

A close-up of a marble bust of a man with curly hair, set against a background of cracked, aged parchment. The bust is centered and slightly to the left. The text 'The Fugitive' is overlaid on the bust's face.

# The Fugitive





**1 Samuel 18: 14** In everything he did he had great  
success,

**1 Samuel 18: 14** In everything he did he had great success, because **the Lord was with him.**



**1 Samuel 21:** David went to Nob, to Ahimelek the priest. Ahimelek trembled when he met him, and asked, “Why are you alone? Why is no one with you?” 2 David answered Ahimelek the priest, “**The king sent me on a mission** and said to me, ‘No one is to know anything about the mission I am sending you on.’ As for my men, I have told them to meet me at a certain place. 3 Now then, what do you have on hand? Give me five loaves of bread, or whatever you can find.”

**1 Samuel 21: 4** But the priest answered David, “I don’t have any ordinary bread on hand; however, there is some consecrated bread here—provided the men have kept themselves from women.”

5 David replied, “Indeed women have been kept from us, as usual whenever I set out. The men’s bodies are holy even on missions that are not holy. How much more so today!”

**1 Samuel 21: 6** So the priest gave him the consecrated bread, since there was no bread there except the bread of the Presence that had been removed from before the Lord and replaced by hot bread on the day it was taken away.

**7** Now one of Saul's servants was there that day, detained before the Lord; he was Doeg the Edomite, Saul's chief shepherd.





**1 Samuel 21: 8** David asked Ahimelek, “Don’t you have a spear or a sword here? I haven’t brought my sword or any other weapon, because the king’s mission was urgent.”

9 The priest replied, “The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you killed in the Valley of Elah, is here; it is wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. If you want it, take it; there is no sword here but that one.”

1 Samuel 21: David said, “There is none like it; give it to me.”





In Samuel/Kings, David's great sin  
was Bathsheba.

---

In Chronicles, David's great sin  
was wanting to build the Temple.

Our great sin is when we seek  
to live out our faith with  
worldly values.





**1 Samuel 21:** 10 That day David fled from Saul and went to Achish king of Gath. 11 But the servants of Achish said to him, “Isn’t this David, the king of the land? Isn’t he the one they sing about in their dances: “Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands’?”

1 Samuel 21: 12 David took these words to heart and was very much afraid of Achish king of Gath.  
13 So he pretended to be insane in their presence; and while he was in their hands he acted like a madman, making marks on the doors of the gate and letting saliva run down his beard.





**1 Samuel 22: 8** Is that why you have all conspired against me? No one tells me when my son makes a covenant with the son of Jesse. None of you is concerned about me or tells me that my son has incited my servant to lie in wait for me, as he does today.”

**1 Samuel 22:** 9 But Doeg the Edomite, who was standing with Saul's officials, said, "I saw the son of Jesse come to Ahimelek son of Ahitub at Nob. 10 Ahimelek inquired of the Lord for him; he also gave him provisions and the sword of Goliath the Philistine."



**1 Samuel 22:** 14 Ahimelek answered the king,  
“Who of all your servants is as loyal as David, the  
king’s son-in-law, captain of your bodyguard and  
highly respected in your household? 15 Was that  
day the first time I inquired of God for him? Of  
course not! Let not the king accuse your servant or  
any of his father’s family, for your servant knows  
nothing at all about this whole affair.”

**1 Samuel 22:** 17 Then the king ordered the guards at his side: “Turn and kill the priests of the Lord, because they too have sided with David. They knew he was fleeing, yet they did not tell me.” But the king’s officials were unwilling to raise a hand to strike the priests of the Lord.

18 The king then ordered Doeg, “You turn and strike down the priests.”

**1 Samuel 22:** So Doeg the Edomite turned and struck them down. That day he killed eighty-five men who wore the linen ephod. 19 He also put to the sword Nob, the town of the priests, with its men and women, its children and infants, and its cattle, donkeys and sheep.



To whom should we lay the  
guilt for Ahimelek and the  
other priests?



To whom should we lay the  
guilt for Ahimelek and the  
other priests?

Saul, Doeg, and David

**1 Samuel 22:** 20 But one son of Ahimelek son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled to join David. 21 He told David that Saul had killed the priests of the Lord. 22 Then David said to Abiathar, “That day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, I knew he would be sure to tell Saul. **I am responsible for the death of your whole family.**



Like Saul before him, David is  
losing his sanity because **he**  
**seeks to control his own**  
**destiny.**

**Psalms 39:** I said, “I will watch my ways  
and keep my tongue from sin;  
I will put a muzzle on my mouth  
while in the presence of the wicked.”

2 So I remained utterly silent,  
not even saying anything good.

But my anguish increased;

3 my heart grew hot within me.

While I meditated, the fire burned;  
then I spoke with my tongue:

**Psalm 39: 4** “Show me, Lord, my life’s end  
and the number of my days;  
let me know how fleeting my life is.



The mind of a fugitive is set on  
**protecting** him/herself.



David assumed he stood  
outside the face of God.



# You're a fugitive from God when...

---

**Your actions to resolve your  
situation involve sin.**





You're a fugitive from God when...

---

Prayer is noticeably absent from  
your plans.



You're a fugitive from God when...

---

Your plans get other people hurt.



You're a fugitive from God when...

---

**Your course leads to madness.**

"Madness can be an escape. If things are not so good, you maybe want to imagine something better. In madness, I thought I was the most important person of the world."

--John Nash





Jesus shows us how to trust God in  
the storm.

---

1 Peter 2:23; Luke 22:42





A close-up of a marble bust of a man with curly hair, set against a background of cracked, aged parchment. The bust is centered and slightly to the left. The text 'The Fugitive' is overlaid on the bust's face.

# The Fugitive