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GREEK TEXT · TRANSLATION · INTERLINEAR · DISCOURSE STRUCTURE

The First Book of Kingdoms, Chapter 22

ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΩΝ Α' ΚΒ'

Each verse opens with the running Greek, an English translation, and a **discourse note** (its connective, relation, and role in the argument). Below follows the word-by-word breakdown in six tiers: gloss, case (color), parsing, *syntax*, **semantic force**, and a | lexical note.

CASE ■ Nominative ■ Genitive ■ Dative ■ Accusative ■ Vocative ■ Verb (no case) ■ Indeclinable

Discourse notes head each verse: **relation** · connective · clause-flow. Indentation marks prominence — flush-left = main line of argument; indented = supporting / subordinate material.

Theme

David gathers the distressed at Adullam while Saul's fury brings the massacre of the priests of Nob.

Translation & textual notes

The Greek text of 1 Kingdoms 22 follows the standard critical text of the Septuagint as established in the Rahlfs–Hanhart edition (Septuaginta, rev. ed. 2006), an ancient and public-domain text; the critical apparatus is not reproduced. The chapter pivots from David's gathering of a band to the massacre of the priests of Nob. David escapes to the cave of Adullam (τὸ σπήλαιον τὸ Οδολλαμ, v. 1), where the distressed (πᾶς ἐν ἀνάγκῃ), the indebted (ὕποχρεως) and the embittered in soul (κατώδυνος ψυχῇ) gather to him — about four hundred men with David as their leader (ἡγούμενος, v. 2). He shelters his parents with the king of Moab (vv. 3–4) until the prophet Gad directs him back to the land of Judah (vv. 5). The scene then

shifts to Saul enthroned under the tamarisk at Gibeah, spear in hand (vv. 6), where he accuses his Benjaminite servants of conspiring with 'the son of Jesse' (ὁ υἱὸς Ιεσσαί, vv. 7–8). Doeg the Syrian/Edomite (Δωὴκ ὁ Σύρος), set over Saul's mules, reports Ahimelech's enquiry of God, provisioning, and gift of Goliath's sword to David (vv. 9–10). Saul summons Ahimelech and the priests of Nob (Νομβά), pronounces the death-sentence (θανάτω ἀποθανῇ, v. 16) despite Ahimelech's defense of David's loyalty (vv. 14–15), and orders his runners to kill the priests of the LORD (τοὺς ἱερεῖς τοῦ κυρίου, v. 17) — but they refuse to raise their hands against the LORD's priests. Doeg alone obeys, killing that day three hundred and five (Rahlfs: τριακοσίους καὶ πέντε) men who wore the ephod (ἄβροντας εφουδ), and putting the whole priestly city to the sword from man to suckling and beast (vv. 18–19). One son of Ahimelech, Abiathar (Αβιαθαρ), escapes to David (v. 20) and reports the slaughter (v. 21); David confesses that he is responsible for the lives of Abiathar's father's house (ἐγὼ εἰμι αἴτιος τῶν ψυχῶν, v. 22) and pledges him protection (v. 23). The chapter sets the loyal, God-fearing David against a Saul whose paranoia spills into sacrilege.

Discourse structure of the chapter

A · 22:1–5

David at Adullam, the flight to Moab, and Gad's directive to Judah

David escapes to the cave of Adullam, where his family and a band of the distressed, the indebted, and the embittered gather to him — about four hundred men with David as their leader (vv. 1–2). He brings his parents to safety with the king of Moab, asking that they remain there until he learns what God will do for him (vv. 3–4). The prophet Gad then commands him not to stay in the stronghold but to go into the land of Judah; David obeys and settles in the city of Saric (v. 5).

B · 22:6–10

Saul under the tamarisk: the king's complaint and Doeg's report

Saul, enthroned on the height under the tamarisk at Ramah with his spear in hand and his servants standing by (v. 6), accuses his Benjaminites of conspiring with the son of Jesse: will David give them fields and command posts? No one discloses to him that his own son has made a covenant with David (vv. 7–8). Doeg the Syrian, set over Saul's mules, answers: he saw the son of Jesse come to Ahimelech at Nob, who enquired of God for him, gave him provisions, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine (vv. 9–10).

C · 22:11–19

The priests of Nob summoned and slaughtered

Saul summons Ahimelech and all the priests of Nob (vv. 11–12). He accuses Ahimelech of conspiracy in giving David bread, a sword, and an oracle (v. 13). Ahimelech defends David as the king's most faithful servant and pleads ignorance of any plot (vv. 14–15). Saul pronounces the death-sentence on Ahimelech and his whole father's house (v. 16) and orders his runners to kill the priests of the LORD; they refuse to lift their hands against them (v. 17). Saul then commands Doeg, who strikes down the priests — three hundred and five men wearing the ephod — and puts the whole priestly city of Nob to the sword, from man to suckling and beast (vv. 18–19).

D · 22:20–23

Abiathar's escape and David's acceptance of guilt

One son of Ahimelech, Abiathar, escapes the slaughter and flees after David (v. 20), reporting that Saul has killed the priests of the LORD (v. 21). David confesses that he knew on the day he saw Doeg there that he would surely report to Saul, and takes responsibility: 'I am the cause of the lives of your father's house' (v. 22). He bids Abiathar stay with him and not fear, for the one who seeks David's life seeks Abiathar's also — with David he will be safe (v. 23).

1 καὶ ἀπῆλθεν ἐκεῖθεν Δαυὶδ καὶ διεσώθη καὶ ἔρχεται εἰς τὸ σπήλαιον τὸ Οδολλαμ καὶ ἀκούουσιν οἱ ἀδελφοὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ ὁ οἶκος τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ καὶ καταβαίνουσιν πρὸς αὐτὸν ἐκεῖ

And David went away from there and escaped, and he comes to the cave of Adullam; and his brothers and his father's house heard, and they go down to him there.

New narrative scene (David's escape after the Achish episode of ch. 21)

καὶ ἀπῆλθεν

The chapter opens with three aorist/historic-present verbs of flight and arrival (ἀπῆλθεν ... διεσώθη ... ἔρχεται), shifting from David's feigned madness before Achish (ch. 21) to his refuge at Adullam. The historic presents ἔρχεται and καταβαίνουσιν enliven the gathering of his kin to him.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (Hebraizing καὶ-parataxis)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀπῆλθεν

went away

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀπέρχομαι

main verb (departure)

→ verbal action or state

ἀπέρχομαι: 'go away / depart'; renders גָּלָה; Nathan withdraws, his prophetic task complete, and the narrative turns to the unfolding of the sentence.

ἐκεῖθεν

from there

adverb of place (source: from Gath)

→ clausal contribution

ἐκεῖθεν: 'from there / thence'; the deictic adverb points back to the court of Achish at Gath from which David has just fled.

Δαυιδ

David

subject (indeclinable proper noun)

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: transliteration of Hebrew דָּוִד; indeclinable in the LXX; the protagonist of the chapter, here a fugitive from Saul.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

διεσώθη

was delivered / escaped

Aor Pass Indic 3 Sg · διασώζω

main verb (deliverance)

→ verbal action or state

διασώζω: 'bring safely through / rescue'; the passive διεσώθη ('was brought safe') renders נִצַּח (Niphal); the same root recurs at v. 20 (διασώζεται) of Abiathar's escape, framing the chapter's two deliverances.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἔρχεται

comes

Pres Mid Indic 3 Sg · ἔρχομαι

main verb (historic present: arrival)

→ verbal action or state

ἔρχομαι: 'come / go'; the historic present ἔρχεται vivifies David's arrival at his place of refuge; common in LXX narrative as a Hebraizing render of the imperfect/waw-consecutive.

εἰς

to / into

preposition + accusative (direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction).

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σπήλαιον

cave

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (goal of motion)

→ object specification

σπήλαιον: 'cave / cavern'; renders מְעָרָה; the cave of Adullam becomes the staging-ground for David's outlaw band and, in later tradition, an image of refuge (cf. 2 Sam 23:13; 1 Chr 11:15).

τὸ

the (one)

Accusative

article (attributive, introducing the place-name)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Οδολλαμ

Adullam

indeclinable place-name in apposition to σπήλαιον

→ participant identification

Οδολλαμ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as indeclinable place-name in apposition to σπήλαιον.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀκούουσιν

hear

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · ἀκούω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

ἀκούω: 'hear'; the historic present continues the vivid sequence; David's family hear of his whereabouts and respond.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἀδελφοί

brothers

Nominative

subject

→ participant prominence

ἀδελφός: 'brother'; renders Πῆ; David's brothers (cf. 16:13; 17:13) join him, the first of the kin and outcasts that gather at Adullam.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

οἶκος

house(hold)

Nominative

subject (coordinate with ἀδελφοί)

→ participant prominence

οἶκος: 'house / household / family'; renders תִּיָּב; here the extended family of Jesse who come down to David.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πατρός

father

Genitive

genitive of relationship (his father's house)

→ relational specification

πατήρ: 'father'; the οἶκος τοῦ πατρός ('father's house') is the standard kinship unit; here Jesse's household.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

καταβαίνουνσιν

go down

Pres Act Indic 3 Pl · καταβαίνω

main verb (historic present)

→ verbal action or state

καταβαίνω: 'go down / descend'; renders ΤΓ;: the family 'go down' to David at the cave, the verb of descent fitting the topography of the Shephelah.

πρὸς

to

preposition + accusative (direction toward person)

→ spatial or relational framing

πρὸς: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction toward person).

αὐτὸν

him

Accusative

accusative object of πρὸς

→ participant reference

αὐτὸν: meaning 'him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as accusative object of πρὸς.

ἐκεῖ

there

adverb of place (at the cave)

→ adverbial qualification

ἐκεῖ: 'there'; locates the gathering at the cave of Adullam.

2 καὶ συνήγοντο πρὸς αὐτὸν πᾶς ἐν ἀνάγκῃ καὶ πᾶς ὑπόχρεως καὶ πᾶς κατώδυνος ψυχῇ καὶ ἦν ἐπ' αὐτῶν ἡγούμενος καὶ ἦσαν μετ' αὐτοῦ ὡς τετρακόσιοι ἄνδρες

And there gathered to him everyone in distress and everyone in debt and everyone embittered in soul, and he became leader over them; and there were with him about four hundred men.

Result/development: the band coalesces around David καὶ συνήγοντο

The threefold πᾶς (in distress / in debt / embittered in soul) is a tricolon describing the social outcasts who rally to David, transforming the fugitive into the head (ἡγούμενος) of a four-hundred-man company. The imperfects συνήγοντο/ἦσαν portray the band gradually forming.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

συνήγοντο

were gathering

Impf Mid Indic 3 Pl · συνάγω

main verb (iterative gathering)

→ verbal action or state

συνάγω: 'gather / assemble'; the middle/passive imperfect συνήγοντο ('kept gathering / were gathered') renders יָבֹרְכוּ ; the durative aspect pictures a steady accretion of followers.

πρὸς

to

preposition + accusative (direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

πρὸς: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction).

αὐτὸν

him

Accusative

accusative object of πρὸς

→ participant reference

αὐτὸν: meaning 'him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as accusative object of πρὸς.

πᾶς

everyone

Nominative

subject (distributive, first of tricolon)

→ participant prominence

πᾶς: 'everyone / all'; the singular collective πᾶς ... καὶ πᾶς ... καὶ πᾶς forms a distributive tricolon enumerating the three classes of men who join David.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (state/condition)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (state/condition).

ἀνάγκη

distress / straits

Dative

dative of condition (with ἐν: 'in distress')

→ sphere or reference

ἀνάγκη: 'necessity / distress / hardship'; renders בְּצָרָה ; the first class — men under pressure or in straits — defines David's following as the marginalized.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

πᾶς

everyone

Nominative

subject (second of tricolon)

→ participant prominence

πᾶς: meaning 'everyone'; it serves as subject (second of tricolon).

ὕποχρεως

in debt / a debtor

Nominative

predicate adjective substantivized (second class)

→ participant prominence

ὕποχρεως: 'in debt / debtor' (lit. 'under obligation'); renders the Hebrew אֲשֶׁר ('one to whom there is a creditor', 1 Sam 22:2); the indebted form the second class of David's company.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

πᾶς

everyone

Nominative

subject (third of tricolon)

→ participant prominence

πᾶς: meaning 'everyone'; it serves as subject (third of tricolon).

κατώδυνος

embittered / in anguish

Nominative

predicate adjective (third class, modified by ψυχῇ)

→ participant prominence

κατώδυνος: 'deeply pained / bitter / in anguish'; renders מֵרֶגֶז ('bitter of soul'); with ψυχῇ it names those embittered in spirit — the discontented who rally to David.

ψυχῇ

in soul

Dative

dative of respect (specifying κατώδυνος)

→ sphere or reference

ψυχῇ: 'soul / life / self'; dative of respect — 'bitter as to the soul'; renders שֶׁנָּפְשׁ in the idiom שֶׁנָּפְשׁ־רַמְּ.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἦν

he was / became

Impf Act Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί

main verb (predicate: David as leader)

→ participant reference

εἰμί (impf. ἦν): 'be'; with ἡγούμενος forms a periphrastic-like predicate, 'he was a leader over them.'

ἐπὶ

over

preposition + genitive (authority over)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπὶ + gen.: 'over / in charge of'; expresses David's authority over the band.

αὐτῶν

them

Genitive

genitive object of ἐπὶ (those led)

→ relational specification

αὐτῶν: meaning 'them'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive object of ἐπὶ (those led).

ἡγούμενος

leader / leading

Pres Mid Part Nom Sg Masc · ἡγέομαι

predicate participle (with ἦν: 'was leading / was their leader')

→ verbal action or state

ἡγέομαι: 'lead / command / be chief'; the substantival participle ἡγούμενος ('leader / commander') renders רַמְּ; David, the fugitive, is now captain of an armed company — the seed of his future kingship.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἦσαν

there were

Impf Act Indic 3 Pl · εἰμί

main verb (existential: 'there were with him')

→ verbal action or state

εἰμί (impf. ἦσαν): 'were / there were'; existential use introducing the count of David's men.

μετ'

with

preposition + genitive (accompaniment)

→ spatial or relational framing

μετ': meaning 'with'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + genitive (accompaniment).

αὐτοῦ

him

Genitive

genitive object of μετὰ

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive object of μετὰ.

ὥς

about

adverb (approximation with numeral)

→ clausal contribution

ὥς: 'as / about'; with the numeral it marks an approximate figure, 'about four hundred.'

τετρακόσιοι

four hundred

Nominative

numeral attributive (modifying ἄνδρες)

→ participant prominence

τετρακόσιοι: 'four hundred'; renders טַבָּר
רִנָּה; the round number of David's first
company (cf. 25:13; 30:10).

ἄνδρες

men

Nominative

predicate nominative (the company numbered)

→ participant prominence

ἄνῃ: 'man'; renders שִׂנִּי; the four hundred
fighting men who form David's outlaw
band.

3 καὶ ἀπῆλθεν Δαυιδ ἐκεῖθεν εἰς Μασσηφα τῆς Μωαβ καὶ εἶπεν πρὸς βασιλέα Μωαβ γινέσθωσαν δὴ ὁ πατήρ μου καὶ ἡ μήτηρ μου παρὰ σοί ἕως ὅτου γινῶ τί ποιήσῃ μοι ὁ θεός

And David went away from there to Mizpah of Moab, and he said to the king of Moab, 'Let my father and my mother, I pray, be with you until I know what God will do for me.'

