

# **DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN**

## **II Samuel 23:8-39**

**Let's look at and learn from some of  
the marks of David's mighty men.**

### **I. DAVID'S CAPTAINS (8-17)**

#### **A. THEIR CHARACTER**

1. Joshebbasshebeth was daring and determined (8)
2. Eleazar was independent and inspiring (9-10)
3. Shammah was a defender and deliverer (11-12)

#### **B. THEIR CONDITIONS (10, 12)**

1. Partners in God's Work
2. Powerful in God's hands

#### **C. THEIR COMMITMENT (13-17)**

1. Devotion amid Danger (13-14)
2. Sacrificial Service (15-16a)
3. Priceless Provision (16b-17)

### **II. DAVID'S CHIEFS (18-23)**

#### **A. ABISHAI (18-19)**

1. Courageous: Accurate and aggressive with a spear
2. Conspicuous: Well known and respected
3. Content: He became a commander but not a captain ... and he was OK with that.

#### **B. BENAIAH (20-23)**

1. Pressured: As the son of a successful soldier (20a) the expectations for him were high
2. Powerful: Successful in overcoming champion soldiers
3. Protective: Sensitive about a community where a lion had fallen into a city cistern (20c)
4. Promoted: He was not one of the three but was trusted and appointed as the head of David's security detail.

### III. DAVID'S THIRTY (24-39)

#### A. AN EXCEPTIONAL EXEMPTION

- There is no mention of Joab, David's General in the list - see 20:23

#### B. AN EXCEPTION NOTORIETY

- A few of these have some fame

1. Asahel, the brother of Joab was killed by Abner in II Sam. 2:18-23
2. Shammah (25) and Benaiah (30) share a name with higher ranking officials by the same name (11, 20)
3. Uriah (37)

- The husband of Bathsheba who was murdered by David (see II Sam. 11:14-17)

#### C. THE REALITY OF OBSCURITY

- No one has ever heard of these people!.

#### D. THE REALITY OF VARIETY

- These are many different men from very different tribes and cities

#### E. THE REALITY OF QUANTITY

1. There are references to David's thirty in vs. 13, 18 and 24
2. The reality is that there are 37! (v. 39)

### IV. DAVID'S HEROES

- Additional lessons from David's mighty men

#### A. THE BUSINESS OF TEAM BUILDING

1. David surrounds himself with proven, noteworthy and active men
2. A team creates the opportunity for shared skills and abilities

#### B. THE BLESSING OF LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATION

1. The Division of Labor
  - a. Chief of the captains (8)
  - b. Captains (9-12)
  - c. Chief of the thirty (18)
  - d. Commander of the thirty (19)
  - e. Chief of the guard (23)
  - f. Armor bearers of Joab (37)
2. The Delights of Supervision and Accountability

### CONCLUSION:

***Will we be a memorable and mighty people of God?  
Might we humbly and honorably seek to be so.***

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