



shofar

# OFFENCE

*fight or flight*

17 September

# Scripture readings for today:

- **1 Samuel 24**
- **1 Samuel 26**
- **2 Sam 1**
- **Genesis 4**

Matthew 24:10-13 [ESV]

<sup>10</sup> And then many will fall away [*skandalon*] and betray one another and hate one another. <sup>11</sup> And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. <sup>12</sup> And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold.

## Matthew 24:10-13 [NKJV]

<sup>10</sup> And then many will be *offended*, will betray one another, and will hate one another.<sup>11</sup> Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. <sup>12</sup> And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. <sup>13</sup> But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

fall away

betray  
one  
another

hate  
one  
another

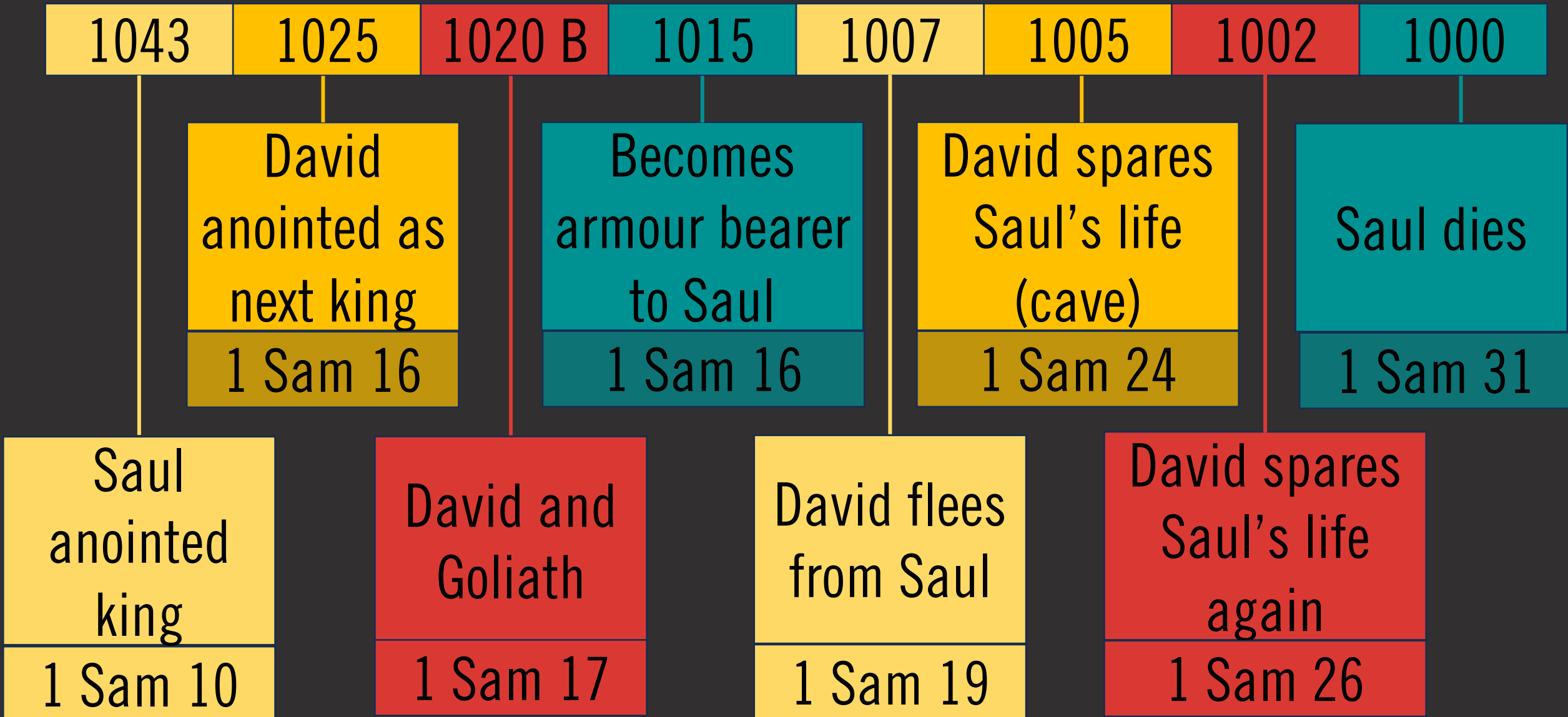
deception

love  
grow  
cold

Luke 17:1 [NKJV]

Then He said to the disciples, “It is impossible that no offenses [*skandalon*] should come, but woe *to him* through whom they do come!