Narrative continuation: David secures his parents in Moab

καὶ ἀπῆλθεν

David, descended from the Moabite Ruth (Ruth 4:17, 22), seeks asylum for his parents with Moab's king. The polite third-person imperative γινέσθωσαν δὴ ('let them please remain') and the temporal clause ἕως ὅτου γινῶ ('until I know what God will do for me') voice David's dependence on divine guidance amid his flight.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καί: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle
linking this unit with the surrounding
discourse.

ἀπῆλθεν

went away

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀπέρχομαι

main verb (departure)

→ verbal action or state

ἀπέρχομαι: 'go away / depart'; renders
גָּזַח; Nathan withdraws, his prophetic task
complete, and the narrative turns to the
unfolding of the sentence.

Δαυιδ

David

subject (indeclinable proper noun)

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: transliterated proper name
rendered in Greek letters; here it functions
as subject (indeclinable proper noun).

ἐκεῖθεν

from there

adverb of place (source: from Adullam)

→ clausal contribution

ἐκεῖθεν: 'from there'; points back to the
cave of Adullam.

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction).

Μασσηφα

Mizpah

indeclinable place-name (goal of motion)

→ participant identification

Μασσηφα: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as indeclinable place-name (goal of motion).

τῆς

of

Genitive

article (genitive of place: 'of Moab')

→ noun-phrase marking

τῆς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Μωαβ

Moab

indeclinable genitive of place (Mizpah of Moab)

→ participant identification

Μωαβ: transliteration of Hebrew מואב; indeclinable; the trans-Jordanian kingdom, ancestral home of David's great-grandmother Ruth, here a place of refuge for his parents.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (speech-introduction)

→ verbal action or state

εἶπεν: verbal form rendered 'said' here; its aspect and clause role are specified by the parse and syntax fields.

πρὸς

to

preposition + accusative (direction of speech)

→ spatial or relational framing

πρὸς: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction of speech).

βασιλέα

king

Accusative

accusative object of πρὸς (addressee)

→ object specification

βασιλέα: meaning 'king'; it serves as accusative object of πρὸς (addressee).

Μωαβ

of Moab

indeclinable genitive (king of Moab)

→ participant identification

Μωαβ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as indeclinable genitive (king of Moab).

γινέσθωσαν

let them be / remain

Pres Mid Impv 3 Pl · γίνομαι

main verb of request (third-person imperative)

→ verbal action or state

γίνομαι: 'become / be / remain'; the present imperative γινέσθωσαν ('let them be/stay') renders בִּשְׁׁׁ; a polite petition that David's parents may abide under the king's protection.

δὴ

please / I pray

entreaty particle (softening the imperative)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

δὴ: emphatic/hortatory particle, 'now / please / I pray'; renders נָּ; softens the imperative into a courteous request.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πατήρ

father

Nominative

subject of γινέσθωσαν

→ participant prominence

πατήρ: 'father'; Jesse, David's father, whom he seeks to keep safe from Saul's reach.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

μου: meaning 'my'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἡ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ἡ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

μήτηρ

mother

Nominative

subject (coordinate with πατήρ)

→ participant prominence

μήτηρ: 'mother'; renders מָלְכָה ; David's mother, paired with his father as the objects of his protective care.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

μου: meaning 'my'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

παρά

with / beside

preposition + dative (in someone's keeping)

→ spatial or relational framing

παρά + dat.: 'with / beside / in the care of'; locates the parents under the king's hospitality and protection.

σοί

you

Dative

dative object of παρά (the king)

→ participant reference or interest

σοί: meaning 'you'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as dative object of παρά (the king).

ἕως

until

temporal conjunction (with ὅτου)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ἕως: 'until'; with ὅτου introduces the temporal limit of the arrangement.

ὅτου

such time as

Genitive

relative pronoun (gen., with ἕως: 'until the time when')

→ relational specification

ὅστις (gen. ὅτου): in the idiom ἕως ὅτου, 'until the time that / until when'; renders עַד כִּשְׁכֹּשֶׁת .

γινῶ

I know / learn

Aor Act Subj 1 Sg · γινώσκω

verb of temporal clause (subjunctive after ἕως ὅτου)

→ verbal action or state

γινώσκω: 'know / learn / come to know'; renders יָדַע ; the aorist subjunctive after ἕως ὅτου marks the future point at which David will discern God's plan.

τί

what

Accusative

interrogative pronoun (object of ποιήσει, in indirect question)

→ participant reference

τίς, τί: interrogative 'what?'; introduces the indirect question, the content of David's hoped-for knowledge.

ποιήσει

will do

Fut Act Indic 3 Sg · ποιέω

verb of indirect question (future)

→ verbal action or state

ποιέω: 'do / make'; renders פָּעַל ; the future expresses David's uncertainty about, yet trust in, God's intended action for him.

μοι

for me / to me

Dative

dative of advantage

→ participant reference or interest

μοι: meaning 'for me'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as dative of advantage.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

θεός

God

Nominative

subject of ποιήσει

→ participant prominence

θεός: 'God'; renders אֱלֹהִים ; David frames his whole flight as governed by God's purpose, awaiting divine direction.

4 καὶ παρεκάλεσεν τὸ πρόσωπον τοῦ βασιλέως Μωαβ καὶ κατώκουν μετ' αὐτοῦ πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας ὄντος τοῦ Δαυιδ ἐν τῇ περιοχῇ

And he entreated the face of the king of Moab, and they dwelt with him all the days that David was in the stronghold.

Resolution of vv. 3: the parents settle in Moab

καὶ παρεκάλεσεν

The Hebraism παρεκάλεσεν τὸ πρόσωπον ('entreated the face') renders נִמְנַח הַלֶּחֶץ ('softened/sought the face of'). The genitive absolute ὄντος τοῦ Δαυιδ ('while David was...') fixes the duration of the arrangement to David's time in the stronghold.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καί: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

παρεκάλεσεν

entreated

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · παρακαλέω

main verb (petition)

→ verbal action or state

παρακαλέω: 'call to one's side / entreat / beseech'; here in the Hebraistic idiom παρεκάλεσεν τὸ πρόσωπον ('entreated the face'), rendering נִמְנַח הַלֶּחֶץ , i.e. sought the king's favor.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πρόσωπον

face

Accusative

direct object (Hebraism: 'entreated the face')

→ object specification

πρόσωπον: 'face / presence'; renders פָּנָיו ; in the idiom 'entreat the face' it stands for the person's favorable disposition.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλέως

king

Genitive

genitive of possession (the king's face)

→ relational specification

βασιλέως: meaning 'king'; it serves as genitive of possession (the king's face).

Μωαβ

of Moab

indeclinable genitive (king of Moab)

→ participant identification

Μωαβ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as indeclinable genitive (king of Moab).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

κατῴκουν

they dwelt

Impf Act Indic 3 Pl · κατοικέω

main verb (durative residence)

→ verbal action or state

κατοικέω: 'dwell / settle / inhabit'; renders כּוֹשֵׁב; the imperfect κατῴκουν portrays the ongoing, settled residence of David's people in the Hebron district.

μετ'

with

preposition + genitive (accompaniment)

→ spatial or relational framing

μετ': meaning 'with'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + genitive (accompaniment).

αὐτοῦ

him

Genitive

genitive object of μετά (the king)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive object of μετά (the king).

πάσας

all

Accusative

attributive adjective (modifying ἡμέρας)

→ object specification

πᾶς: 'all / every'; with ἡμέρας marks the full extent of the stay.

τὰς

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡμέρας

days

Accusative

accusative of extent of time ('all the days')

→ object specification

ἡμέρα: 'day'; accusative of duration; renders יָמִים; the whole period of David's stay in the stronghold.

ὄντος

being / while was

Pres Part Gen Sg Masc · εἰμί

genitive absolute (temporal: 'while David was')

→ verbal action or state

εἰμί: meaning 'being'; it carries the action, process, or state of the clause; here it functions as genitive absolute (temporal: 'while David was').

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article (with Δαυιδ in genitive absolute)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Δαυιδ

David

Genitive

subject of genitive absolute (indeclinable, articular)

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: here governed by the article τοῦ in the genitive absolute; the indeclinable name takes its case from the article.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (location)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (location).

τῇ

the

Dative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

περιοχῇ

stronghold

Dative

dative of place (in the stronghold)

→ sphere or reference

περιοχῇ: 'enclosure / stronghold / fastness'; renders חֲצֻצָה ('fortress / refuge'); David's mountain refuge, mentioned again at v. 5 (μὴ κάθου ἐν τῇ περιοχῇ).

5 καὶ εἶπεν Γαδ ὁ προφήτης πρὸς Δαυιδ μὴ κάθου ἐν τῇ περιοχῇ πορεύου καὶ ἤξεις εἰς γῆν Ιουδα καὶ ἐπορεύθη Δαυιδ καὶ ἦλθεν καὶ ἐκάθισεν ἐν πόλει Σαριχ

And Gad the prophet said to David, 'Do not stay in the stronghold; go and you shall come into the land of Judah.' And David went and came and settled in the city of Saric.

Prophetic directive that turns David back to Judah (closes section A) καὶ εἶπεν Γαδ

Gad, here first introduced as ὁ προφήτης ('the prophet'), gives David his marching orders: leave the stronghold for Judah. The prohibitive μὴ κάθου and the imperative πορεύου with predictive ἤξεις are answered by a triad of obedient aorists (ἐπορεύθη ... ἦλθεν ... ἐκάθισεν).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (speech-introduction)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: 'say'; introduces the prophet Gad's oracle to David.

Γαδ

Gad

subject (indeclinable proper noun)

→ participant identification

Γαδ: transliteration of Hebrew גָּד ; indeclinable; the prophet (later 'David's seer', 2 Sam 24:11) who counsels David during his outlaw years.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (with appositive προφήτης)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

προφήτης

prophet

Nominative

nominative in apposition to Γαδ

→ participant prominence

προφήτης: 'prophet'; renders נִבִּי; Gad's designation marks his words as divine guidance, not mere advice.

πρός

to

preposition + accusative (direction of speech)

→ spatial or relational framing

πρός: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction of speech).

Δαυιδ

David

accusative object of πρὸς (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as accusative object of πρὸς (indeclinable).

μὴ

not

negative particle (prohibition with imperative)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

μὴ: the negative of command; with κάθου forms a prohibition, 'do not stay.'

κάθου

stay / sit

Pres Mid Impv 2 Sg · κάθουμαι

main verb (prohibition)

→ verbal action or state

κάθουμαι: 'sit / remain / dwell'; the present imperative with μὴ forbids continued residence — 'do not keep staying in the stronghold.'

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (location)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (location).

τῇ

the

Dative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

περιοχῇ

stronghold

Dative

dative of place

→ sphere or reference

περιοχῇ: meaning 'stronghold'; it serves as dative of place.

πορεύου

go

Pres Mid Impv 2 Sg · πορεύουμαι

main verb (positive command)

→ verbal action or state

πορεύουμαι: 'go / travel / set out'; renders הָלַךְ; the imperative directs David's movement toward Judah.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἔξεις

you shall come

Fut Act Indic 2 Sg · ἔκω

main verb (predictive future as quasi-command)

→ verbal action or state

ἔκω: 'come / arrive / have come'; renders נָתַב; the future after the imperative assures David of safe arrival in Judah.

εἰς

into

preposition + accusative (direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς: meaning 'into'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction).

γῆν

land

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς (goal)

→ object specification

γῆ: 'land / earth'; renders γῆ; the land of Judah, David's own tribal territory and proper sphere.

Ιουδα

of Judah

indeclinable genitive (land of Judah)

→ participant identification

Ιουδα: transliteration of Hebrew יהודה; indeclinable; David's own tribe and the heartland of his future kingdom.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐπορεύθη

went

Aor Pass Indic 3 Sg · πορεύομαι

main verb (obedient action)

→ verbal action or state

πορεύομαι (aor. pass. dep.): 'go / journey'; the aorist records David's prompt obedience to the prophetic word.

Δαυιδ

David

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject (indeclinable).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἦλθεν

came

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἔρχομαι

main verb (arrival)

→ verbal action or state

ἔρχομαι: 'come / go'; the second of the obedience-triad, marking David's arrival in Judah.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐκάθισεν

settled / sat

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · καθίζω

main verb (settling)

→ verbal action or state

καθίζω: 'sit / settle / take up residence'; renders כָּשׁוּ; David settles in the forest of Hereth (MT), here the city of Saric.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (location)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (location).

πόλει

city

Dative

dative of place

→ sphere or reference

πόλις: 'city / town'; renders the place-name; the LXX reads a city (Saric) where the MT has the forest of Hereth (יַעַר הָרֵת).

Σαριχ

Saric

indeclinable place-name in apposition to πόλει

→ participant identification

Σαριχ: a Greek place-name in this reading, corresponding to the Hebrew of the forest of Hereth (יַעַר הָרֵת); indeclinable.

6 καὶ ἤκουσεν Σαουλ ὅτι ἔγνωσται Δαυιδ καὶ οἱ ἄνδρες οἱ μετ' αὐτοῦ καὶ Σαουλ ἐκάθητο ἐν τῷ βουνῷ ὑπὸ τὴν ἄρουραν τὴν ἐν Ραμα καὶ τὸ δόρυ ἐν τῇ χειρὶ αὐτοῦ καὶ πάντες οἱ παῖδες αὐτοῦ παρειστήκεισαν αὐτῷ

And Saul heard that David and the men with him had been discovered; and Saul was sitting on the height under the tamarisk that is in Ramah, with his spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing by him.

Scene-shift to Saul's court (opens section B)

καὶ ἤκουσεν Σαουλ

The narrative cuts to Saul, set in static tableau: seated on the height under the tamarisk, spear in hand, servants standing by. The perfect ἔγνωσται ('has become known') reports the intelligence reaching him; the imperfect/pluperfect verbs (ἐκάθητο ... παρειστήκεισαν) freeze the royal court for the accusation that follows.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἤκουσεν

heard

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀκούω

main verb (reception of news)

→ verbal action or state

ἀκούω: 'hear'; renders ὕμνησι; Saul receives the report of David's reappearance.

Σαουλ

Saul

subject (indeclinable proper noun)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: transliteration of Hebrew שׂאֻל; indeclinable; the reigning king, David's pursuer.

ὅτι

that

conjunction (introducing object clause)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'that'; introduces the content of what Saul heard.

ἔγνωσται

has been discovered

Perf Pass Indic 3 Sg · γινώσκω

verb of object clause (perfect: settled state of being known)

→ verbal action or state

γινώσκω (perf. pass.): 'be known / be discovered'; the perfect ἔγνωσται marks David's location as now an established fact — the intelligence that triggers Saul's action.

Δαυιδ

David

subject of ἔγνωσται (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject of ἔγνωσται (indeclinable).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἄνδρες

men

Nominative

subject (coordinate with Δαυιδ)

→ participant prominence

ἄνθρωποι: 'man'; David's company (cf. v. 2), also now located by Saul's informants.

