

A close-up of a marble bust of a classical figure, possibly a philosopher or deity, with curly hair. The bust is centered against a background of aged, cracked parchment. The text "A Beautiful Mind" is overlaid on the bust's face.

# A Beautiful Mind





**I Samuel 23:** 26 Saul was going along one side of the mountain, and David and his men were on the other side, hurrying to get away from Saul. As Saul and his forces were closing in on David and his men to capture them, 27 a messenger came to Saul, saying, “Come quickly! The Philistines are raiding the land.” 28 Then Saul broke off his pursuit of David and went to meet the Philistines.

1 Samuel 24: 5 Afterward, David was conscience-stricken for having cut off a corner of his robe. 6 He said to his men, “The Lord forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the Lord’s anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the Lord.”

**1 Samuel 26: 9** But David said to Abishai, “Don’t destroy him! Who can lay a hand on the Lord’s anointed and be guiltless?”



**1 Samuel 26:** 22 “Here is the king’s spear,” David answered. “Let one of your young men come over and get it. 23 The Lord rewards everyone for their righteousness and faithfulness. The Lord delivered you into my hands today, but I would not lay a hand on the Lord’s anointed. 24 As surely as I valued your life today, so may the Lord value my life and deliver me from all trouble.”

**I Samuel 30: 6** But David found strength in the  
Lord his God.





# Have you drifted from God?

---

Even a God-less text has Godly  
truths

and gives Godly directions for  
the Lord's people.



**1 Samuel 27:** But David thought to himself, “One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul.  
**3** David and his men settled in Gath with Achish. Each man had his family with him, and David had his two wives: Ahinoam of Jezreel and Abigail of Carmel, the widow of Nabal.

**1 Samuel 27:** 4 When Saul was told that David had fled to Gath, he no longer searched for him.

5 Then David said to Achish, “If I have found favor in your eyes, let a place be assigned to me in one of the country towns, that I may live there. Why should your servant live in the royal city with you?”

6 So on that day Achish gave him Ziklag, and it has belonged to the kings of Judah ever since. 7

David lived in Philistine territory a year and four months.

**1 Samuel 27:** 8 Now David and his men went up and raided the Geshurites, the Girzites and the Amalekites. (From ancient times these peoples had lived in the land extending to Shur and Egypt.)  
9 Whenever David attacked an area, he did not leave a man or woman alive, but took sheep and cattle, donkeys and camels, and clothes. Then he returned to Achish.



**I Samuel 27: 10** When Achish asked, “Where did you go raiding today?” David would say, “Against the Negev of Judah” or “Against the Negev of Jerahmeel” or “Against the Negev of the Kenites.”

11 He did not leave a man or woman alive to be brought to Gath, for he thought, “They might inform on us and say, ‘This is what David did.’”

And such was his practice as long as he lived in Philistine territory.

**1 Samuel 27: 12** Achish trusted David and said to himself, “He has become so obnoxious to his people, the Israelites, that he will be my servant for life.”





# Have you drifted from God?

---

# Have you drifted from God?

---

Clue #1: David has not prayed,  
spoken the Lord's name, or used  
the ephod in several chapters.





**1 Samuel 27:** But David thought to himself, “One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul.

Literally, "David **said to his heart**: 'Now I am going to be **swept away** one day by the **hand of Saul**.'"

# Have you drifted from God?

---

Clue #2: David was saying the  
wrong things to himself.

**1 Samuel 27:** But David thought to himself, “One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul.

Literally, "David **said to his heart**: 'Now I am going to be **swept away** one day by the **hand of Saul**'."



# Have you drifted from God?

---

**Clue #3: David was afraid of “the hand of Saul”.**



**1 Samuel 27:** But David thought to himself, “One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul.

Literally, "David **said to his heart**: 'Now I am going to be **swept away** one day by the **hand of Saul**'."

# The "hand of Saul"

---

# The "hand of Saul"

---

Psalm 118: 15 “The Lord’s right hand has  
done mighty things!

16 The Lord’s right hand is lifted high;  
the Lord’s right hand has done mighty  
things!”



# Have you drifted from God?

---

Clue #4: David allowed a  
“substitute teacher” to replace  
the real thing.



**1 Samuel 27:** But David thought to himself, “One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul.

Literally, "David **said to his heart**: 'Now I am going to be **swept away** one day by the **hand of Saul**'."

# "Swept Away"

---

Saul will be "swept away" in his  
own time (1 Sam. 26:10)



Getting back on track with  
God's will and purpose for our  
lives...

Speak the name of the Lord  
as often as you can.



**We think,** “I don’t think God wants anything to do with me when I stand outside His will.”

**Luke 15:** 19 I am no longer worthy...

**Romans 3:** 25 God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— 26 he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.



Start speaking the truth to  
*your soul.*

David "said to his heart"

---

What David was telling himself  
determined his actions.



Luke 12: 19 And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years...

What we keep saying to the  
center of our wills  
will determine our paths.

Psalm 62: 5 Yes, my soul, find rest in God;  
my hope comes from him.



Have the courage to filter  
future decisions through Godly  
wisdom.

**James 1:** 14 But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. 15 Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

**James 1: 17** But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

**Luke 15: 17** “When he came to his senses...”





**One last thought:** Assume God wants to be a part of your mess because He wants to shape you into something better.





A close-up of a marble bust of a classical figure, possibly a philosopher or deity, with curly hair. The bust is centered against a background of aged, cracked parchment. The text "A Beautiful Mind" is overlaid on the bust's face.

# A Beautiful Mind