# The life of David



## 1 Samuel 24:1-12 [NKJV]

Now it happened, when Saul had returned from following the Philistines, that it was told him, saying, “Take note! David *is* in the Wilderness of En Gedi.” <sup>2</sup> Then Saul took three thousand chosen men from all Israel, and went to seek David and his men on the Rocks of the Wild Goats. <sup>3</sup> So he came to the sheepfolds by the road, where there *was* a cave; and Saul went in to attend to his needs. (David and his men were staying in the recesses of the cave.)

<sup>4</sup> Then the men of David said to him, “This is the day of which the Lord said to you, ‘Behold, I will deliver your enemy into your hand, that you may do to him as it seems good to you.’ ” And David arose and secretly cut off a corner of Saul’s robe. <sup>5</sup> Now it happened afterward that David’s heart troubled him because he had cut Saul’s robe. <sup>6</sup> And he said to his men, “The Lord forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the Lord’s anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he *is* the anointed of the Lord.”



<sup>7</sup> So David restrained his servants with *these* words, and did not allow them to rise against Saul. And Saul got up from the cave and went on *his* way.

<sup>8</sup> David also arose afterward, went out of the cave, and called out to Saul, saying, “My lord the king!” And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed down. <sup>9</sup> And David said to Saul: “Why do you listen to the words of men who say, ‘Indeed David seeks your harm’?”

<sup>10</sup> Look, this day your eyes have seen that the Lord delivered you today into my hand in the cave, and *someone* urged *me* to kill you. But *my eye* spared you, and I said, ‘I will not stretch out my hand against my lord, for he *is* the Lord’s anointed.’ <sup>11</sup> Moreover, my father, see! Yes, see the corner of your robe in my hand! For in that I cut off the corner of your robe, and did not kill you, know and see that *there is* neither evil nor rebellion in my hand, and I have not sinned against you. Yet you hunt my life to take it.

<sup>12</sup> Let the Lord judge between you and me, and let the Lord avenge me on you. But my hand shall not be against you.

## 1 Samuel 26:7-12 [NKJV]

<sup>7</sup> So David and Abishai came to the people by night; and there Saul lay sleeping within the camp, with his spear stuck in the ground by his head. And Abner and the people lay all around him. <sup>8</sup> Then Abishai said to David, “God has delivered your enemy into your hand this day. Now therefore, please, let me strike him at once with the spear, right to the earth; and I will not *have to strike* him a second time!”

<sup>9</sup> But David said to Abishai, “Do not destroy him; for who can stretch out his hand against the Lord’s anointed, and be guiltless?” <sup>10</sup> David said furthermore, “As the Lord lives, the Lord shall strike him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall go out to battle and perish. <sup>11</sup> The Lord forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the Lord’s anointed. But please, take now the spear and the jug of water that *are* by his head, and let us go.”

<sup>12</sup> So David took the spear and the jug of water *by* Saul's head, and they got away; and no man saw or knew *it* or awoke. For they *were* all asleep, because a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

## 2 Sam 1:11-12 [NKJV]

<sup>11</sup> Therefore David took hold of his own clothes and tore them, and *so did* all the men who *were* with him. <sup>12</sup> And they mourned and wept and fasted until evening for Saul and for Jonathan his son, for the people of the Lord and for the house of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword.

2 Sam 1:14-18 [NKJV]

<sup>14</sup> So David said to him, “How was it you were not afraid to put forth your hand to destroy the Lord’s anointed?” <sup>15</sup> Then David called one of the young men and said, “Go near, *and* execute him!” And he struck him so that he died. <sup>16</sup> So David said to him, “Your blood *is* on your own head, for your own mouth has testified against you, saying, ‘I have killed the Lord’s anointed.’ ”



## The Song of the Bow

<sup>17</sup> Then David lamented with this lamentation over Saul and over Jonathan his son, <sup>18</sup> and he told *them* to teach the children of Judah *the Song of the Bow*