οἱ

the (ones)

Nominative

article (attributive with μετ' αὐτοῦ)

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

μετ'

with

preposition + genitive (accompaniment)

→ spatial or relational framing

μετ': meaning 'with'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + genitive (accompaniment).

αὐτοῦ

him

Genitive

genitive object of μετά

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive object of μετά.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (begins the tableau)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

Σαουλ

Saul

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject (indeclinable).

ἐκάθητο

was sitting

Impf Mid Indic 3 Sg · κάθημαι

main verb (durative posture)

→ verbal action or state

κάθημαι: 'sit / be seated / be enthroned'; the imperfect ἐκάθητο sets the scene — Saul enthroned on the height, in contrast to the fugitive David.

ἐν

on / in

preposition + dative (location)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'on'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (location).

τῷ

the

Dative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βουνῷ

height / hill

Dative

dative of place

→ sphere or reference

βουνός: 'hill / height / mound'; here likely the place-name Gibeah (גִּבְעָה, 'the height'), Saul's home base; the LXX renders the proper noun by its appellative sense.

ὑπὸ

under

preposition + accusative (position beneath)

→ spatial or relational framing

ὑπὸ + acc.: 'under / beneath'; locates Saul beneath the tree.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἄρουραν

tamarisk / field-tree

Accusative

accusative object of ὑπὸ (the tree)

→ object specification

ἄρουρα: properly 'tilled field / arable land'; here it renders Hebrew נֶחֱלָל ('tamarisk tree') under which Saul sits (cf. 31:13); the LXX appears to read the term as the cultivated ground/tree of the site.

τὴν

the (one)

Accusative

article (attributive: 'that is in Ramah')

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (location)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (location).

Ραμα

Ramah

indeclinable place-name (location of the tree)

→ participant identification

Ραμα: transliteration of Hebrew רָמָה ('height'); indeclinable; here the locale of Saul's seat (MT: at Gibeah on the height).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (circumstantial detail)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τὸ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

δόρυ

spear

Nominative

subject of an implied 'was' (nominal clause: 'his spear in his hand')

→ participant prominence

δόρυ: 'spear'; renders יָדָיו; Saul's ever-present spear (cf. 18:10–11; 19:9–10; 26:7) — a recurring emblem of his menace.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (location)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (location).

τῇ

the

Dative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

χειρὶ

hand

Dative

dative of place (in his hand)

→ sphere or reference

χείρ: 'hand'; renders Τ; the spear in hand signals Saul's perpetual readiness for violence.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

πάντες

all

Nominative

attributive adjective (modifying παῖδες)

→ participant prominence

παῖς: 'all'; the whole retinue stands attendant.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

παῖδες

servants

Nominative

subject of παρειστήκεισαν

→ participant prominence

παῖς: 'servant / attendant / boy'; renders Τῷ; Saul's courtiers, here Benjaminite kinsmen (v. 7), standing in attendance.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

παρειστήκεισαν

were standing by

Plpf Act Indic 3 Pl · παρίστημι

main verb (attendant posture)

→ verbal action or state

παρίστημι (plpf. with present sense): 'stand beside / attend'; the pluperfect παρειστήκεισαν ('were standing by') of an intransitive perfect denotes settled attendance — the courtiers ranged about their enthroned king.

αὐτῷ

by him

Dative

dative of relation (attending him)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτῷ: meaning 'by him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as dative of relation (attending him).

7 καὶ εἶπεν Σαουλ πρὸς τοὺς παῖδας αὐτοῦ τοὺς παρεστηκότας αὐτῷ καὶ εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ἀκούσατε δὴ υἱοὶ Βενιαμιν εἰ ἀληθῶς πᾶσιν ὑμῖν δώσει ὁ υἱὸς Ιεσσαὶ ἀγρούς καὶ ἀμπελῶνας καὶ πάντας ὑμᾶς τάξει ἑκατοντάρχους καὶ χιλιάρχους

And Saul said to his servants who were standing by him, and he said to them, 'Hear now, sons of Benjamin: will the son of Jesse truly give to all of you fields and vineyards, and make you all commanders of hundreds and commanders of thousands?'

Saul's accusatory address to his Benjaminite servants

καὶ εἶπεν Σαουλ

Saul's rhetorical question plays on tribal self-interest: 'the son of Jesse' (a Judahite) will hardly enrich Benjaminites with fields and commissions. The contemptuous designation ὁ υἱὸς Ιεσσαὶ (refusing David's name) recurs through the speech. The doubled εἶπεν ... εἶπεν αὐτοῖς is a Hebraizing resumptive.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (speech-introduction)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: 'say'; introduces Saul's address to his retinue.

Σαουλ

Saul

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject (indeclinable).

πρὸς

to

preposition + accusative (direction of speech)

→ spatial or relational framing

πρὸς: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction of speech).

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

παῖδας

servants

Accusative

accusative object of πρὸς (addressees)

→ object specification

παῖς: 'servant / attendant'; Saul's Benjaminite courtiers.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

τοὺς

the (ones)

Accusative

article (attributive with participle)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

παρεστηκότας

standing by

Perf Act Part Acc Pl Masc · παρίστημι

attributive participle (modifying παῖδας)

→ verbal action or state

παρίστημι (perf. part.): 'stand beside / attend'; the perfect participle describes the courtiers in their fixed attendance, echoing παρειστήκεισαν of v. 6.

αὐτῷ

by him

Dative

dative of relation (attending him)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτῷ: meaning 'by him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as dative of relation (attending him).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (resumptive)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (resumptive speech-introduction)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: the resumptive εἶπεν αὐτοῖς ('he said to them') is a Hebraizing redundancy after the introductory clause, common in LXX direct speech.

αὐτοῖς

to them

Dative

dative indirect object (the servants)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτοῖς: meaning 'to them'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as dative indirect object (the servants).

ἀκούσατε

hear!

Aor Act Impv 2 Pl · ἀκούω

main verb (summons to attention)

→ verbal action or state

ἀκούω: 'hear / listen'; the aorist imperative ἀκούσατε δὴ ('hear now') opens the accusatory address with a call to attention.

δὴ

now

emphatic particle (urging attention)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

δὴ: emphatic particle, 'now / indeed'; renders ἄ; lends urgency to the summons.

υἱοὶ

sons

Nominative

vocative (nominative form: 'sons of Benjamin')

→ participant prominence

υἱός: 'son'; in the vocative-as-nominative address υἱοὶ Βενιαμιν ('sons of Benjamin'), Saul appeals to tribal loyalty — they share his Benjaminite blood, unlike the Judahite David.

Βενιαμιν

of Benjamin

indeclinable genitive (sons of Benjamin)

→ participant identification

Βενιαμιν: transliteration of Hebrew בִּנְיָמִין; indeclinable; Saul's own tribe; the appeal sets tribal solidarity against David.

εἰ

whether

interrogative particle (introducing rhetorical question)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

εἰ: here introduces a (rhetorical) direct question, 'will...?'; expects the answer 'no' — David would never enrich Benjaminites.

ἀληθῶς

truly / really

adverb (intensifying the question)

→ clausal contribution

ἀληθῶς: 'truly / really'; sharpens the sarcasm: do you really expect the son of Jesse to reward you?

πᾶσιν

to all

Dative

attributive adjective (with ὑμῖν)

→ sphere or reference

πᾶς: 'all'; emphasizes the implausibility of David enriching every one of them.

ὁμῖν

you

Dative

dative indirect object of δώσει

→ participant reference or interest

ὁμῖν: meaning 'you'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as dative indirect object of δώσει.

δώσει

will give

Fut Act Indic 3 Sg · δίδωμι

main verb of the rhetorical question

→ verbal action or state

δίδωμι: 'give'; renders יתן; the future poses the absurd prospect that David would distribute lands and offices to Benjaminites.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱός

son

Nominative

subject of δώσει

→ participant prominence

υἱός: 'son'; the dismissive periphrasis ὁ υἱὸς Ιεσσαί ('the son of Jesse') studiously avoids David's name (cf. vv. 8, 9, 13).

Ιεσσαί

of Jesse

indeclinable genitive (son of Jesse)

→ participant identification

Ιεσσαί: transliteration of Hebrew ישי; indeclinable; David's father; 'son of Jesse' is Saul's contemptuous label for his rival.

ἀγρούς

fields

Accusative

direct object of δώσει

→ object specification

ἀγρός: 'field / farm / land'; renders חֲדָשׁ; landed estates, the reward a king grants loyal servants.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀμπελώνας

vineyards

Accusative

direct object (coordinate with ἀγρούς)

→ object specification

ἀμπελών: 'vineyard'; renders כַּרְתָּ; vineyards, like fields, are symbols of granted wealth (cf. 8:14).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (second limb of question)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

πάντας

all

Accusative

attributive adjective (with ὑμᾶς)

→ object specification

πᾶς: 'all'; again stresses the unlikely universal promotion.

ὑμᾶς

you

Accusative

direct object of τάξει

→ participant reference

ὑμᾶς: meaning 'you'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as direct object of τάξει.

τάξει

will appoint

Fut Act Indic 3 Sg · τάσσω

main verb (second rhetorical question)

→ verbal action or state

τάσσω: 'appoint / arrange / station'; renders תָּשֶׂה; will David make you all military officers? — another absurd supposition.

ἐκατοντάρχους

commanders of hundreds

Accusative

object complement (the rank conferred)

→ object specification

ἐκατόνταρχος: 'centurion / commander of a hundred'; renders **שָׂר מֵאָה**; a military rank, here held out as an improbable gift from David.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

χιλιάρχους

commanders of thousands

Accusative

object complement (coordinate rank)

→ object specification

χιλιάρχος: 'commander of a thousand / chiliarch'; renders **שָׂר הָאֶלֶף**; the higher officer rank, completing Saul's sarcastic catalogue of supposed rewards.

- 8 ὅτι σύγκεισθε πάντες ὑμεῖς ἐπ' ἐμέ καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν ὁ ἀποκαλύπτων τὸ ὥτίον μου ἐν τῷ διαθέσθαι τὸν υἱόν μου διαθήκην μετὰ τοῦ υἱοῦ Ιεσσαὶ καὶ οὐκ ἔστιν πονῶν περὶ ἐμοῦ ἐξ ὑμῶν καὶ ἀποκαλύπτων τὸ ὥτίον μου ὅτι ἐπήγειρεν ὁ υἱός μου τὸν δοῦλόν μου ἐπ' ἐμέ εἰς ἐχθρόν ὥς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη

'For you have all conspired against me, and there is none who discloses to my ear, when my son made a covenant with the son of Jesse, and there is none of you who feels grief for me or discloses to my ear that my son has stirred up my servant against me as an enemy, as it is this day.'

Ground of the accusation (causal ὅτι): the supposed conspiracy ὅτι σύγκεισθε

Saul's paranoia crests: a charge of universal conspiracy (σύγκεισθε πάντες) and a complaint that no one discloses 'to my ear' that Jonathan (ὁ υἱός μου) has covenanted with David. The Hebraism ἀποκαλύπτων τὸ ὥτίον ('uncover the ear' = disclose) frames Saul's grievance; David is twice reduced to 'my servant' turned 'enemy!'

ὅτι

for / because

causal conjunction (ground of the foregoing question)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'for / because'; introduces the basis of Saul's grievance — the alleged conspiracy.

σύγκεισθε

you have conspired

Pres Mid Indic 2 Pl · σύγκειμαι

main verb (charge of conspiracy)

→ verbal action or state

σύγκειμαι: 'be banded together / conspire / be in collusion'; renders ἡσυχία; the present depicts the courtiers as in a standing conspiracy against Saul.

πάντες

all

Nominative

attributive adjective (with ὑμεῖς)

→ participant prominence

παῖς: 'all'; Saul's paranoia totalizes — every servant is implicated.

ὑμεῖς

you

Nominative

subject (emphatic, with verb ending)

→ participant reference

σύ (pl. ὑμεῖς): the explicit pronoun is emphatic, sharpening the accusation against the assembled servants.

ἐπὶ

against

preposition + accusative (hostile direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπί + acc.: 'against'; the hostile sense governs ἐμέ.

ἐμέ

me

Accusative

accusative object of ἐπὶ (the conspiracy's target)

→ participant reference

ἐμέ: meaning 'me'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as accusative object of ἐπὶ (the conspiracy's target).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

οὐκ

not

negative particle

→ discourse linkage or contrast

οὐκ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἔστιν

there is

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί

main verb (existential negation)

→ verbal action or state

εἰμί: 'be / there is'; the existential οὐκ ἔστιν ('there is none') introduces Saul's complaint of being kept in the dark.

ὁ

the (one)

Nominative

article (substantivizing the participle)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἀποκαλύπτων

one who discloses

Pres Act Part Nom Sg Masc · ἀποκαλύπτω

substantival participle (predicate of ἔστιν: 'there is no one who discloses')

→ verbal action or state

ἀποκαλύπτω: 'uncover / reveal / disclose'; in the idiom ἀποκαλύπτω τὸ ὠτίον ('uncover the ear') it renders ἡρῶν ('disclose to / inform'); Saul complains no one informs him.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ὠτίον

ear

Accusative

direct object of ἀποκαλύπτω (Hebraism: 'uncover the ear')

→ object specification

ὠτίον: 'ear' (diminutive of οὖς); in the idiom ἀποκαλύπτω τὸ ὠτίον = 'disclose to / inform'; renders יִתְּן in יִתְּן תְּלָא.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

μου: meaning 'my'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

ἐν

in / when

preposition + dative (with articular infinitive: temporal)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν τῷ + inf.: temporal construction, 'when / while'; a Hebraizing render of אֲנִי + infinitive construct.

τῷ

the

Dative

article (with articular infinitive)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

διαθέσθαι

to make / made

Aor Mid Inf · διατίθημι

articular infinitive (temporal clause: 'when my son made')

→ verbal action or state

διατίθημι (mid.): 'make (a covenant)'; the articular infinitive μετὰ τὸ διαθέσθαι ('after the making of the covenant') is a standard LXX temporal construction; the keyword recurs, marking the covenant as the now-irreversible reference point.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article (with νίον, subject-accusative of infinitive)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

νίον

son

Accusative

accusative subject of the infinitive διαθέσθαι

→ object specification

νίον: meaning 'son'; it serves as accusative subject of the infinitive διαθέσθαι.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession (my son = Jonathan)

→ relational specification

μου: meaning 'my'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (my son = Jonathan).

διαθήκην

covenant

Accusative

direct object of διαθέσθαι (cognate with the verb)

→ object specification

διαθήκην: meaning 'covenant'; it serves as direct object of διαθέσθαι (cognate with the verb).

μετὰ

with

preposition + genitive (covenant partner)

→ spatial or relational framing

μετὰ: meaning 'with'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + genitive (covenant partner).

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱοῦ

son

Genitive

genitive object of μετὰ (the covenant partner)

→ relational specification

υἱός: 'son'; again the dismissive ὁ υἱὸς Ἰεσσαι for David.

Ἰεσσαί

of Jesse

indeclinable genitive (son of Jesse)

→ participant identification

Ἰεσσαί: see v. 7; the contemptuous label for David.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

οὐκ

not

negative particle

→ discourse linkage or contrast

οὐκ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἔστιν

there is

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · εἰμί

main verb (existential negation)

→ verbal action or state

εἰμί: existential 'there is'; Saul repeats the complaint of being uninformed and unpitied.

