



Eleazar Had A Sword

2 Samuel 23



I. God, Their Exalted Captain



David: King, Anointed, Psalmist, 1 God is true King, 2-3

2 Sm.5:17-25

Without Captain, cannot win

With Captain, cannot lose

For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings

– Hb.2:10



I. God, Their Exalted Captain

II. David, Their Earthly Commander

David: “son of Jesse” (1)

- **Before Goliath, no mighty men in Israel**
- **2 Sm.17:10 . . . Ph.1**

**“Spirit spoke by
me” (3)**

God’s ruler

Just, 4

God-fearing, 4

Blessed, 4-5

“Sons of rebellion”

Like thorns (6)

Useless; dangerous

Iron, 7

Spear, 7

Burned utterly, 8

David: “son of Jesse” (1)

- Before Goliath, no mighty
- 2 Sm.17:10 . . . Ph.1

Judges 2:3

“Spirit spoke by

n . . . (2)

Go

Just, 4

God-fearing, 4

Blessed, 4-5

Hebrews 6:8

“Sons of rebellion”

Like thorns (6)

seless; dangerous

Iron, 7

Spear, 7

Burned utterly, 8



I. God, Their Exalted Captain

II. David, Their Earthly Commander

III. David's Three Mighty Men

“Mighty Men” (8-12)

- **Powerful, strong, hero**

- **Gn.10:8, Nimrod**

- **Is.9:6, Jesus**

Eleazar (*God is helper*)

- **Jer.9:23-24**

1. He was 'with David' – 9

Easier to stay home...

- **Character of mighty men –**

- 1. Deny self, Mt.16:24

- 2. Dedication, 2 Tim.2:3-4

Suffer together,
2 Tim.3:10-11

Not distracted.
2 Pt.2:20

- **Uriah: 2 Sm.11**

2. He had enemies – 9

Philistines

- **Past victories do not guarantee present success.**
- **Past defeats do not guarantee present failure.**

1. Josh.7-8

2. 2 Sm.4-6

**“Resist the devil and
he will flee from you” – Ja. 4:7**

3. He knew his enemy – 9

Philistines, not Israelites

- King Saul chased a flea

“But if you bite and devour one another, beware lest you be consumed by one another” – Gal.5:15

“Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another” – Gal.5:26

4. He had a problem – 9

Israelites retreated (1 Chr.11:13)

- **Our first enemy: fear**
- **Soldiers are not enlisted to march**

5. He was aggressive – 10

One man attacked as others retreated

**Church
discipline?**

**Tone down the
message?**

**Talk to
neighbor?**

6. He had a sword – 10

Ep.6:17

- Precise word suited to specific event
- Ep.5:26 – *in virtue of a word* (the word of salvation preached)

But He answered and said, “It is written, *‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God’*” – Mt.4:4



7. He had a tight grip – 10

Intended to hit hard


2 K.13:14-19

Ac.24:24-25

8. He fought until won victory – 10

For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith

– 1 Jn.5:4



9. His valor brought Israelites back to battlefield – 10

- **Our example may encourage others**



Applications

1. We fight for family.

And I looked, and arose and said to the nobles, to the leaders, and to the rest of the people, “Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses” – Neh.4:14

Applications

1. We fight for family. Neh.4:14

2. We fight for faith.

3...I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. **4**For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ – Jude 3-4

Applications

1. We fight for family. Neh.4:14
2. We fight for faith. Jude 3-4
3. **We fight for foes. 2 Co.10:3-5**

³For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. ⁴For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, ⁵casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ

“...each soldier every day throws all his energy into his drill, as though he were in action. Hence that perfect ease with which they sustain the shock of battle: no confusion breaks their customary formation, no panic paralyzes, no fatigue exhausts them. All their camp duties are performed with the same discipline, the same regard for security: the procuring of wood, food-supplies, and water, as required—each party has its allotted task; nothing is done without a word of command.

The same precision is maintained on the battlefield; nothing is done unadvisedly or left to chance. This perfect discipline makes the army an ornament of peace-time and in war welds the whole into a single body; so compact are their ranks, so alert their movements, so quick their ears for orders, their eyes for signals, their hands to act upon them. None are slower than they in succumbing to suffering” –Josephus, *Wars of the Jews*, 3:72-107

“There is no greater drama in human record than the sight of a few Christians, scorned or oppressed by a succession of emperors, bearing all trials with a fierce tenacity, multiplying quietly, building order while their enemies generate chaos, fighting the sword with the word, brutality with hope, and at last defeating the strongest state that history has known. Caesar and Christ had met in the arena, and Christ had won” – Durant, *Caesar & Christ*, 652.