

**LIVING GODS WILL**

**Prophet of God**

**GAD**



**Gad prophesies to King David by Luca Giordano**

**Born:** Unknown

**Died:** Unknown

**Gad** was a **prophet and counselor of King David (1011-970 BC)**.

**Gad** advised King David to return from Moab to Judah.

**Gad** authored part of the Book of 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles.

**Gad** rebuked King David for taking a prideful military census.

**Gad** the **seer** (or **prophet**) is first mentioned in **1 Samuel 22:5**.

Before the **Holy Spirit** was poured out on believers at Pentecost (**Acts 2**), **God** communicated to His people primarily through His chosen prophets.

In the Old Testament, those prophets are sometimes called seers (**1 Samuel 9:9**). Seers were sought by kings and others in authority when they needed direction from the **Lord** (**2 Kings 17:13; 1 Chronicles 25:5**).

**Gad** appears suddenly in the book of **1 Samuel** as a consultant to **David** while he was on the run from **Saul**. At that time, **Gad** counsels David to leave Moab and return to Judah (**1 Samuel 22:5**).

**Gad** is not mentioned again until David took the throne as the king of Israel and **Gad** is named as his seer (**2 Samuel 24:11**). At that time, kings had specific prophets whose counsel they sought, much as an American President has an advisory council.

The difference is that these seers were to represent the **Lord's** counsel and not merely present good advice. However, seers were not always trustworthy, and the **Lord** brought judgment on those who spoke from their own authority (**Jeremiah 14:14-15**).

**Gad**, it appears, was an honorable man and faithfully spoke the **Lord's** words to David. After David had sinned by **numbering the troops**, the **Lord** sent **Gad** to rebuke him and give three options of punishment (**2 Samuel 24:11-14**).

**Gad** later went back to David to give him the **Lord's** command about making his sin right through offering a sacrifice (**2 Samuel 24:18**).

**Gad** remained loyal to David throughout his reign and is later listed as a compiler of the king's chronicles (**1 Chronicles 29:29**). **Gad** must have been a young man when he first joined David's band, since he outlived David and wrote a history of his life.

Though rarely mentioned by name, **Gad** the seer may have played a crucial role in David's success as king. His initial advice while David was on the run from **Saul** not only kept David safe, but it allowed David to build a reputation as a mighty warrior, making him popular with the people (**1 Chronicles 12:1–22**).

From that, we learn that leaders need to surround themselves with wise people who understand **God's Word** and can communicate **God's** message accurately (see **Isaiah 6:8–9; 1 Corinthians 14:1–4**).

For every great leader, there are nameless supporters who advise, rebuke, encourage, and warn, using their gifts for the betterment of another. Though his name is rarely mentioned, **Gad's** influence is seen throughout the incredible life and successes of King David.

Where David excelled, **Gad's** counsel was right behind him. When David failed, **Gad's** rebukes and advice quickly followed. **Gad** worked in harmony with **God's** other influential prophet, **Nathan**, to keep David's heart and life pleasing to **God** and worthy of the throne (**2 Chronicles 29:29; 2 Samuel 12:1**).

Because **Gad** was faithful to his calling, David had the godly insights he needed to fulfill the role **God** called him to play.

## SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE

**1 Samuel 22:5** Now the prophet Gad said to David, "Do not stay in the stronghold; depart, and go to the land of Judah." So David departed and went into the forest of Hereth.

**2 Samuel 24:11-14** Now when David arose in the morning, the word of the Lord came to the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying, "Go and tell David, 'Thus says the Lord: "I offer you three things; choose one of them for yourself, that I may do it to you." ' ' " So Gad came to David and told him; and he said to him, "Shall seven years of famine come to you in your land? Or shall you flee three months before your enemies, while they pursue you? Or shall there be three days' plague in your land? Now consider and see what answer I should take back to Him who sent me." And David said to Gad, "I am in great distress. Please let us fall into the hand of the Lord, for His mercies are great; but do not let me fall into the hand of man."

**2 Samuel 24:18-19** And Gad came that day to David and said to him, "Go up, erect an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite." So David, according to the word of Gad, went up as the Lord commanded.

**2 Chronicles 29:25** And he stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord with cymbals, with stringed instruments, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, of Gad the king's seer, and of Nathan the prophet; for thus was the commandment of the Lord by his prophets.



**Prophet Gad offering King David Three Choices  
by Luca Giordano**