πονῶν

one grieving / feeling pain

Pres Act Part Nom Sg Masc · πονέω

substantival participle (predicate of ἔστιν: 'there is none who grieves')

→ verbal action or state

πονέω: 'toil / suffer pain / be grieved'; here 'feel distress / be concerned'; renders הָלַךְ / a verb of grieving; Saul laments that none of his men feels sorrow on his behalf.

περὶ

for / concerning

preposition + genitive (object of concern)

→ spatial or relational framing

περὶ + gen.: 'concerning / for'; the object of the (absent) concern.

ἐμοῦ

me

Genitive

genitive object of περὶ

→ relational specification

ἐμοῦ: meaning 'me'; it serves as genitive object of περὶ.

ἐξ

of / from

preposition + genitive (partitive: 'of you')

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐκ + gen.: partitive, 'of / from among you' — none from your number.

ὕμῶν

you

Genitive

partitive genitive (object of ἐξ)

→ relational specification

ὕμῶν: meaning 'you'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as partitive genitive (object of ἐξ).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀποκαλύπτων

one who discloses

Pres Act Part Nom Sg Masc · ἀποκαλύπτω

substantival participle (coordinate with πονῶν)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποκαλύπτω: see above; the repetition of the 'uncover the ear' idiom underlines Saul's sense of being kept ignorant.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ὠτίον

ear

Accusative

direct object of ἀποκαλύπτων (Hebraism)

→ object specification

ὠτίον: see above; 'uncover my ear' = inform me.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

μου: meaning 'my'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

ὅτι

that

conjunction (introducing content of disclosure)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: meaning 'that'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐπήγειρεν

stirred up

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἐπεγείρω

verb of the ὅτι-clause

→ verbal action or state

ἐπεγείρω: meaning 'stirred up'; it carries the action, process, or state of the clause; here it functions as verb of the ὅτι-clause.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱός

son

Nominative

subject of ἐπήγειρεν (Jonathan)

→ participant prominence

υἱός: meaning 'son'; it serves as subject of ἐπήγειρεν (Jonathan).

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

μου: meaning 'my'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

δοῦλόν

servant / slave

Accusative

direct object of ἐπήγειρεν (David, demeaned)

→ object specification

δοῦλος: 'slave / servant'; renders דָּבָר; Saul demeans David as 'my servant/slave' (a step below the πᾶς of v. 7), heightening the sense of betrayal.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

μου: meaning 'my'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

ἐπ'

against

preposition + accusative (hostile direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπ': meaning 'against'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (hostile direction).

ἐμέ

me

Accusative

accusative object of ἐπ'

→ participant reference

ἐμέ: meaning 'me'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as accusative object of ἐπ'.

εἰς

as / for

preposition + accusative (predicative: 'as an enemy')

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς + acc.: predicative use, 'as / to be'; a Hebraism (ל of result) — David is set 'as an enemy'.

ἐχθρόν

enemy

Accusative

predicate accusative (David cast as enemy)

→ object specification

ἐχθρός: 'enemy / foe'; renders בֹּיֹא; Saul's fixed view of David, repeated at v. 13.

ὥς

as

comparative particle (introducing temporal comparison)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὥς: 'as'; in ὥς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη ('as at this day') marks the present reality of the alleged enmity.

ἡ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ἡ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡμέρα

day

Nominative

subject of an implied 'is' (idiom 'as it is this day')

→ participant prominence

ἡμέρα: 'day'; the formula ὥς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη ('as at this day') renders הַיּוֹם, asserting the present, ongoing reality of the situation.

αὕτη

this

Nominative

demonstrative adjective (modifying ἡμέρα)

→ participant reference

οὗτος: 'this'; deictic, pointing to the very day of speaking.

9 καὶ ἀποκρίνεται Δωhek ὁ Σύρος ὁ καθεστηκώς ἐπὶ τὰς ἡμιόνους Σαουλ καὶ εἶπεν ἐόρακα τὸν υἱὸν Ιεσσαὶ παραγινόμενον εἰς Νομβὰ πρὸς Αβιμελεχ υἱὸν Αχιτωβ τὸν ἱερέα

And Doeg the Syrian, who was set over Saul's mules, answered and said, 'I have seen the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech son of Ahitub the priest.'

Doeg's incriminating report (turns the scene toward the priests) καὶ ἀποκρίνεται Δωhek

Doeg, the Edomite/Syrian overseer of Saul's mules, breaks the silence. His historic-present ἀποκρίνεται and perfect ἐόρακα ('I have seen') deliver eyewitness testimony that fatally implicates Ahimelech; the participle παραγινόμενον reports David's arrival at Nob (ch. 21).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀποκρίνεται

answers

Pres Mid Indic 3 Sg · ἀποκρίνομαι

main verb (historic present: response)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποκρίνομαι: 'answer / respond'; the historic present vivifies Doeg's intervention; renders תָּגַב.

Δωhek

Doeg

subject (indeclinable proper noun)

→ participant identification

Δωhek: transliteration of Hebrew דֹּגַי; indeclinable; the informer whose report triggers the massacre of the priests.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (with appositive Σύρος)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Σύρος

the Syrian

Nominative

nominative in apposition to Δωhek

→ participant prominence

Σύρος: 'Syrian'; the LXX's rendering of Hebrew יְדֹמִי ('Edomite'), a known textual variant (יְדֹמִי/יְדֹמִי); identifies Doeg as a foreigner in Saul's service.

ὁ

the (one)

Nominative

article (substantivizing the participle)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

καθεστηκώς

set / appointed

Perf Act Part Nom Sg Masc · καθίστημι

substantival participle (apposition: 'the one set over')

→ verbal action or state

καθίστημι (perf. part., intrans.): 'be set / appointed / put in charge'; renders the office of overseer; Doeg's post over the royal mules placed him at Nob to witness David's visit.

ἐπὶ

over

preposition + accusative (charge over)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπὶ + acc.: 'over / in charge of'; Doeg's sphere of responsibility.

τὰς

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡμίονους

mules

Accusative

accusative object of ἐπὶ (his charge)

→ object specification

ἡμίονος: 'mule'; renders תְּיָוִי; Doeg superintended Saul's mules (or, in some MSS, the herdsman), a menial-but-trusted royal post.

Σαουλ

of Saul

indeclinable genitive (Saul's mules)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: indeclinable; here genitive of possession, the mules belonging to Saul.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (speech-introduction)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: 'say'; introduces Doeg's testimony.

έόρακα

I have seen

Perf Act Indic 1 Sg · όράω

main verb (eyewitness report)

→ verbal action or state

όράω (perf. έόρακα): 'see'; the perfect stresses Doeg's firsthand, abiding knowledge — 'I have seen (and so I know)!'.

τόν

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τόν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱόν

son

Accusative

direct object of έόρακα

→ object specification

υἱός: 'son'; Doeg echoes Saul's contemptuous 'son of Jesse' for David.

Ιεσσαί

of Jesse

indeclinable genitive (son of Jesse)

→ participant identification

Ιεσσαί: see v. 7.

παραγινόμενον

coming / arriving

Pres Mid Part Acc Sg Masc · παραγίνομαι

supplementary participle (with verb of perception: 'I saw him coming')

→ verbal action or state

παραγίνομαι: 'arrive / come / be present'; the participle after a verb of seeing reports the perceived action — David coming to Nob (the episode of ch. 21).

εἰς

to

preposition + accusative (direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction).

Νοβ

Nob

indeclinable place-name (goal of motion)

→ participant identification

Νοβ: transliteration of Hebrew נוב; indeclinable; the priestly city near Jerusalem where Ahimelech served and aided David (ch. 21).

πρός

to

preposition + accusative (direction toward person)

→ spatial or relational framing

πρός: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction toward person).

Αβιμελεχ

Ahimelech

indeclinable accusative object of προς

→ participant identification

Αβιμελεχ: the LXX form (Abimelech) of Hebrew אֲחִימֶלֶךְ (Ahimelech); indeclinable; the high priest of Nob who unwittingly aided David.

υἱόν

son

Accusative

accusative in apposition to Αβιμελεχ

→ object specification

υἱός: 'son'; identifies Ahimelech by his patronymic, son of Ahitub.

Αχιτωβ

of Ahitub

indeclinable genitive (son of Ahitub)

→ participant identification

Αχιτωβ: transliteration of Hebrew אֲחִיטוֹב; indeclinable; Ahimelech's father, of the line of Eli (cf. 14:3).

τὸν

the

Accusative

article (with appositive ἱερέα)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἱερέα

priest

Accusative

accusative in apposition to Αβιμελεχ

→ object specification

ἱερεύς: 'priest'; renders יִהְיֶה; designates Ahimelech's office — the very fact that makes his aid to David, and Saul's response, so charged.

10 καὶ ἠρώτα αὐτῷ διὰ τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ ἐπισιτισμὸν ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ καὶ τὴν ῥομφαίαν Γολιαθ τοῦ ἄλλοφύλου ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ

And he enquired of God for him, and he gave him provisions and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.

Doeg's report continued: the three acts of aid

καὶ ἠρώτα

Doeg itemizes three incriminating acts by Ahimelech: an oracle (ἠρώτα ... διὰ τοῦ θεοῦ), provisions (ἐπισιτισμὸν), and Goliath's sword. The triple-charge (oracle, bread, sword) is exactly the indictment Saul throws back at Ahimelech in v. 13. The doubled ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ is emphatic.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καί: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἠρώτα

he enquired

Impf Act Indic 3 Sg · ἐρωτάω

main verb (oracular consultation)

→ verbal action or state

ἐρωτάω: 'ask / enquire'; here the technical sense 'enquire of God' (seek an oracle), rendering יִשְׁאַל; the imperfect portrays the consultation in process.

αὐτῷ

for him

Dative

dative of advantage (enquired on David's behalf)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτός (dat.): 'for him'; the dative marks David as the beneficiary of the priestly enquiry (a construction with ἐρωτάω + dative recurring at vv. 13, 15).

διὰ

through / by

preposition + genitive (means/agency of the oracle)

→ spatial or relational framing

διὰ + gen.: 'through / by means of'; the oracle is obtained 'through God' — i.e. by priestly inquiry (Urim, ephod).

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

θεοῦ

God

Genitive

genitive object of *διά* (the divine source consulted)

→ relational specification

θεός: 'God'; renders *דִּי־הָלַךְ*; the enquiry 'through God' is the oracular consultation that Saul will treat as treasonous collusion.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐπισιτισμόν

provisions

Accusative

direct object of *ἔδωκεν* (food given)

→ object specification

ἐπισιτισμός: 'provisions / food-supply'; renders the bread (the consecrated showbread) Ahimelech gave David (21:6); the second incriminating act.

ἔδωκεν

he gave

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · *δίδωμι*

main verb (act of provisioning)

→ verbal action or state

δίδωμι: 'give'; renders *יָתַן*; Ahimelech's giving of food and sword are the deeds Doeg reports and Saul condemns.

αὐτῷ

to him

Dative

dative indirect object (David)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτῷ: meaning 'to him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as dative indirect object (David).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τὴν

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ρόμφαίαν

sword

Accusative

direct object of the second *ἔδωκεν*

→ object specification

ρόμφαία: 'sword / large blade'; renders *בִּרְבֵּר*; Goliath's sword, kept at the sanctuary, given to David (21:9); the third and most damning act.

Γολיאδ

of Goliath

indeclinable genitive (Goliath's sword)

→ participant identification

Γολיאδ: the LXX form of Hebrew *גִּלְיָאֵד* (Goliath); indeclinable; the Philistine champion David slew (ch. 17), whose sword was stored at Nob.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article (with appositive *ἄλλοφύλου*)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἄλλοφύλου

the Philistine / foreigner

Genitive

genitive in apposition to *Γολιαδ*

→ relational specification

ἄλλοφυλος: 'of another tribe / foreigner'; the LXX's standard rendering of *יִפְלִיז* ('Philistine'); identifies Goliath as the enemy champion.

ἔδωκεν

he gave

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · δίδωμι

main verb (resumptive: gift of the sword)

→ verbal action or state

δίδωμι: the repeated ἔδωκεν αὐτῷ ('he gave him') is an emphatic Hebraizing resumption stressing each separate act of aid.

αὐτῷ

to him

Dative

dative indirect object (David)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτῷ: meaning 'to him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as dative indirect object (David).

11 καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ὁ βασιλεὺς καλέσαι τὸν Αἰμιελεχ υἱὸν Αἰχτωβ καὶ πάντας τοὺς υἱοὺς τοῦ πατρὸς αὐτοῦ τοὺς ἱερεῖς τοὺς ἐν Νομβὰ καὶ παρεγένοντο πάντες πρὸς τὸν βασιλέα

And the king sent to summon Ahimelech son of Ahitub and all the sons of his father, the priests who were in Nob; and they all came to the king.

Saul's summons of the whole priestly house (opens section C)

καὶ ἀπέστειλεν ὁ βασιλεὺς

Saul widens the net from Ahimelech to 'all the sons of his father, the priests in Nob' — the comprehensive πάντας foreshadows the comprehensive slaughter to come. The aorist of summons (ἀπέστειλεν ... καλέσαι) and of compliance (παρεγένοντο πάντες) set up the confrontation.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καί: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀπέστειλεν

sent

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀποστέλλω

main verb (act of summoning)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποστέλλω: 'send / dispatch'; renders πζψ; the king sends messengers to summon the priests.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλεὺς

king

Nominative

subject

→ participant prominence

βασιλεὺς: 'king'; Saul, here designated by office as the agent of judicial summons.

καλέσαι

to summon / call

Aor Act Inf · καλέω

infinitive of purpose (with ἀπέστειλεν)

→ verbal action or state

καλέω: 'call / summon'; renders קָרָא; the infinitive of purpose specifies why the king sent — to summon the priests.

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Αβιμελεχ

Ahimelech

indeclinable accusative object of καλέσαι

→ participant identification

Αβιμελεχ: see v. 9; the high priest summoned for interrogation.

υἱὸν

son

Accusative

accusative in apposition to Αβιμελεχ

→ object specification

υἱός: 'son'; identifies Ahimelech by patronymic.

Αχιτωβ

of Ahitub

indeclinable genitive (son of Ahitub)

→ participant identification

Αχιτωβ: see v. 9.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

πάντας

all

Accusative

attributive adjective (modifying υἱούς)

→ object specification

πᾶς: 'all'; the comprehensive summons of the whole priestly house, ominously anticipating the total massacre.

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱούς

sons

Accusative

accusative object of καλέσαι (coordinate)

→ object specification

υἱός: 'son'; the priestly family — Ahimelech's kin who serve at Nob.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πατρός

father

Genitive

genitive of relationship (his father's sons = his kin)

→ relational specification

πατήρ: 'father'; οἱ υἱοὶ τοῦ πατρός αὐτοῦ ('the sons of his father') = the whole priestly clan of Ahitub.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article (with appositive ἱερεῖς)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἱερεῖς

priests

Accusative

accusative in apposition to νιούς

→ object specification

ἱερεῖς: 'priest'; renders יִכְנִי; the apposition makes clear that the entire priestly contingent of Nob is summoned.

