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# TOPIC: The Mighty Men of David TEXT: 2 Samuel 23:8

Introduction: David was called "a man after God's heart". He was the only character whose name had the highest mention in the Bible aside Jesus Christ. His popularity brought him into trouble with Saul who as at first believed in his ministry as a Warrior. He accomplished greatly for the Lord in his time. Down through the ages, whenever God has done a significant work, He has done it through a band of committed people. God doesn't work through the lukewarm, but only through those who are fervent in their love for Christ and His kingdom.

This was the case when David's kingdom was established. Through David's reign, the name of the Lord God of Israel was published far and abroad. But great as he was, David did not stand alone. Surrounding him were a band of mighty men who accomplished great feats of valor. They were committed to David and his kingdom. We read of them in 2 Samuel 23:8-39.

While David was getting close to the end of his reign as King over Israel, he reflected on his ministry as a King, a shepherd and warrior. He knew and understand his impotency, failures and weaknesses and attributed the achievements to God (11 Sam 23: 5). It was in this light that he mentioned his men which he had. These men are in categories but we will only consider "David's mighty men".

If God is going to accomplish a great work among us, then He wants to raise up a band of mighty men in our midst who can do great exploits for God. In saying "mighty men," mighty women are not excluded, but the emphasis is the need for strong men of faith. While the Bible teaches the equality of the sexes in personhood and in standing before God, it also teaches that God has ordained different roles for the sexes (1 Cor. 11:3; 1 Tim. 2:8-15). The New Testament makes it clear that God desires men to be in spiritual leadership in the home and church. The church today--this church--needs a band of mighty men like these who surrounded David.

Our study will surround the following questions:

- 1. Who are these David's mighty men?
- 2. What are their characteristics?
- 3. What distinguishes them to be mighty among other men?
- 4. What are the lessons learnt from these men?

### Who are these men? 11 Samuel 23: 8 - 22

Their names	Their Acts/Exploits		
Adino the Eznite - verse 8,	<ul> <li>Chief among the Captains</li> <li>He lifted up his spear against eight Hundred and slew them at once.</li> </ul>		
Eleazar, the son of Dodo - verse 9 - 10	<ul> <li>One of the three mighty men</li> <li>Smote Philistines until his hands was weary and his hand clave unto the sword</li> </ul>		
Shammah the son of Agee the Hararite Verse 11 - 12	<ul> <li>He stood where others fled and defended the land</li> <li>He slew the Philistines that made people fled</li> </ul>		
Abishai, the brother of Joab - Verse 18	<ul> <li>Chief among the next three.</li> <li>He lifted up his spear and slew three Hundred Philistines</li> </ul>		
Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man	<ul> <li>He had background of valiancy.</li> <li>He slew two Lion-like men of Moab</li> <li>He confronted and conquer a man with spear with only his staff</li> </ul>		

These five men were chosen to be mighty men among thirty men of David. The first three had common trait of daring death to get water for David from the well of Bethlehem while David was in the cave of Adullam. 11 Sam 23: 13–17.

What are their characteristics? 1. They were all attracted to Da

- They were all attracted to David despite diverse background 2 Sam. 21:15-17
- They were men of difficult backgrounds 1 Samuel 22:2

What distinguishes them to be mighty among other men?

1.	Commitment	2.	Determination	3.	Discipline
4.	Consistency	5.	Bold	6.	Courageous

What are the lessons learnt from these men?

David's men were not unwilling conscripts who grimly fulfilled their duty. They were willing volunteers who served out of devotion to David. The love these men had for David can be seen in the incident described in 23:13-17. David was hiding from Saul in the cave of Adullam. The Philistines were in Bethlehem, David's home town. David thought back to the cool, clear water which he used to drink from the well in Bethlehem as a boy. So, perhaps without thinking, he exclaimed, "Oh that someone would give me water to drink from the well of Bethlehem which is by the gate!" (23:15).

1. Attraction to their Master

The first mark of a mighty man in the Lord's Church is that he is attracted to, captivated by, the person of the Lord Jesus. Our relationship with the Captain of our souls should be marked by devotion not duty.

#### 2. Commitment to the cause

A commitment which overcomes the odds with faith in God. Note 23:8, 9–10, 11–12, 18, 21 (a 71/2 foot giant, according to 1 Chron. 11:23). In every case these mighty men faced insuperable odds. But note 23:10, 12: "the Lord brought about a great victory." These men weren't considering the odds for victory; they were looking to the God of victory.

#### 3. Determination to win and numbered among the best.

These men made up their mind despite their humble beginning to win the race and be numbered among the best. 1 Corinthian 9: 25 – 26; Daniel 1: 5 -6

#### **Conclusion:**

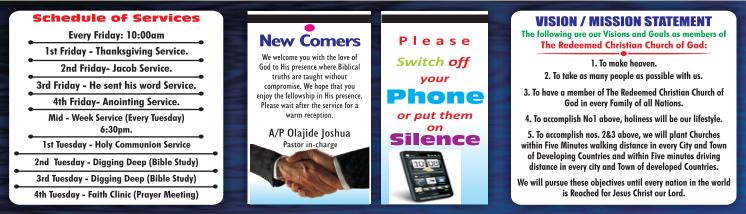
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God sees the end before the beginning! It was these same weak and miserable men God changed into mighty men under the command of David during his long flight from Saul and his many battles as king. A list of the bravest of them is given in 1stChronicles 12, with which you can compare 2nd Samuel 23:13 and 1st Chronicles 11:15.

