And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

Galatians 6:9 (New King James Version)
Defeat from Victory

Lessons:
From the Life of King David Pt. 7
Reasons for the Failure

1 Samuel 26-27
The Back Story

Contrast of Victory and Defeat
David as Fugitive

Saul considered David as his mortal enemy
David as Fugitive

7 1/2 years sought him to kill him
Spared Saul’s Life (First Time)
1 Samuel 24:10-15

“My Lord the King…My Father”

...there is neither evil nor rebellion in my hand, and I have not sinned against you. Yet you hunt my life to take it.

Therefore let the Lord be judge, and judge between you and me, and see and plead my case, and deliver me out of your hand.
Victory
David refused to harm Saul
Second Time

As the Lord lives, the Lord shall strike him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall go out to battle and perish. The Lord forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the Lord’s anointed.”
1 Samuel 26:10-11
Defeat
David lapse from faith

Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul. There is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape to the land of the Philistines; and Saul will despair of me, to seek me anymore …”
1 Samuel 27:1
The Ziphite again tell Saul of David’s location
As the Lord lives, the Lord shall strike him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall go out to battle and perish. The Lord forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the Lord's anointed.

1 Samuel 26:10-11
David lapse from faith

Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul. There is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape to the land of the Philistines; and Saul will despair of me, to seek me anymore …”
1 Samuel 27:1
The Failure of Unbelief
1 Samuel 27:1
And David said in his heart, “Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul. There is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape to the land of the Philistines; and Saul will despair of me, to seek me anymore in any part of Israel. So I shall escape out of his hand.”

1 Samuel 27:1
We are not prepared for the sad decline in the spirit of trust which is recorded in the beginning of the twenty-seventh chapter.

William Blaikie
1820-1899
In his collision with Nabal we saw him fail in what seemed one of his strong points – the very spirit of self control which he had exercised so remarkably toward Saul. Now we see another fail in another of his strong points – the spirit of trust toward God.
And David said in his heart, "Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul."
The Psalms of King David

Psalm 13
Psalm 13:1-2

How long, O Lord? Will You forget me forever?
How long will You hide Your face from me?
How long shall I take counsel in my soul,
Having sorrow in my heart daily?
How long will my enemy be exalted over me?
Psalm 13:3-4

Consider and hear me, O Lord my God;
Enlighten my eyes,
Lest I sleep the sleep of death;

Lest my enemy say,
“I have prevailed against him”;
Lest those who trouble me rejoice when I am moved.
The Problem of Unbelief

And David said in his heart, “Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul.”

1 Samuel 27:1
And David said in his heart…

Sources of Unbelief

Talked with self

– exclude those whose faith was strong

Gad the Prophet,

Abiathar the Priest
Sources of Unbelief

And David said in his heart…

Talked with self

– Spiritual high point in not killing Saul
– Emotional wave

Now felt sorry for himself
– 7 years of running
Sources of Unbelief

Moses
Numb. 11:14-15

Jonah
Jonah 4:3

Elijah
1 Kings 19:4
Sources of Unbelief

And David said in his heart…

Talked with self

Fatigue – not thinking clearly

False hopes

Disillusionment with God’s People
Sources of Unbelief

And David said in his heart, “Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul.”
And David said in his heart, "Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul."

2. Focused on Circumstance not the Word of God

God spoke through His servant

God confirmed His Word through others
Sources of Unbelief

Focused on Circumstances not Word of God.

Samuel anointed him by the Word of God to be King
Sources of Unbelief

Focused on Circumstances not Word of God.

Confirmed by

- Jonathan to David
  1 Samuel 23:17-18

- Saul to David
  1 Samuel 24:20-21

- Abigail to David
  1 Samuel 25:27-31
And David said in his heart, “Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul.

Sources of Unbelief

3. Confusion over God’s Protection

“Someday” Looking at now - not God’s Future
Sources of Unbelief

Failed to remember God’s Protection.

1. Bear, Lion, Goliath, Soldiers on Battlefield
2. Spear, Assignation Attempt, Army
3. Saul in Cave, Saul in Camp
And David said in his heart, “Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul.”

Sources of Unbelief

Mental Defeat
Leaving Promised Land
Place of Service to the Lord
Walking in the way of the pagans
Lessons
for Unbelief

1. Beware after a spiritual (and emotional) high

Therefore let him who thinks he stands
take heed lest he fall.

1 Corinthians 10:12
Lessons
for Unbelief

2. Do not make decisions on your own thoughts alone

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
And lean not on your own understanding;
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He shall direct your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6
3. Follow the revealed Word of God

Your word is a lamp to my feet  
And a light to my path.

Psalm 119:105
Lessons for Unbelief

4. Focus on the Lord not the problem

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

1 Corinthians 10:13
5. Remember the Lord’s Protection

_But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one._

2 Thessalonians 3:3
6. Rejoice in the Lord

That is what David eventually did when he came to walking with the Lord again.
Psalm 13:1-2

How long, O Lord? Will You forget me forever?

How long will You hide Your face from me?

How long shall I take counsel in my soul, Having sorrow in my heart daily?

How long will my enemy be exalted over me?
Psalm 13:5-6

But I have trusted in Your mercy;
My heart shall rejoice in Your salvation.

I will sing to the Lord,
Because He has dealt bountifully with me.
Lessons
for Unbelief

6. Rejoice in the Lord

Rejoice in the Lord always.

Again I will say, rejoice!

Philippians 4:4
1. Beware after a spiritual (and emotional) high
2. Do not make decisions on your own thoughts alone
3. Follow the revealed Word of God
4. Focus on the Lord not the problem
5. Remember the Lord’s Protection
6. Rejoice in the Lord
And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

Galatians 6:9 (New King James Version)