τοὺς

the (ones)

Accusative

article (attributive: 'who were in Nob')

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐν

in

preposition + dative (location)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (location).

Νομβά

Nob

indeclinable place-name (location of the priests)

→ participant identification

Νομβά: see v. 9; the priestly city.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

παρεγένοντο

came / arrived

Aor Mid Indic 3 Pl · παραγίνομαι

main verb (compliance with the summons)

→ verbal action or state

παραγίνομαι: 'arrive / present oneself'; the priests obediently come before the king — unaware they are walking into a death-trap.

πάντες

all

Nominative

subject (the whole company)

→ participant prominence

πᾶς: 'all'; the second πάντες stresses that the entire priestly house answered the summons.

πρὸς

to

preposition + accusative (direction toward person)

→ spatial or relational framing

πρὸς: meaning 'to'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (direction toward person).

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλέα

king

Accusative

accusative object of πρὸς

→ object specification

βασιλεύς: 'king'; Saul, before whom the priests present themselves.

12 καὶ εἶπεν Σαουλ ἄκουε δὴ υἱὲ Αἰτιωβ καὶ εἶπεν ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ λάλει κύριε

And Saul said, 'Hear now, son of Ahitub!' And he said, 'Here I am; speak, my lord.'

Opening exchange of the interrogation καὶ εἶπεν Σαουλ

A terse two-part exchange: Saul's summons (ἄκουε δὴ, 'hear now') and Ahimelech's deferential reply ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ ... κύριε ('here I am ... my lord'). Note κύριε here is the human honorific 'my lord' (Ahimelech addressing King Saul), not the divine name.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (speech-introduction)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: 'say'; introduces Saul's address to Ahimelech.

Σαουλ

Saul

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject (indeclinable).

ἄκουε

hear

Pres Act Impv 2 Sg · ἀκούω

main verb (summons to attention)

→ verbal action or state

ἀκούω: 'hear / listen'; the present imperative ἄκουε δὴ ('hear now') opens the interrogation.

δὴ

now

emphatic particle

→ discourse linkage or contrast

δὴ: emphatic, 'now'; renders נָּ; urges Ahimelech's attention.

υἱὲ

son

Vocative

vocative of address (son of Ahitub)

→ direct address

υἱός (voc. υἱέ): 'son'; Saul addresses Ahimelech curtly by patronymic, υἱὲ Αἰτιωβ.

Αἰτιωβ

of Ahitub

indeclinable genitive (son of Ahitub)

→ participant identification

Αἰτιωβ: see v. 9.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (Ahimelech's reply)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: 'say'; introduces Ahimelech's deferential response.

ἰδοὺ

behold / here

presentative particle (attention-marker)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ἰδοὺ: 'behold / here'; renders ִּדּוּ; in ἰδοὺ ἐγώ ('here I am') it signals ready, obedient presence.

ἐγώ

I

Nominative

subject of implied 'am' (ἰδοὺ ἐγώ: 'here I am')

→ participant reference

ἐγώ: the emphatic pronoun in ἰδοὺ ἐγώ ('here am I') renders ֶהֱאָנֹכִי, the formula of attentive availability.

λάλει

speak

Pres Act Impv 2 Sg · λαλέω

main verb (invitation to speak)

→ verbal action or state

λαλέω: 'speak'; Ahimelech invites the king to state his charge — the deferential reply of an innocent man.

κύριε

my lord

Vocative

vocative of address (human honorific: Saul)

→ direct address

κύριος (voc. κύριε): here the human honorific 'my lord / sir', Ahimelech addressing King Saul — not the divine name; renders ִּיְיָ.

13 καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Σαουλ ἵνα τί συνέθου κατ'ἐμοῦ σὺ καὶ ὁ υἱὸς Ιεσσαὶ δοῦναί σε αὐτῷ ἄρτον καὶ ῥομφαίαν καὶ ἐρωτᾷν αὐτῷ διὰ τοῦ θεοῦ θέσθαι αὐτὸν ἐπ' ἐμὲ εἰς ἐχθρὸν ὥς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη

And Saul said to him, 'Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, in giving him bread and a sword, and enquiring of God for him, to set him against me as an enemy, as it is this day?'

Saul's formal indictment (echoing Doeg's three charges) καὶ εἶπεν αὐτῷ Σαουλ

Saul levels the indictment as a 'why' question (ἵνα τί ... συνέθου), recasting Doeg's three reported acts (v. 10) as proofs of conspiracy: bread, sword, oracle. The infinitival chain (δοῦναι ... ἐρωτᾷν ... θέσθαι) lays out the alleged treasonous purpose, closing with the same formula as v. 8 (εἰς ἐχθρὸν ὥς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη).

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν
said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (speech-introduction)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: 'say'; introduces Saul's accusation.

αὐτῷ
to him

Dative

dative indirect object (Ahimelech)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτῷ: meaning 'to him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as dative indirect object (Ahimelech).

Σαουλ
Saul

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: transliterated proper name rendered in Greek letters; here it functions as subject (indeclinable).

ἵνα
why

interrogative particle (with τί: 'to what end / why')

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ἵνα: in the idiom ἵνα τί ('why? / to what end?'), rendering לָמָּה; introduces the accusatory question.

τί
what (end)

Accusative

interrogative pronoun (in idiom ἵνα τί)

→ participant reference

τίς, τί: 'what'; with ἵνα forms the standard LXX 'why?' interrogative.

συνέθου
you conspired

Aor Mid Indic 2 Sg · συντίθηναι

main verb of the question

→ verbal action or state

συντίθηναι (mid. συντίθεμαι): 'agree together / conspire / make a compact'; renders רָשָׁע; the middle here = 'conspire against'; Saul's central charge.

κατ'
against

preposition + genitive (hostile)

→ spatial or relational framing

κατά + gen.: 'against'; the hostile direction of the alleged plot.

ἐμοῦ
me

Genitive

genitive object of κατά

→ relational specification

ἐμοῦ: meaning 'me'; it serves as genitive object of κατά.

σὺ
you

Nominative

subject (emphatic, paired with the son of Jesse)

→ participant reference

σὺ: the emphatic pronoun pairs Ahimelech with David as co-conspirators.

καὶ
and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ὁ
the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

υἱός

son

Nominative

subject (coordinate: 'the son of Jesse')

→ participant prominence

υἱός: again the dismissive 'son of Jesse' for David.

Ἰεσσαί

of Jesse

indeclinable genitive (son of Jesse)

→ participant identification

Ἰεσσαί: see v. 7.

δοῦναί

to give

Aor Act Inf · δίδωμι

epexegetic infinitive (specifying the conspiracy: 'in giving')

→ verbal action or state

δίδωμι: 'give'; the infinitive δοῦναι unfolds the first charge — giving David bread and sword.

σε

you

Accusative

accusative subject of the infinitive δοῦναι

→ participant reference

σύ (acc. σε): the accusative subject of the infinitive — 'that you gave.'

αὐτῷ

to him

Dative

dative indirect object (David)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτῷ: meaning 'to him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as dative indirect object (David).

ἄρτον

bread

Accusative

direct object of δοῦναι

→ object specification

ἄρτος: 'bread / loaf'; renders ὄψος; the consecrated bread given David (21:6); the first charge, corresponding to ἐπιστισμόν (v. 10).

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ῥομφαίαν

sword

Accusative

direct object of δοῦναι (coordinate with ἄρτον)

→ object specification

ῥομφαία: 'sword'; Goliath's sword (v. 10); the second charge.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (introducing third charge)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐρωτᾶν

to enquire

Pres Act Inf · ἐρωτάω

epexegetic infinitive (third charge)

→ verbal action or state

ἐρωτάω: 'enquire (of God)'; the third charge, echoing v. 10; the present infinitive presents the oracular consultation.

αὐτῷ

for him

Dative

dative of advantage (on David's behalf)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτός (dat.): 'for him'; David as the beneficiary of the enquiry (cf. v. 10).

διὰ

through

preposition + genitive (means of the oracle)

→ spatial or relational framing

διὰ + gen.: 'through / by means of'.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

θεοῦ

God

Genitive

genitive object of *διά*

→ relational specification

θεός: 'God'; the source consulted in the oracle.

θέσθαι

to set

Aor Mid Inf · τίθημι

infinitive of result/purpose (the aim of the conspiracy)

→ verbal action or state

τίθημι (mid. θέσθαι): 'set / place'; with εἰς ἐχθρόν, 'to set (David) up as an enemy'; states the alleged treasonous aim.

αὐτὸν

him

Accusative

accusative object of *θέσθαι* (David)

→ participant reference

αὐτὸν: meaning 'him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as accusative object of *θέσθαι* (David).

ἐπὶ

against

preposition + accusative (hostile)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπὶ: meaning 'against'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + accusative (hostile).

ἐμέ

me

Accusative

accusative object of *ἐπὶ*

→ participant reference

ἐμέ: meaning 'me'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as accusative object of *ἐπὶ*.

εἰς

as

preposition + accusative (predicative: 'as an enemy')

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς + acc.: predicative 'as'; Hebraism (חַ), cf. v. 8.

ἐχθρόν

enemy

Accusative

predicate accusative (David cast as enemy)

→ object specification

ἐχθρός: 'enemy'; repeats the charge of v. 8.

ὥς

as

comparative particle (temporal comparison)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὥς: 'as'; in ὥς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη.

ἡ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ἡ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡμέρα

day

Nominative

subject of implied 'is' (idiom 'as at this day')

→ participant prominence

ἡμέρα: 'day'; the formula ὥς ἡ ἡμέρα αὕτη (cf. v. 8), asserting the present reality of the supposed enmity.

αὕτη

this

Nominative

demonstrative adjective (modifying ἡμέρα)

→ participant reference

οὗτος: 'this'; deictic 'this very day.'

14 καὶ ἀπεκρίθη τῷ βασιλεῖ καὶ εἶπεν καὶ τίς ἐν πᾶσιν τοῖς δούλοις σου ὡς Δαυιδ πιστὸς καὶ γαμβρὸς τοῦ βασιλέως καὶ ἄρχων παντὸς παραγγέλματός σου καὶ ἔνδοξος ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ σου

And he answered the king and said, 'And who among all your servants is like David — faithful, and the king's son-in-law, and captain of all your bodyguard, and honored in your house?'

Ahimelech's defense: David's unimpeachable loyalty

καὶ ἀπεκρίθη τῷ βασιλεῖ

Ahimelech defends himself by defending David: a rhetorical question (τίς ... ὡς Δαυιδ;) expecting the answer 'no one', supported by a fourfold catalogue of David's standing — faithful, royal son-in-law, captain of the guard, honored in the house. Far from a traitor, David is the model loyal servant.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀπεκρίθη

answered

Aor Pass Indic 3 Sg · ἀποκρίνομαι

main verb (Ahimelech's reply)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποκρίνομαι (aor. pass. dep.): 'answer / reply'; renders תָּגַב; introduces Ahimelech's defense.

τῷ

the

Dative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλεῖ

king

Dative

dative indirect object (the one answered)

→ sphere or reference

βασιλεύς: 'king'; Saul, to whom Ahimelech replies.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction (resumptive)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (resumptive speech-introduction)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: the resumptive καὶ εἶπεν after ἀπεκρίθη is a Hebraizing redundancy.

καὶ

and / now

discourse marker (opening the rebuttal)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: here opening a rhetorical retort, 'and (who...)?'; renders the Hebrew waw introducing the rejoinder.

τίς

who

Nominative

interrogative pronoun (subject of implied 'is')

→ participant reference

τίς: 'who?'; the rhetorical question expects the answer 'no one is as loyal as David.'

ἐν

among

preposition + dative (partitive sphere)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν + dat.: 'among'; locates David within the body of Saul's servants.

πᾶσιν

all

Dative

attributive adjective (with δούλοις)

→ sphere or reference

πᾶς: 'all'; the whole body of royal servants, against whom David is measured and found supreme in loyalty.

τοῖς

the

Dative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῖς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

δούλοις

servants

Dative

dative object of ἐν (the body of servants)

→ sphere or reference

δούλος: 'servant / slave'; renders טַבַּל; Ahimelech pointedly calls David Saul's own δούλος — a loyal subject, not a rebel.

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

σου: meaning 'your'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

ὥς

like / as

comparative particle (introducing the standard of comparison)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὥς: 'as / like'; sets David as the benchmark of loyalty.

Δαυιδ

David

indeclinable (object of comparison)

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: Ahimelech, unlike Saul and Doeg, names David — affirming his honor.

πιστός

faithful

Nominative

predicate adjective (first of fourfold catalogue)

→ participant prominence

πιστός: 'faithful / trustworthy'; renders יִשְׁתָּדָּק; the first and governing virtue of David's standing — his proven fidelity.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

γαμβρός

son-in-law

Nominative

predicate nominative (second of catalogue)

→ participant prominence

γαμβρός: 'son-in-law / kinsman by marriage'; David married Saul's daughter Michal (18:27); his kinship to the king refutes the charge of enmity.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλέως

king

Genitive

genitive of relationship (the king's son-in-law)

→ relational specification

βασιλεύς: 'king'; Saul himself, whose daughter David wed.

καὶ
and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἄρχων

commander / captain

Nominative

predicate nominative (third of catalogue)

→ participant prominence

ἄρχων: 'ruler / commander / officer'; substantival; renders $\gamma\psi$; David's command of Saul's bodyguard (cf. 22:14 MT, 'captain over your guard') — a position of supreme royal trust.

παντὸς

all / every

Genitive

attributive adjective (with παραγγέλματος)

→ relational specification

πᾶς: 'all'; David commands the whole of the king's guard/command.

παραγγέλματος

command / bodyguard

Genitive

genitive object of ἄρχων (his sphere of command)

→ relational specification

πράγμα: 'command / order / charge'; here the body under David's command (the royal guard or the king's standing orders); the LXX renders the Hebrew תַּגְמָשׁ ('obedient retinue / bodyguard').

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

σου: meaning 'your'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

καὶ
and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐνδοξος

honored / held in honor

Nominative

predicate adjective (fourth of catalogue)

→ participant prominence

ἐνδοξος: 'honored / glorious / held in esteem'; renders דָּבָר ; David's standing in the royal household — the climax of the loyalty-catalogue.

ἐν
in

preposition + dative (sphere)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (sphere).

τῷ

the

Dative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

οἶκῳ

house(hold)

Dative

dative of place (in your household)

→ sphere or reference

οἶκος: 'house / household'; renders בֵּית ; the royal household where David is honored.

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

σου: meaning 'your'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

15 ἢ σήμερον ἤρغمαι ἐρωτᾷν αὐτῷ διὰ τοῦ θεοῦ μηδαμῶς μὴ δότω ὁ βασιλεὺς κατὰ τοῦ δούλου αὐτοῦ λόγον καὶ ἐφ' ὅλον τὸν οἶκον τοῦ πατρός μου ὅτι οὐκ ἤδει ὁ δοῦλος ὁ σὸς ἐν πᾶσιν τούτοις ῥῆμα μικρὸν ἢ μέγα

'Is it today that I have begun to enquire of God for him? By no means! Let not the king lay a charge against his servant, or against all the house of my father; for your servant knew nothing of all this, small or great.'

