

***“Pessimism, Philistines And More Problems”***  
***I Sam. 27:1-28:2, 29:1-11***

**STRUCTURE:** In 27-29 we again have a “sandwich structure.”

- 1) David’s episode with Philistines, 27-28:2
- 2) *Saul’s episode with a medium, 28:3-25*
- 3) David’s episode with Philistines resumed, 29:1-11

***Depressed attitude causes David to flee to Philistia. (27:1-7)***

- \*David’s optimism turns to fatalistic pessimism (just said--26:23-25)
- \*Is this move a mistake by David? What didn’t he do? (23:2,4,9-12)

***Deception enables David to thrive in Philistia (27:8-12).***

- \*Recall 21:10-15. David deceives yet again, and here it’s Achish for 2<sup>nd</sup> time (21:2). Why does Achish take him in this time?
- \*David raids Israel’s ancient enemies even though exiled (Amalakites in ch.15, 30). David’s motivation here = profit and kills for secrecy.

***Distrust allows David to avoid a losing battle (28:1,2, 29:1-11).***

- \*David in a catch-22--what will he do as either way seems a mess?!
- \*Weird ironies: David’s song—third time is the charm (18:7, 21:11)
  - David is faithful to Saul, yet . . .
  - David is faithless to Achish, yet . . .
- \*David’s pessimism and the sad events of ch. 18-31 are actually the results of another’s pessimistic decision (18:8,9, 20:30,31, 22:8).

**How about me?**

- Am I tempted at times to be pessimistic, and then act rather rashly?
- Do I get myself in confusing dilemmas because of dishonesty?
- Am I making decisions based on God’s promises and godly counsel?