

The Attackers: David Is Delivered from All His Afflictions Related to Saul's Murder Lust, Ps 34:19; the Personal & Prophetic Nature of Ps 34:20: No Broken Bones Is Prophetic of the Lord's Avoidance of "Crurifragium" on the Cross; the Importance of David in God's Plan of Salvation: the Chart Pedigree of Jesus; Providential Protection of David in the Divine Decree; David Protected through Numerous Battles; Saul Commits Suicide; David becomes King of Israel at Age 30

5. David must face a series of afflictions as he deals with Saul's efforts to kill him. For example, throughout 1 Samuel 23, Saul's pursuit keeps David on the run from one location to the next: from Keilah \kē-ī-la\, to the wilderness of Ziph, to Maon \mā'-än\, and to Engedi \en-gē'-dī\.
6. The divine purpose for the inculcation of Bible doctrine is its application to life and circumstances.
7. This is the devil's world. We are targets. As bond-servants of our Lord, we are to prepare our souls to do battle in the Invisible War.
8. The only way to fight the good fight is to put on the panoply that Paul commands us to wear in Ephesians 6:14-17.
9. David is now a *prómachos* – a front ranker – in the Lord's phalanx. When he and his men leave the cave of Adullam, he begins a campaign that will take him from being a fugitive on the run to the king of Israel.
10. Through it all, the Lord delivers him from all his afflictions. The word "delivers" on this occasion is the Hiphil imperfect of *nasal*.
11. In verse 17, *nasal* is a Hiphil perfect indicating that the Lord's deliverance of David by the power of His Word was a completed process.
12. In verse 19, the imperfect indicates that the Lord's deliverance of David was an ongoing process. David's "affliction" will continue and intensify as he ascends the throne, makes another trip through reversionism and again recovers. "The Lord delivers him through them all."

Psalm 34:19 - Many are the afflictions of the man with capacity righteousness, but the Lord continues to deliver him through them all. (EXT)

Psalm 34:20 - He keeps all his bones, not one of them is broken. (NASB)

1. This verse is prophetic regarding the condition of the Lord's body at the crucifixion. The Lord did not suffer any broken bones as is indicated by this passage from:

John 19:31 - Then the Jews, because it was the day of preparation, so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath, asked Pilate that their legs might not be broken¹, and that they might be taken away.

v. 32 - So the soldiers came, and broke the legs of the first man and of the other who was crucified with Him;

John 19:33 - but coming to Jesus, when they saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.

¹ "Death, apparently caused by exhaustion or by heart failure, could be hastened by shattering the legs (*crurifragium*) with an iron club, so that shock and asphyxiation soon ended his life" (*The New Encyclopaedia Britannica: Micropaedia*, 15th ed. [Chicago: Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2010], 3:762).

2. This verse also refers to David. God intends to use David in a number of ways each of which is instrumental to the plan of God for the human race.
3. Prophetically, the chart pedigree of Messiah runs through the Semitic line from Shem to Abram, then through the Jewish line from Abraham to David and finally through the Davidic line from Solomon and Nathan to Joseph and Mary.
4. Prophecy is not a look into the future and predicting what will occur, but rather a look back from the future and reporting what does occur.
5. What does occur is actual history entered into the computer of the divine decree. The printout is foreknowledge and what is foreknown is recorded in the inerrant record of Scripture.
6. Therefore, David will encounter a multiplicity of dangerous situations, any number of which could have resulted in broken bones; none did.
7. His bravery before Goliath in the Valley of Elah in 1 Samuel 17 was fueled by his confidence he was guarded by Lord of the Armies "Who will deliver you up into my hands" (1 Samuel 17:46).
8. David's battlefield success won him the approbation of the people to which Saul responded with jealousy, anger, and murder lust. (18:5-16)
9. In a period of reversionism, David sought an ill-advised audience with Achish, king of Gath. His expulsion from the city was harsh, but he suffered no broken bones. (Psalm 34, superscription)
10. David lived for several years as a fugitive. His headquarters were based at the cave of Adullam but he and his men were constantly on the move to avoid discovery by Saul's army. (1 Samuel 22)
10. The first engagement with the enemy, following his reversion recovery at the Valley of Elah Seminary, was at the Battle of Keilah where he defeated the Philistine army. No bones were broken. (23:1-12)
11. From that point, David and his men were on the run hiding in in the wildernesses of Ziph and Máon and at Engedi. David had a final encounter with Saul at Engedi. There David had the opportunity to kill Saul but refused to "stretch out my hand against him, since he is the Lord's anointed." (23:13- 24:6)
12. Saul went back north and later engaged the Philistines in the Valley of Jézreel. Forced to retreat, Saul's army withdrew up Mount Gilbóa. The Philistines closed in and routed the entire division including Saul's three sons Jonathan, Abínadab, and Malchi-shúa.
13. Saul was wounded by archers and, desiring not to be discovered lest "these uncircumcised will come and pierce me through and make sport of me" he fell on his own sword" (1 Samuel 31: 4).
14. Saul's death left a leadership vacuum in Israel that resulted in several years of civil war. David established his residence in Hébron where he was anointed king over the tribe of Judah. He reigned there for seven and one-half years. (2 Samuel 2:11)
15. During this time, David encountered the remnants of Saul's army under the command of Saul's uncle Abner. Subsequently, at age 30, David was anointed king over all of Israel. (2 Samuel 5:1-5)

16. He captured Jerusalem and made it the capital city of Israel (vv. 6-7). David's ascendancy to the throne of united Israel caused the Philistines to prepare for war against Israel.
17. Determined not to allow the balance of power to shift to Israel, the Philistines army gathered in the Valley of Réphaim. (vv. 17-18)
18. David countered and engaged the Philistines initially at Baal-Perázim. The Philistines regrouped and the second battle took place at Géba but in the pursuit, David chased the enemy all the way back toward Philistia as far as Gézer. (vv. 19-25)
19. David was determined to rid Israel of any predator nations. He sought out and defeated a series of potential enemies, many paying tribute after their surrender:
 - (1) He defeated Hadadézer, king of Zóbah at Hámath. (1 Chronicles 18:3-4)
 - (2) The Araméans of Damáscus came to the aid of Hadadézer but David killed 22,000 of their soldiers. (v. 5)
 - (3) Other nations that David conquered included the Móabites (2 Samuel 8:2), Édomites, Ámmonites, and Amálekites (1 Chronicles 18:11).
20. In none of these engagements did David ever suffer serious injury, let alone a broken bone.
21. Principle: When a believer is in the plan of God, is functioning as a bond-servant for Him, and maintains fellowship inside the bubble, he enjoys as much safety in time of war as he does in time of peace.