God is looking for men and women who though having faults, are not afraid of the process needed to recreate them into "mighty men of God." He uses various means to produce such an army so that he can:

- Accomplish His objectives
  - Establish a real and living Godly faith in His children and in the world
  - Separate His children from the things that ensnare them (fear, lust, pride etc.)



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### Friday 2nd September 2016

1. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, All ye that are upright in heart; And ye that have made Him your choice, Bid sadness and sorrow depart.

Rejoice!., rejoice!.. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice! Rejoice!., rejoice!.. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice!

- 2. Be joyful, for He is the Lord, On earth and in heaven supreme; He fashions and rules by His word; The "Mighty" and "Strong" to redeem.
- 3. What tho' in the conflict for right Your enemies almost prevail! God's armies, just hid from your sight, Are more than the foes which assail.
- 4. Tho' darkness surround you by day, Your sky by the night be o'ercast, Let nothing your spirit dismay, But trust till the danger is past.
- 5. Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, His praises proclaiming in song; With harp, and with organ, and voice, The loud hallelujahs prolong !

# Friday 9th September 2016

- 1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible hid from our eyes Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of days, Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.
- 2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might! Thy justice like mountains high soaring above, Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3. To all life thou givest to both great and small; In all life Thou livest, the true life of all; We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree. And wither and perish-but nought changeth Thee.
- 4. Great Father of Glory, pure Father of Light, Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight; All laud we would render; O help us to see; Tis only the splendour of light hideth Thee.

# Friday 16th September 2016

1. I've a message from the Lord, Hallelujah! The message: unto you I'll give Tis recorded in his word, Hallelujah

It is only that you "look and live" "Look and live" my brother live Look to Jesus now and live 'Tis recorded in His word, Hallelujah It is only that you "look and live"

- 2. I've a message full of love, Hallelujah A message, O my friend, for you Tis a message from above Hallelujah Jesus said it and I know 'tis true
- 3. Life is offered unto you, Hallelujah Eternal life your soul shall have If you'll only look to Him Hallelujah Look to Jesus who alone can save.

### Friday 23rd September 2016

1. Whoever receiveth the Crucified One, Whoever believeth on God's only Son, A free and a perfect salvation shall have; For He is abundantly able to save.

My brother, the Master is calling for thee; His grace and His mercy are wondrously free! His blood as a ransome for sinners He gave, And He is abundantly able to save.

- 2. Whoever receiveth the message of God, And trusts in the power of the soul cleansing blood, A full and eternal redemption shall have; For He is both able and willing to save.
- 3. Whoever repents and forsakes ev'ry sin, And opens his heart for the Lord to come in. A present and perfect salvation shall have: For Jesus is ready this moment to save.

### Friday 30th September 2016

1. I need Thee ev'ry hour Most gracious Lord; No tender voice like Thine Can peace afford.

I need Thee, Oh, I need Thee; Ev'ry hour I need Thee! Oh, bless me now, my Saviour, I come to Thee!

- 2. I need Thee every hour, Stay Thou near by; **Temptations lose their power** When Thou art nigh.
- 3. I need Thee every hour In joy or pain; Come quickly and abide Or life is vain.

- 4. I need Thee every hour Teach me Thy will; And Thy rich promises In me fulfill.
- 5. I need Thee every hour, Most Holy one; Oh, make me Thine indeed, **Thou blessed Son!**

# HOUSE FELLOWSHIP CENTRES Every Friday Time: 6pm-7pm.

Flat 11, Building, 3304, Road 244 Area 324 Juffair, Bahrain

Flat 12. Building, 2020. Road 4441, Block 244, Arad, Bahrain

Flat 1, Building 64, Road 1202, Area 412, Al-dih, Bahrain

Flat 12. Building 954.Block 908. Road 833, West-Riffa, Bahrain

Villa 1339, (Petland Bldg First floor, Opposite KIA Body Shop) Road 4334, Block 243, Arad,

Al Sahab Tower, Flat 915, Building 1264, Road 2421, Block 324 Juffair, Bahrain.

#### FOR THE Birthday MONTH

Owolabi Temitope Ivy Matichi Tangang Rasaq Apempe

Adevemi Adenle

- 6th September
- 6th September
  - 9th September
- 24th September Otele Marvelous Busola - 30th September



The Youths Meet Every Second Saturday of the Month Time: 12noon



The Good Women meet every last Saturday of the Month Time: 12noon Venue: Pastor's Residence



The Excellent Men meet every 3rd Saturday of the Month "A wise mansistrong" A man of Knowledge I ncreaseth strength Time: 12noon

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Dear Kingdom Partner, your support toward the church is greatly appreciated. Your kind acts and giving for God's work do not go unnoticed. As you sow you will reap a hundred fold in Jesus name.

- Thank you for your partnership with the Kingdom.
- The partnership is open to as many as are willing to join.
- See the ministers for details.

# YOUR TITHE IS THE KEY TO ABUNDANT BLESSING AND **BREAKTHROUGH PAY IT REGULARLY** Mal 3:8-10

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