Ahimelech's plea of innocence (climax of the defense)

ἢ σήμερον ἤρغمαι

Ahimelech argues that enquiring for David was nothing new — a routine service to a trusted royal officer, not treason. The strong denial μηδαμῶς ('by no means!') and the deprecatory imperative μὴ δότω ... λόγον ('let not the king impute a charge') plead for his house's innocence; he closes with total ignorance of any plot (οὐκ ἤδει ... μικρὸν ἢ μέγα).

ἢ

is it (that)?

interrogative particle (introducing the question)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ἢ: interrogative particle introducing a (rhetorical) question, 'is it indeed...?'; here expecting the answer 'no — this was nothing new!'

σήμερον

today

adverb of time (emphatic: 'today / only now')

→ clausal contribution

σήμερον: 'today'; renders הַיּוֹם; the point is that enquiring for David was not a novel act begun 'today' but a customary service.

ἤρغمαι

have I begun

Perf Mid Indic 1 Sg · ἄρχω

main verb of the question (perfect)

→ verbal action or state

ἄρχω (mid. ἄρχομαι, perf. ἤρغمαι): 'begin'; 'have I (only) today begun to enquire for him?' — i.e. this was his established, longstanding practice.

ἐρωτᾷν

to enquire

Pres Act Inf · ἐρωτάω

complementary infinitive (with ἤρغمαι)

→ verbal action or state

ἐρωτάω: 'enquire (of God)'; the same oracular sense as vv. 10, 13; Ahimelech frames it as routine priestly service.

αὐτῷ

for him

Dative

dative of advantage (for David)

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτός (dat.): 'for him'; David as beneficiary.

διὰ

through

preposition + genitive (means of the oracle)

→ spatial or relational framing

διὰ: meaning 'through'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + genitive (means of the oracle).

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

θεοῦ

God

Genitive

genitive object of διὰ

→ relational specification

θεός: 'God'; the divine source of the oracle.

μηδαμῶς

by no means

adverb of strong denial (free-standing)

→ clausal contribution

μηδαμῶς: 'by no means / not at all'; an emphatic disclaimer, repudiating the imputation of conspiracy (cf. הַלֵּלֶּךָ, 'far be it').

μὴ

not

negative particle (with prohibitive imperative)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

μὴ: the negative of prohibition; with δότω forms a deprecation, 'let not the king...'

δότω

let him lay / impute

Aor Act Impv 3 Sg · δίδωμι

main verb (deprecatory third-person imperative)

→ verbal action or state

δίδωμι: 'give / lay / impute'; in δότω ... λόγον, 'lay a charge / impute a matter'; Ahimelech begs the king not to impute guilt to his house.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλεὺς

king

Nominative

subject of δότω

→ participant prominence

βασιλεὺς: 'king'; Ahimelech addresses Saul deferentially in the third person.

κατὰ

against

preposition + genitive (charge against)

→ spatial or relational framing

κατὰ + gen.: 'against'; the direction of the deprecated charge.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

δούλου

servant

Genitive

genitive object of κατὰ (Ahimelech of himself)

→ relational specification

δοῦλος: 'servant'; Ahimelech humbly calls himself the king's δοῦλος, distancing himself from any disloyalty.

αὐτοῦ

his

Genitive

genitive of possession (the king's servant)

→ relational specification

αὐτοῦ: meaning 'his'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (the king's servant).

λόγον

charge / word

Accusative

direct object of δότω (the imputed accusation)

→ object specification

λόγος: 'word / matter / charge'; here a judicial accusation that Ahimelech begs the king not to lay.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (extending the deprecation)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐφ'

upon / against

preposition + accusative (charge against)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπί + acc.: 'upon / against'; extends the plea to the whole priestly house.

ὅλον

whole

Accusative

attributive adjective (with οἶκον)

→ object specification

ὅλος: 'whole / entire'; Ahimelech pleads for his entire family — tragically, the very 'whole house' Saul will destroy (vv. 16, 19).

τὸν

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

οἶκον

house

Accusative

accusative object of ἐφ' (the father's house)

→ object specification

οἶκος: 'house / household'; the priestly clan of Nob.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πατρός

father

Genitive

genitive of relationship (my father's house)

→ relational specification

πατήρ: 'father'; Ahitub's house, the whole priestly family.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

μου: meaning 'my'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

ὅτι

for / because

causal conjunction (ground of the plea)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'for / because'; introduces the ground — total ignorance of any plot.

οὐκ

not

negative particle

→ discourse linkage or contrast

οὐκ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἥδει

knew

Plpf Act Indic 3 Sg · οἶδα

main verb (Ahimelech's ignorance)

→ verbal action or state

οἶδα (plpf. ἥδει, with past sense 'knew'): 'know'; renders וָיָדָע; Ahimelech protests that 'your servant knew nothing' of any conspiracy.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

δοῦλος

servant

Nominative

subject of ἥδει (Ahimelech)

→ participant prominence

δοῦλος: 'servant'; the self-deprecating ὁ δοῦλος ὁ σός ('your servant') reaffirms loyalty.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (attributive with σός)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

σός your (own) Nominative possessive adjective (modifying δοῦλος) → participant prominence σός: possessive 'your'; ὁ δοῦλος ὁ σός = 'your own servant', stressing fidelity to the king.	ἐν in / of preposition + dative (sphere of knowledge) → spatial or relational framing ἐν + dat.: 'in / concerning'; the sphere of the disclaimed knowledge — 'in all these matters.'	πᾶσιν all Dative attributive adjective (with τούτοις) → sphere or reference πᾶς: 'all'; the totality of the alleged affair.	τούτοις these things Dative demonstrative pronoun (the whole matter) → participant reference or interest οὗτος: 'these'; the supposed conspiracy in its entirety.
ῥῆμα thing / matter Accusative direct object of ἵδει (the thing not known) → object specification ῥῆμα: 'word / thing / matter'; renders רֵבֶד; in the merism ῥῆμα μικρὸν ἢ μέγα ('matter small or great') it means 'nothing whatever.'	μικρὸν small Accusative attributive adjective (first pole of merism) → object specification μικρός: 'small / little'; renders נֶטָה; with μέγα forms a merism for 'anything at all.'	ἢ or disjunctive particle (within merism) → discourse linkage or contrast ἢ: 'or'; joins the poles of the merism.	μέγα great Accusative attributive adjective (second pole of merism) → object specification μέγας: 'great'; renders לִדְגָה; 'small or great' = nothing whatsoever; Ahimelech's comprehensive denial.

16 καὶ εἶπεν ὁ βασιλεὺς Σαουλ θανάτῳ ἀποθανῇ Αβιμελεχ σὺ καὶ πᾶς ὁ οἶκος τοῦ πατρός σου

And the king said, 'Saul: you shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father's house.'

Saul's death-verdict, ignoring the defense καὶ εἶπεν ὁ βασιλεὺς Σαουλ

Saul brushes aside Ahimelech's plea and pronounces sentence in the emphatic cognate-dative formula θανάτῳ ἀποθανῇ ('you shall surely die'), extending it to 'all your father's house.' The verdict ironically echoes the very house Ahimelech sought to shield (v. 15).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (pronouncement of sentence)

→ participant reference

λέγω: 'say'; introduces Saul's verdict.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλεὺς

king

Nominative

subject (Saul by office)

→ participant prominence

βασιλεὺς: 'king'; Saul acting in judicial capacity.

Σαουλ

Saul

nominative in apposition to βασιλεὺς (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: in apposition, 'the king Saul.'

θανάτῳ

by death

Dative

cognate dative (Hebraism intensifying ἀποθανῆ)

→ sphere or reference

θάνατος: 'death'; the cognate dative θανάτῳ ἀποθανῆ renders the Hebrew emphatic infinitive absolute תּוֹמַתְךָ תּוֹמַתְךָ ('you shall surely die'); the standard LXX device for the construction (cf. Gen 2:17).

ἀποθανῆ

you shall die

Fut Mid Indic 2 Sg · ἀποθνήσκω

main verb (sentence of death)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποθνήσκω: 'die'; the future ἀποθανῆ with cognate θανάτῳ pronounces certain death — Saul's irrevocable verdict on Ahimelech.

Αβιμελεχ

Ahimelech

vocative of address (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Αβιμελεχ: see v. 9; the condemned priest, addressed directly.

σύ

you

Nominative

subject (emphatic, with the verb)

→ participant reference

σύ: the emphatic pronoun, 'you' — Ahimelech personally — heads the condemned.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

πᾶς

all

Nominative

attributive adjective (with οἶκος)

→ participant prominence

πᾶς: 'all'; extends the death-sentence to the entire priestly house.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

οἶκος

house(hold)

Nominative

subject (coordinate with σύ)

→ participant prominence

οἶκος: 'house / household'; the whole family condemned with Ahimelech — the slaughter executed in vv. 18–19.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πατρός

father

Genitive

genitive of relationship (your father's house)

→ relational specification

πατήρ: 'father'; Ahitub's house, condemned in its entirety.

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

σου: meaning 'your'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

17 καὶ εἶπεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῖς παρατρέχουσιν τοῖς ἐφεστηκόσιν ἐπ' αὐτόν προσαγάγετε καὶ θανατοῦτε τοὺς ἱερεῖς τοῦ κυρίου ὅτι ἡ χεὶρ αὐτῶν μετὰ Δαυιδ καὶ ὅτι ἔγνωσαν ὅτι φεύγει αὐτός καὶ οὐκ ἀπεκάλυψαν τὸ ὥτίον μου καὶ οὐκ ἐβουλήθησαν οἱ παῖδες τοῦ βασιλέως ἐπενεγκεῖν τὰς χεῖρας αὐτῶν ἀπαντῆσαι εἰς τοὺς ἱερεῖς κυρίου

And the king said to the runners who were standing by him, 'Bring forward and put to death the priests of the LORD, because their hand is with David, and because they knew that he was fleeing and did not disclose it to my ear.' But the servants of the king were not willing to lift their hands to fall upon the priests of the LORD.

The execution order and the guards' refusal

καὶ εἶπεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τοῖς παρατρέχουσιν

Saul orders his runners (παρατρέχοντες, the royal guard) to execute the priests, justifying it by alleged complicity ('their hand is with David') and concealment. The narrator's closing clause — οὐκ ἐβουλήθησαν ... ἐπενεγκεῖν τὰς χεῖρας ('they were not willing to lift their hands') — marks the guards' conscientious refusal to slay the LORD's priests, isolating Doeg's atrocity in v. 18. The phrase τοὺς ἱερεῖς (τοῦ) κυρίου frames the killing as sacrilege against the LORD himself.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (issuing the order)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: 'say'; introduces Saul's execution-order.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλεὺς

king

Nominative

subject

→ participant prominence

βασιλεὺς: 'king'; Saul commanding his guard.

τοῖς

the (ones)

Dative

article (substantivizing the participle)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῖς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

παραιρέχουσιν

runners / guards

Pres Act Part Dat Pl Masc · παραιρέχω

substantival participle (the royal runners, addressees)

→ verbal action or state

παραιρέχω: 'run alongside'; the substantival οἱ παραιρέχοντες ('the runners') is the LXX term for the royal bodyguard/couriers (סִּיָּצִי), who attended and protected the king.

τοῖς

the (ones)

Dative

article (attributive with second participle)

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῖς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐφίστηκόσιν

standing by

Perf Act Part Dat Pl Masc · ἐφίστημι

attributive participle (modifying παραιρέχουσιν)

→ verbal action or state

ἐφίστημι (perf. part., intrans.): 'stand by / be posted'; the perfect describes the guards' fixed attendance about the king.

ἐπὶ

by / over

preposition + accusative (position about him)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐπὶ + acc.: here of attendant position, 'about / over him.'

αὐτόν

him

Accusative

accusative object of ἐπὶ (the king)

→ participant reference

αὐτόν: meaning 'him'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as accusative object of ἐπὶ (the king).

προσαγάγετε

bring forward

Aor Act Impv 2 Pl · προσάγω

main verb (command)

→ verbal action or state

προσάγω: 'bring near / lead forward'; renders שָׁאָה; the first imperative orders the guards to seize the priests for execution.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

θανατοῦτε

put to death

Pres Act Impv 2 Pl · θανατώω

main verb (command)

→ verbal action or state

θανατώω: 'put to death / kill'; renders תְּהַרְגֵם; the brutal command to slay the LORD's priests.

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἱερεῖς

priests

Accusative

direct object of θανατοῦτε

→ object specification

ἱερεῖς: 'priest'; the phrase 'priests of the LORD' makes Saul's order sacrilege against God himself.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

κυρίου

of the LORD

Genitive

genitive of possession (priests of the LORD)

→ relational specification

κύριος: rendering of the Tetragrammaton יהוה; 'the priests of the LORD' (τοῦ κυρίου) underscores that Saul commands the murder of God's own ministers — a defining act of his apostasy.

ὅτι

because

causal conjunction (first ground)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'because'; introduces Saul's first justification.

ἡ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ἡ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

χείρ

hand

Nominative

subject of implied 'is' ('their hand is with David')

→ participant prominence

χείρ: 'hand'; the idiom ἡ χεὶρ αὐτῶν μετὰ Δαυιδ ('their hand is with David') = they support/side with David; renders יָדָם עִמָּךְ.

αὐτῶν

their

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

αὐτῶν: meaning 'their'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

μετὰ

with

preposition + genitive (alliance)

→ spatial or relational framing

μετὰ + gen.: 'with'; expresses the alleged alliance with David.

Δαυιδ

David

indeclinable object of μετὰ

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: David, the supposed beneficiary of the priests' loyalty.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (second ground)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ὅτι

because

causal conjunction (second ground)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'because'; second justification — the priests' alleged concealment.

ἔγνωσαν

they knew

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · γινώσκω

verb of the causal clause

→ verbal action or state

γινώσκω: 'know'; Saul charges the priests with knowing of David's flight and not reporting it.

ὅτι

that

conjunction (object clause of ἔγνωσαν)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'that'; introduces the content of their alleged knowledge.

φεύγει

he is fleeing

Pres Act Indic 3 Sg · φεύγω

verb of object clause (historic/vivid present)

→ verbal action or state

φεύγω: 'flee'; renders פָּרַץ; the present depicts David's fugitive state as ongoing.

αὐτός

he

Nominative

subject (emphatic, David)

→ participant prominence

αὐτός: emphatic 'he' — David himself.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

οὐκ

not

negative particle

→ discourse linkage or contrast

οὐκ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἀπεκάλυψαν

they disclosed

Aor Act Indic 3 Pl · ἀποκαλύπτω

verb (the alleged failure to inform)

→ verbal action or state

ἀποκαλύπτω: 'uncover / disclose'; in ἀπεκάλυψαν τὸ ὠτίον μου ('disclosed to my ear', cf. v. 8) the charge is that they failed to inform Saul.

τὸ

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὸ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ὠτίον

ear

Accusative

direct object (Hebraism: 'disclose to the ear')

→ object specification

ὠτίον: 'ear'; the 'uncover the ear' idiom (cf. v. 8) = inform.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

μου: meaning 'my'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

καὶ

but

narrative conjunction (adversative: the guards' refusal)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καί: here adversative in force, introducing the guards' refusal that thwarts the order.