## Romans 13:1-2 [ESV]

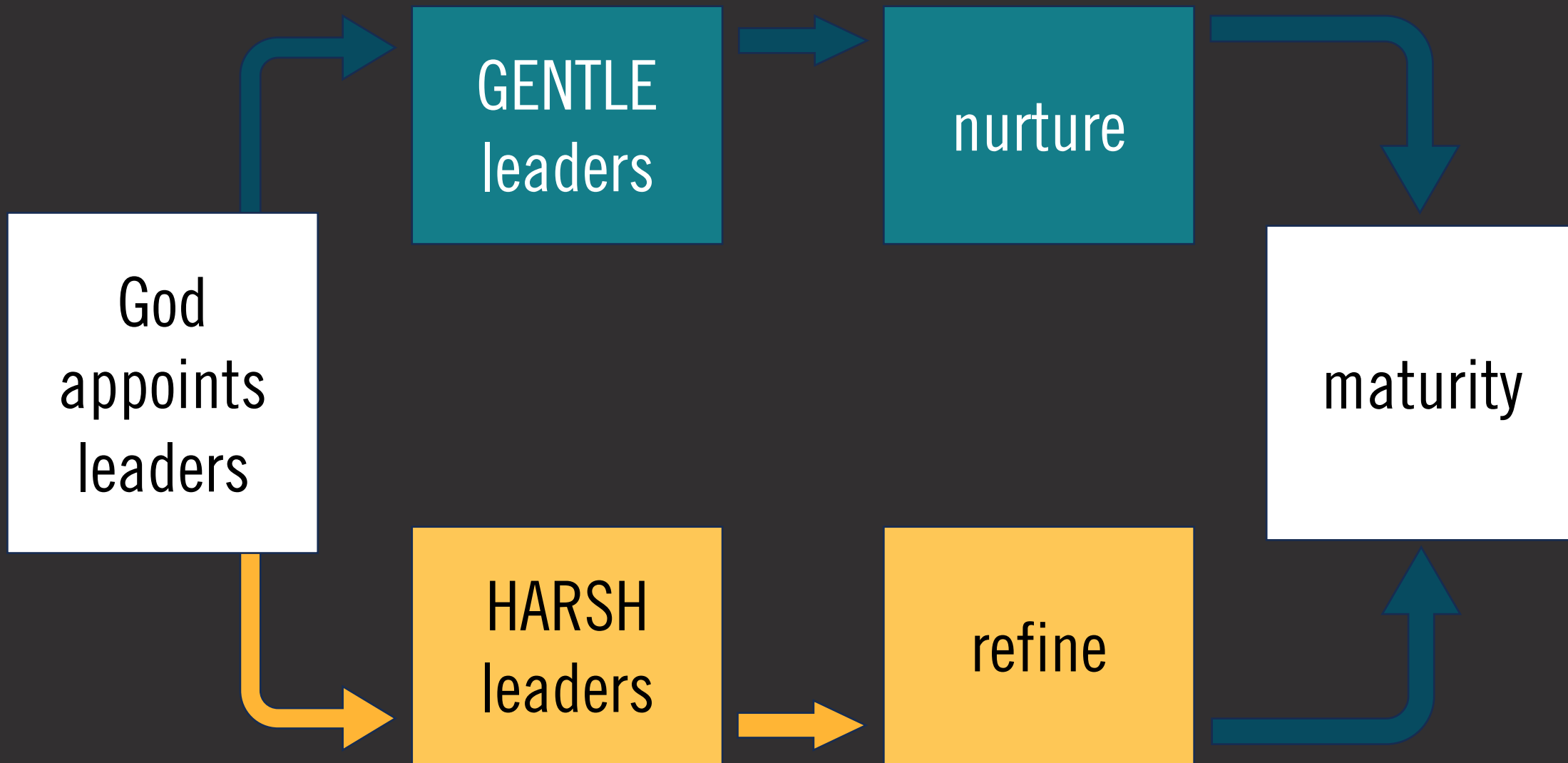
Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup> Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

## Daniel 2:21 [ESV]

He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings;

1 Corinthians 12:18 [ESV]

But as it is, God arranged the members in the body,  
each one of them, as he chose.



Psalm 92:12-14 [ESV]

The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. <sup>13</sup> They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God.

<sup>14</sup> They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green.

## Psalm 1:1-3 [ESV]

Blessed is the man... his delight is in the law (instruction/direction) of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

Psalm 119:165 [AMPC]

Great peace have they who love Your law  
(instruction/direction); nothing shall offend them *or* make  
them stumble.

1 Cor 10:13 [ESV]

God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.



## Mark 4:16-17

<sup>16</sup> And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy. <sup>17</sup> And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away (*skandalon* – *offended*).

## Genesis 4:2-14

...Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. <sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, <sup>4</sup> and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup> but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. <sup>6</sup> The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen?

<sup>7</sup> If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”

<sup>8</sup> Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. <sup>9</sup> Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?”

<sup>10</sup> And the LORD said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground. <sup>11</sup> And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup> When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.”

<sup>14</sup> Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.”