Wilderness and Destiny

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I've been studying the life of David and am reminded that after he had received the promise of becoming king, he spent quite a bit of time in the wilderness -- protected and preserved, but also prevented from stepping into his destiny. Seems like a common biblical theme: Joseph's years in prison, Israel's years of wandering, etc. It appears that every Promised Land, even every promise itself, is preceded by a wilderness of some kind; and the greater the promise, the longer and more painful the wilderness. If you're in one of those wilderness times, let that be an encouragement. This is normal for someone who is called to a great destiny.