~ FAITH LESSONS ~

Demonstrated by David:

#1) When trouble hit...

- David's first step was to seek the Lord for direction...

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- (1 Sam. 23:10-12).

#2) David didn't FIGHT for himself...

➤ His FAITH was in God for his life...

- (1 Sam. 24:6-7).

~ IN CLOSING ~

- READ (1 Sam. 24:16-22).