οὐκ

not

negative particle

→ discourse linkage or contrast

οὐκ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἐβουλήθησαν

were willing

Aor Pass Indic 3 Pl · βούλομαι

main verb (the guards' refusal)

→ verbal action or state

βούλομαι (aor. pass. dep.): 'be willing / wish'; οὐκ ἐβουλήθησαν ('they were unwilling') marks the guards' conscientious refusal to kill the LORD's priests — a quiet act of fear of God amid royal sacrilege.

οἱ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

οἱ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

παῖδες

servants

Nominative

subject of ἐβουλήθησαν

→ participant prominence

παῖς: 'servant / attendant'; the king's guards, who refuse the order.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλέως

king

Genitive

genitive of relationship (the king's servants)

→ relational specification

βασιλεύς: 'king'; whose servants nonetheless will not obey this command.

ἐπενεγκεῖν

to lift / lay

Aor Act Inf · ἐπιφέρω

complementary infinitive (with ἐβουλήθησαν)

→ verbal action or state

ἐπιφέρω: 'bring upon / lay on'; in ἐπενεγκεῖν τὰς χεῖρας ('to lay/lift their hands') = to do violence; the act the guards refuse.

τὰς

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τὰς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

χεῖρας

hands

Accusative

direct object of ἐπενεγκεῖν

→ object specification

χεῖρ: 'hand'; 'lay hands on' = attack; idiom for violence.

αὐτῶν

their

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

αὐτῶν: meaning 'their'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

ἀπαντῆσαι

to fall upon

Aor Act Inf · ἀπαντάω

infinitive of result/purpose (epexegetic of ἐπενεγκεῖν)

→ verbal action or state

ἀπαντάω: 'meet / encounter'; here in a hostile sense, 'fall upon / attack'; specifies the lethal assault the guards will not commit against the priests.

εἰς

against / upon

preposition + accusative (hostile direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς + acc.: here hostile, 'against / upon.'

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἱερεῖς

priests

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς

→ object specification

ἱερεῖς: 'priest'; again 'priests of the LORD', whom the guards will not touch.

κυρίου

of the LORD

Genitive

genitive of possession (priests of the LORD)

→ relational specification

κύριος: rendering of the Tetragrammaton יהוה; the repetition 'priests of the LORD' underlines the sacrilegious nature of the order the guards refuse.

18 καὶ εἶπεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τῷ Δωῆκ ἐπιστρέφου σὺ καὶ ἀπάντα εἰς τοὺς ἱερεῖς καὶ ἐπεστράφη Δωῆκ ὁ Σύρος καὶ ἐθανάτωσεν τοὺς ἱερεῖς κυρίου ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ τριακοσίους καὶ πέντε ἄνδρας πάντας αἵροντας εφουδ

And the king said to Doeg, 'Turn, you, and fall upon the priests.' And Doeg the Syrian turned and put to death the priests of the LORD on that day — three hundred and five men, all who wore the ephod.

Doeg carries out the massacre the guards refused

καὶ εἶπεν ὁ βασιλεὺς τῷ Δωῆκ

Saul turns to the foreigner Doeg, who obeys without scruple. The command ἐπιστρέφου ... ἀπάντα is answered by ἐπεστράφη ... ἐθανάτωσεν: Doeg slaughters the priests, the LXX numbering them three hundred and five (Rahlfs τριακοσίους καὶ πέντε; MT eighty-five). The descriptor αἵροντας εφουδ ('wearing the ephod') marks them all as officiating priests.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν

said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (issuing the order to Doeg)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: 'say'; introduces Saul's order to Doeg after the guards' refusal.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

βασιλεὺς

king

Nominative

subject

→ participant prominence

βασιλεὺς: 'king'; Saul, now turning to a willing executioner.

τῷ

the / to

Dative

article (with Δωηκ)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Δωηκ

Doeg

indeclinable dative (addressee, articular)

→ participant identification

Δωηκ: see v. 9; the willing executioner, governed by the article τῷ.

ἐπιστρέφου

turn

Pres Mid Impv 2 Sg · ἐπιστρέφω

main verb (command)

→ verbal action or state

ἐπιστρέφω (mid.): 'turn / turn round'; the command ἐπιστρέφου σύ ('turn, you') directs Doeg to the deed the guards declined.

σύ

you

Nominative

subject (emphatic: 'you', Doeg)

→ participant reference

σύ: emphatic — 'you (do it)', singling out Doeg.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀπάντα

fall upon

Pres Act Impv 2 Sg · ἀπαντάω

main verb (command)

→ verbal action or state

ἀπαντάω: 'meet / fall upon'; here hostile, 'attack'; the same verb the guards refused (ἀπαντῆσαι, v. 17), now commanded of Doeg.

εἰς

upon

preposition + accusative (hostile direction)

→ spatial or relational framing

εἰς + acc.: hostile, 'upon / against.'

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἱερεῖς

priests

Accusative

accusative object of εἰς

→ object specification

ἱερεῖς: 'priest'; the victims of the massacre.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐπεστράφη

turned

Aor Pass Indic 3 Sg · ἐπιστρέφω

main verb (Doeg's compliance)

→ verbal action or state

ἐπιστρέφω (aor. pass.): 'turn'; Doeg turns to obey — the deed answers the command word for word.

Δωηκ

Doeg

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Δωηκ: the executioner.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (with appositive Σύρος)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Σύρος

the Syrian

Nominative

nominative in apposition to Δωhek

→ participant prominence

Σύρος: see v. 9; the foreigner does what Israelite guards would not.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἐθανάτωσεν

put to death

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · θανατόω

main verb (the slaughter)

→ verbal action or state

θανατόω: 'put to death / kill'; the same verb as the order (θανατοῦτε, v. 17); Doeg executes the priests.

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἱερεῖς

priests

Accusative

direct object of ἐθανάτωσεν

→ object specification

ἱερεῖς: 'priest'; 'priests of the LORD' — the enormity of the sacrilege.

κυρίου

of the LORD

Genitive

genitive of possession (priests of the LORD)

→ relational specification

κύριος: rendering of the Tetragrammaton יהוה; the slain are the LORD's own priests, deepening the horror of the act.

ἐν

in / on

preposition + dative (time)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'in'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (time).

τῇ

the

Dative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡμέρα

day

Dative

dative of time (on that day)

→ sphere or reference

ἡμέρα: 'day'; the day of the massacre, fixed in memory (cf. v. 22).

ἐκείνη

that

Dative

demonstrative adjective (modifying ἡμέρα)

→ sphere or reference

ἐκεῖνος: 'that'; the fateful day David later recalls (v. 22).

τριακοσίους

three hundred

Accusative

numeral (in apposition to the implied count of ἀνδρας)

→ object specification

τριακόσιοι: 'three hundred'; the LXX (Rahlfs) reads τριακοσίους καὶ πέντε ('305'), against the MT's eighty-five (השמונים); a numerical text-variant.

καὶ
and

coordinate conjunction (joining the numeral)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

πέντε
five

Accusative

numeral (indeclinable, with τριακοσίους)

→ measure or count

πέντε: 'five'; indeclinable; completes the LXX figure of 305 slain priests.

ἄνδρας
men

Accusative

accusative in apposition (the slain)

→ object specification

ἄνῃρ: 'man'; the priests counted as 'men' — the total of the slain.

πάντας
all

Accusative

attributive adjective (with the participle)

→ object specification

πᾶς: 'all'; every one of them an officiating priest.

αἶροντας
wearing / bearing

Pres Act Part Acc Pl Masc · αἶρω

attributive participle (modifying ἄνδρας: 'who wore the ephod')

→ verbal action or state

αἶρω: 'lift / bear / carry'; here 'bear / wear'
— οἱ αἶροντες εφουδ ('those who wore the ephod') marks all the slain as functioning priests (cf. the linen ephod, 2:18); renders תִּפְחָל נָשָׂא.

εφουδ
ephod

indeclinable object of αἶροντας (transliterated cultic term)

→ clausal contribution

εφουδ: transliteration of Hebrew תִּפְחָל ('ephod'), the priestly vestment; indeclinable in the LXX; wearing it identifies the slain as ordained priests.

19 καὶ τὴν Νομβὰ τὴν πόλιν τῶν ἱερέων ἐπάταξεν ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας ἀπὸ ἀνδρὸς ἕως γυναικὸς ἀπὸ νηπίου ἕως θηλάζοντος καὶ μόσχου καὶ ὄνου καὶ προβάτου

And Nob, the city of the priests, he struck with the edge of the sword — from man to woman, from infant to suckling, and ox and donkey and sheep.

Total destruction of the priestly city (climax of section C)

καὶ τὴν Νομβὰ

The massacre widens from the priests to the whole city. The idiom ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας ('with the edge/mouth of the sword') and the double merism ἀπὸ ἀνδρὸς ἕως γυναικὸς / ἀπὸ νηπίου ἕως θηλάζοντος, capped by the animals, depict the herem-like total devastation of Nob — Saul wreaks on a city of priests the kind of utter destruction he failed to carry out against Amalek (ch. 15).

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

τὴν
the

Accusative

article (with Νομβά, fronted object)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Νομβά
Nob

indeclinable accusative (fronted direct object of ἐπάταξεν)

→ participant identification

Νομβά: see v. 9; here the whole city, articular and fronted for emphasis.

τὴν
the

Accusative

article (with appositive πόλιν)

→ noun-phrase marking

τὴν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πόλιν
city

Accusative

accusative in apposition to Νομβά

→ object specification

πόλις: 'city'; renders יָרֵךְ; the apposition 'the city of the priests' stresses that an entire sacred community is destroyed.

τῶν
the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τῶν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἱερέων
priests

Genitive

genitive of relationship (city of the priests)

→ relational specification

ἱερεύς: 'priest'; Nob was a priestly settlement; its destruction is the annihilation of a whole order.

ἐπάταξεν
he struck

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · πατάσσω

main verb (the destruction)

→ verbal action or state

πατάσσω: 'strike / smite / slay'; renders הָרַךְ; the standard verb of total military destruction; subject is Doeg (or Saul through him).

ἐν
with

preposition + dative (instrument: Hebraism)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν + dat.: instrumental, 'with'; in the Hebraism ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας ('with the edge of the sword').

στόματι
edge / mouth

Dative

dative of instrument (idiom: 'edge of the sword')

→ sphere or reference

στόμα: 'mouth'; in ἐν στόματι ῥομφαίας ('by the mouth/edge of the sword') it renders לְפִי הָרַךְ ('by the edge of the sword'), a Hebraism for total slaughter.

ῥομφαίας
of the sword

Genitive

genitive (with στόματι: 'edge of the sword')

→ relational specification

ῥομφαία: 'sword'; the instrument of the city's destruction.

ἀπὸ
from

preposition + genitive (start of first merism)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἀπὸ: in the merism ἀπὸ ... ἕως ('from ... to'), marking total scope.

ἄνδρὸς

man

Genitive

genitive of source (first pole of merism)

→ relational specification

ἄνθρωπος: 'man'; the first pole — adult male.

ἕως

to

preposition + genitive (end of first merism)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἕως: 'until / to'; the end-point of the merism.

γυναικός

woman

Genitive

genitive (end-point of first merism)

→ relational specification

γυνή: 'woman'; the second pole — 'from man to woman' = the whole adult population.

ἀπὸ

from

preposition + genitive (start of second merism)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἀπό: opens the second merism, of the very young.

νηπίου

infant / child

Genitive

genitive of source (first pole of second merism)

→ relational specification

νήπιος: 'infant / little child'; renders נֶעֱרֵב; the first pole of the second merism — the young child.

ἕως

to

preposition + genitive (end of second merism)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἕως: 'to'; the end-point of the second merism.

θηλάζοντος

suckling / nursing infant

Pres Act Part Gen Sg Masc · θηλάζω

substantival participle (genitive: 'nursing infant', second pole)

→ verbal action or state

θηλάζω: 'suck / nurse'; the substantival participle ὁ θηλάζων ('the suckling') renders קִנִּי; 'from infant to suckling' extends the slaughter to the youngest — total destruction.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction (extending to animals)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

μόσχου

ox / calf

Genitive

genitive (object of the destruction, animals)

→ relational specification

μόσχος: 'calf / young ox'; renders מֶשֶׁךְ; the destruction extends to the livestock — herem-like totality.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ὄνου

donkey

Genitive

genitive (coordinate animal)

→ relational specification

ὄνος: 'donkey / ass'; renders מִמֶּדְיָה; another category of livestock destroyed.

καὶ

and

coordinate conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

προβάτου

sheep

Genitive

genitive (final coordinate animal)

→ relational specification

πρόβατον: 'sheep'; renders יאֵץ / הַיֵּץ; the last category — the total destruction of Nob, man and beast alike, mirrors the herem Saul withheld from Amalek (ch. 15).

20 καὶ διασώζεται υἱὸς εἷς τῷ Αβιμελεχ υἱῷ Αχιτωβ καὶ ὄνομα αὐτῷ Αβιαθαρ καὶ ἔφυγεν ὀπίσω Δαυιδ

And one son of Ahimelech son of Ahitub escaped, and his name was Abiathar; and he fled after David.

The lone survivor escapes to David (opens section D)

καὶ διασώζεται

The historic present διασώζεται ('escapes', echoing David's own διεσώθη in v. 1) marks the single survivor: Abiathar, who flees to David. The verbal echo binds the chapter's two deliverances and sets up the surviving Elide priestly line that will serve David.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

διασώζεται

escapes

Pres Mid Indic 3 Sg · διασώζω

main verb (historic present; the escape)

→ verbal action or state

διασώζω (mid./pass.): 'be brought safely through / escape'; the historic present διασώζεται deliberately echoes David's διεσώθη (v. 1), framing Abiathar's deliverance as a counterpart to David's.

υἱὸς

son

Nominative

subject

→ participant prominence

υἱός: 'son'; the lone surviving son of Ahimelech.

εἷς

one

Nominative

numeral attributive (modifying υἱός: 'one son')

→ measure or count

εἷς: 'one'; emphasizes that only a single son survived the slaughter of the whole house.

τῷ

the / to

Dative

article (with Ἀβιμελεχ, dative of relationship)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Ἀβιμελεχ

Ahimelech

indeclinable dative of relationship ('a son to/of Ahimelech')

→ participant identification

Ἀβιμελεχ: see v. 9; the slain high priest, here named as father of the survivor.

υἱῷ

son

Dative

dative in apposition to Ἀβιμελεχ (son of Ahitub)

→ sphere or reference

υἱός: 'son'; identifies Ahimelech as son of Ahitub.

Ἀχिटωβ

of Ahitub

indeclinable genitive (son of Ahitub)

→ participant identification

Ἀχिटωβ: see v. 9.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ὄνομα

name

Nominative

subject of nominal clause ('his name was Abiathar')

→ participant prominence

ὄνομα: 'name'; the formula ὄνομα αὐτῷ ('his name was...') renders מוֹשֵׁ, introducing the survivor's name.

αὐτῷ

to him / his

Dative

dative of possession ('the name to him')

→ participant reference or interest

αὐτός (dat.): dative of possession in the naming-formula.

Ἀβιαθαρ

Abiathar

indeclinable predicate (the survivor's name)

→ participant identification

Ἀβιαθαρ: transliteration of Hebrew אֲבִיָּתָר; indeclinable; the surviving priest who becomes David's loyal companion and priest (23:6; 30:7) until Solomon's reign (1 Kgs 2:26–27).

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἔφυγεν

fled

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · φεύγω

main verb (the flight)

→ verbal action or state

φεύγω: 'flee'; renders פָּרַח; Abiathar escapes to David, transferring the surviving priesthood from Saul's reach to David's protection.

ὀπίσω

after

preposition/adverb + genitive (direction: 'after David')

→ spatial or relational framing

ὀπίσω: 'after / behind'; with the genitive, 'after David'; renders אַחֲרַי; Abiathar follows David, attaching himself to him.

Δαυיד

David

indeclinable genitive (object of ὀπίσω)

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: David, to whom the surviving priest flees for refuge.

21 καὶ ἀπήγγειλεν Αβιαθαρ τῷ Δαυιδ ὅτι ἐθανάτωσεν Σαουλ πάντας τοὺς ἱερεῖς τοῦ κυρίου

And Abiathar reported to David that Saul had put to death all the priests of the LORD.

Abiathar's report of the massacre

καὶ ἀπήγγειλεν Αβιαθαρ

Abiathar's report (ἀπήγγειλεν) delivers the news of the massacre to David, again with the loaded phrase 'all the priests of the LORD' (πάντας τοὺς ἱερεῖς τοῦ κυρίου), framing the crime as comprehensive sacrilege and prompting David's confession in v. 22.

καὶ

and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

ἀπήγγειλεν

reported

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀπαγγέλλω

main verb (the report)

→ verbal action or state

ἀπαγγέλλω: 'report / announce / bring word'; renders ἤλθ (Hiphil); Abiathar brings David word of the slaughter.

Αβιαθαρ

Abiathar

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Αβιαθαρ: see v. 20; the surviving priest, now David's informant.

τῷ

the / to

Dative

article (with Δαυιδ)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Δαυιδ

David

indeclinable dative (recipient of the report)

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: David, to whom Abiathar reports.

ὅτι

that

conjunction (introducing object clause)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'that'; introduces the content of the report.

ἐθανάτωσεν

had put to death

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · θανατόω

verb of object clause

→ verbal action or state

θανατόω: 'put to death'; the same verb as vv. 17–18; here in the report, attributing the massacre to Saul (its instigator), though Doeg wielded the sword.

Σαουλ

Saul

subject of the object clause (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: Saul, named as the author of the slaughter.

πάντας

all

Accusative

attributive adjective (with ἱερεῖς)

→ object specification

παῖς: 'all'; underscores the totality of the slaughter of the priestly house.

τοὺς

the

Accusative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοὺς: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἱερεῖς

priests

Accusative

direct object of ἐθανάτωσεν

→ object specification

ἱερεῖς: 'priest'; 'all the priests of the LORD'
— the enormity that David will own in v. 22.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

κυρίου

of the LORD

Genitive

genitive of possession (priests of the LORD)

→ relational specification

κύριος: rendering of the Tetragrammaton
יהוה; 'the priests of the LORD' once more
brands the deed as sacrilege against God
himself.

22 καὶ εἶπεν Δαυιδ τῷ Αβιαθαρ ἦιδειν ἐν τῇ ἡμέρᾳ ἐκείνῃ ὅτι Δωηκ ὁ Σύρος ὅτι ἀπαγγέλλων ἀπαγγελεῖ τῷ Σαουλ ἐγὼ εἰμι αἴτιος τῶν ψυχῶν οἴκου τοῦ πατρός σου

And David said to Abiathar, 'I knew on that day, because Doege the Syrian was there, that he would surely report to Saul. I am responsible for the lives of your father's house.'

David's confession of responsibility καὶ εἶπεν Δαυιδ

David's foreknowledge (ἦιδειν ... ὅτι Δωηκ) becomes the ground of his guilt-acceptance. The Hebraizing infinitive-absolute construction ἀπαγγέλλων ἀπαγγελεῖ ('he will surely report') conveys his certainty about Doege. The climactic ἐγὼ εἰμι αἴτιος ('I am the cause/guilty one') is David's moral ownership of the priests' deaths — a striking confession of culpability.

καὶ
and

narrative conjunction

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: meaning 'and'; conjunction or particle linking this unit with the surrounding discourse.

εἶπεν
said

Aor Act Indic 3 Sg · λέγω

main verb (speech-introduction)

→ verbal action or state

λέγω: 'say'; introduces David's confession.

Δαυιδ
David

subject (indeclinable)

→ participant identification

Δαυιδ: David, who now owns responsibility for the disaster.

τῷ
the / to

Dative

article (with Αβιαθαρ)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Αβιαθαρ
Abiathar

indeclinable dative (addressee)

→ participant identification

Αβιαθαρ: see v. 20; the survivor whom David now addresses.

ᾔδειν
I knew

Plpf Act Indic 1 Sg · οἶδα

main verb (David's prior knowledge)

→ verbal action or state

οἶδα (plpf. ᾔδειν/ᾔδειν, with past sense 'I knew'): 'know'; David admits he foresaw, on the day at Nob, that Doeg's presence spelled danger.

ἐν
on

preposition + dative (time)

→ spatial or relational framing

ἐν: meaning 'on'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + dative (time).

τῇ
the

Dative

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ἡμέρᾱ
day

Dative

dative of time (on that day)

→ sphere or reference

ἡμέρᾱ: 'day'; the day David met Doeg at Nob (cf. 21:7; 22:18).

ἐκεῖνη
that

Dative

demonstrative adjective (modifying ἡμέρᾱ)

→ sphere or reference

ἐκεῖνος: 'that'; pointing back to the fateful day at Nob.

ὅτι
because

causal conjunction (anacoluthic: 'because Doeg was there')

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: here causal, 'because (Doeg was there)'; the sentence is slightly broken (anacoluthon), resumed by the second ὅτι.

Δωhek
Doeg

subject of an implied clause ('Doeg was there')

→ participant identification

Δωhek: see v. 9; his presence at Nob is what David recognized as ominous.

ὁ

the

Nominative

article (with appositive Σύρος)

→ noun-phrase marking

ὁ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Σύρος

the Syrian

Nominative

nominative in apposition to Δωhek

→ participant prominence

Σύρος: see v. 9; the informer.

ὅτι

that

conjunction (resumptive object clause of ἤιδεν)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: resumptive 'that'; after the parenthetical naming of Doeg, picks up the content David knew.

ἀπαγγέλλων

surely (reporting)

Pres Act Part Nom Sg Masc · ἀπαγγέλλω

participle intensifying the finite verb (Hebraism: infinitive-absolute construction)

→ verbal action or state

ἀπαγγέλλω: 'report'; the cognate participle + finite verb (ἀπαγγέλλων ἀπαγγελεῖ) renders the Hebrew emphatic infinitive absolute תִּגַּלְתָּ (‘he will surely tell’), expressing David's certainty that Doeg would inform Saul.

ἀπαγγελεῖ

will report

Fut Act Indic 3 Sg · ἀπαγγέλλω

main verb of the object clause (with cognate participle)

→ verbal action or state

ἀπαγγέλλω: the finite future with the cognate participle = 'he will certainly report'; David knew Doeg would betray the priests to Saul.

τῷ

the / to

Dative

article (with Σαουλ)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῷ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

Σαουλ

Saul

indeclinable dative (recipient of the report)

→ participant identification

Σαουλ: Saul, to whom Doeg would report.

ἐγώ

I

Nominative

subject (emphatic, heading the confession)

→ participant reference

ἐγώ: the emphatic 'I' opens David's confession of personal responsibility.

εἰμι

am

Pres Act Indic 1 Sg · εἰμί

main verb (predicate: 'I am responsible')

→ verbal action or state

εἰμί: 'be'; the present ἐγώ εἰμι αἴτιος is David's solemn self-indictment.

αἴτιος

responsible / the cause

Nominative

predicate adjective (with εἰμι)

→ participant prominence

αἴτιος: 'responsible / culpable / the cause'; David accepts moral guilt for the priests' deaths — an extraordinary confession that contrasts his conscience with Saul's.

τῶν

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τῶν: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ψυχῶν

lives / souls

Genitive

genitive (with αἴτιος: 'responsible for the lives')

→ relational specification

ψυχῇ: 'soul / life'; renders נַפְשְׁךָ; 'responsible for the lives of your father's house' — David owns the bloodguilt for the slain priests.

οἴκου

house

Genitive

genitive of relationship (lives of the house)

→ relational specification

οἶκος: 'house / household'; the priestly family of Ahitub, destroyed because of David's visit.

τοῦ

the

Genitive

article

→ noun-phrase marking

τοῦ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

πατρός

father

Genitive

genitive of relationship (your father's house)

→ relational specification

πατήρ: 'father'; Ahimelech (and Ahitub), Abiathar's house.

σου

your

Genitive

genitive of possession (Abiathar's father's house)

→ relational specification

σου: meaning 'your'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession (Abiathar's father's house).

23 κάθου μετ' ἐμοῦ μὴ φοβοῦ ὅτι οὗ ἂν ζητῶ τῇ ψυχῇ μου τόπον ζητήσω καὶ τῇ ψυχῇ σου ὅτι πεφύλαξαι σὺ παρ' ἐμοί

'Stay with me; do not fear, for wherever I seek a place for my life, I will seek it also for your life; for you will be kept safe with me.'

David's pledge of protection (closes the chapter)

κάθου μετ' ἐμοῦ

David turns guilt into guarantee: an imperative of refuge (κάθου ... μὴ φοβοῦ) backed by a pledge that Abiathar's safety is bound to his own ('whatever place I seek for my life, I will seek for yours'). The closing perfect πεφύλαξαι ('you are/will be kept safe') assures the surviving priest of David's lifelong protection — the priesthood now shelters under the future king.

κάθου

stay

Pres Mid Impv 2 Sg · κάθημαι

main verb (invitation to refuge)

→ verbal action or state

κάθημαι: 'sit / stay / dwell'; the imperative κάθου μετ' ἐμοῦ ('stay with me') offers Abiathar refuge — the same verb Saul used negatively (κάθητο, v. 6; cf. Gad's μὴ κάθου, v. 5), here a word of welcome.

μετ'

with

preposition + genitive (accompaniment)

→ spatial or relational framing

μετ': meaning 'with'; here it marks the relation signaled by preposition + genitive (accompaniment).

ἐμοῦ

me

Genitive

genitive object of μετὰ

→ relational specification

ἐμοῦ: meaning 'me'; it serves as genitive object of μετὰ.

μὴ

not

negative particle (with prohibition)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

μὴ: the negative of command; with φοβοῦ forms the reassurance 'do not fear.'

φοβοῦ

fear

Pres Mid Impv 2 Sg · φοβέομαι

main verb (prohibition: reassurance)

→ verbal action or state

φοβέομαι: 'fear / be afraid'; μή φοβοῦ ('do not fear') is the classic formula of reassurance (cf. Gen 15:1; Isa 41:10), here from David to the bereaved priest.

ὅτι

for

causal conjunction (ground of reassurance)

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ὅτι: 'for / because'; gives the ground for the 'do not fear.'

οὗ

where

relative adverb of place (with ἐάν: 'wherever')

→ participant reference

οὗ: relative adverb 'where'; with ἐάν, 'wherever'; introduces the place-clause of David's pledge.

ἐάν

ever

conditional particle (generalizing the relative: 'wherever')

→ discourse linkage or contrast

ἐάν: conditional 'if / ever'; with οὗ generalizes to 'wherever', taking the subjunctive ζητῶ.

ζητῶ

I seek

Pres Act Subj 1 Sg · ζητέω

verb of the indefinite relative clause (subjunctive)

→ verbal action or state

ζητέω: 'seek / look for'; renders ψῆβ; the present subjunctive in the indefinite clause — 'wherever I seek (a place of safety).'

τῇ

the / for

Dative

article (with ψυχῇ, dative of advantage)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ψυχῇ

life / soul

Dative

dative of advantage (a place for my life)

→ sphere or reference

ψυχῇ: 'life / soul / self'; here 'for my life' = for my safety; David binds Abiathar's security to his own.

μου

my

Genitive

genitive of possession

→ relational specification

μου: meaning 'my'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.

τόπον

place

Accusative

direct object of ζητῶ / ζητήσω (a place of safety)

→ object specification

τόπος: 'place / refuge'; renders οὐρανῶν; a place of safety — David, himself a fugitive, will share whatever refuge he finds.

ζητήσω

I will seek

Fut Act Indic 1 Sg · ζητέω

main verb of the apodosis (David's pledge)

→ verbal action or state

ζητέω: 'seek'; the future ζητήσω in the main clause pledges that David will seek safety for Abiathar's life as for his own.

καὶ

also

adverbial (ascensive: 'also for your life')

→ discourse linkage or contrast

καὶ: here ascensive, 'also / even'; extends David's quest for safety to Abiathar.

τῇ

the / for

Dative

article (with ψυχῇ)

→ noun-phrase marking

τῇ: Greek article marking definiteness and the role of the accompanying noun phrase.

ψυχῇ life / soul Dative <i>dative of advantage (for your life too)</i> → sphere or reference ψυχῇ: 'life'; Abiathar's life, now joined to David's safekeeping.	σου your Genitive <i>genitive of possession</i> → relational specification σου: meaning 'your'; pronoun marking person, possession, or reference within the clause; here it functions as genitive of possession.	ὅτι for <i>causal conjunction (final ground of assurance)</i> → discourse linkage or contrast ὅτι: 'for'; gives the concluding assurance of safety.	πεφύλαξαι you are kept safe Perf Mid Indic 2 Sg · φυλάσσω <i>main verb (assurance of protection)</i> → verbal action or state φυλάσσω (perf. mid./pass. πεφύλαξαι): 'guard / keep / protect'; the perfect 'you are (kept) safe / under guard' assures Abiathar of an abiding, secure protection with David — renders תְּחִשְׁבֵּנוּ / נִשְׁמְרוּ.
σύ you Nominative <i>subject (emphatic, with πεφύλαξαι)</i> → participant reference σύ: the emphatic pronoun closes the assurance — 'you (yourself) are safe.'	παρ with / beside <i>preposition + dative (in someone's keeping)</i> → spatial or relational framing παρά + dat.: 'with / beside / in the care of'; Abiathar is safe 'with me' — under David's protection, just as David sought for his own parents (v. 3).	ἐμοί me Dative <i>dative object of παρὰ (David as protector)</i> → participant reference or interest ἐγώ (dat. ἐμοί): David, in whose keeping Abiathar finds refuge — the chapter closes with the priesthood sheltered under the future king.	

On the labels. Parsing gives Tense·Voice·Mood·Person·Number (+ Case·Number·Gender for participles) and lemma. The *syntactic-function* and **semantic-force** tiers follow standard intermediate-grammar categories (e.g. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics*); both involve interpretive judgment, and the majority reading has been chosen where opinions differ. Lexical notes condense commonly cited data (etymology, sense range, synonym contrasts, NT frequency, OT/LXX echoes) and are no substitute for a lexicon.

On the discourse tier. Discourse structure operates above the word, so it is shown at the clause/verse level (the connective, the relation it signals, and the role of the clause) and summarized in the chapter outline. Relation labels, any proposed chiasm,

and the paragraph divisions reflect a common reading of the argument; other discourse analyses segment and label some relations differently.