### 1 Chronicles

## Chapter 11

1Then all the men of [the army of] IsraEl came to David at HebRon and said,  
  
 ‘Look! We’re your own flesh and bones!  
  
 2‘Although Saul used to be our king, you were the one who led the armies of IsraEl, and your God Jehovah said to you:  
  
 ‘You will take care of My people IsraEl and you will be their leader.’  
  
3And after that, all the elders of IsraEl came to him at HebRon and made an agreement with King David before Jehovah, and they anointed him to be the king over IsraEl, just as Jehovah had said through the Prophet SamuEl.  
  
  
4Then King David and [the whole army of] IsraEl marched on JeruSalem (which was called Jebus). And the Jebusites who lived there said to David:  
  
 5‘You won’t come in here!’  
  
However, he was the first to capture the citadel on Zion, so it became known as the City of David.  
  
6Back then, David had said:  
  
 ‘Whoever is the first to beat the Jebusites will become my commander-in-chief and the general [over my army].’  
  
And the one who did that was JoAb (son of ZeruJah), so, he was appointed to be the commander-in-chief.  
  
  
7Thereafter, David stayed there and took up residence in the citadel, and he started calling it his city... 8For he had built a siege-wall around the entire city and captured it.  
  
9And from that point on, David kept getting greater and more famous, because Jehovah the Almighty was with him.  
  
  
10These are the leaders and the mighty ones who were with David and who became great along with him when he ruled over all IsraEl (because they were the ones who made him the king over all IsraEl, just as Jehovah had said):  
  
  
[Editor note: Some of the names here have very different spellings to those appearing in the parallel account in 2 Samuel 23, perhaps reflecting language changes, different Greek translators, and other factors. We’ve also had to add a large translator insertion into verse 13, which is discussed in the translator note.]  
  
  
11Counted among the mighty ones of David was:  
  
  
 • JeseBaAl (son of AchaMani).  
  
 He was the first of the 30, because he once used his broadsword to kill 300 men all by himself.  
  
  
 • 12EliEzer (son of DodAi the AchoChite).  
  
 He was one [of David’s] three greatest men, 13for he was with David at PhasoDomin when the Philistines had gathered for war in a field full of barley... [see translator note] [and all our soldiers had fled... He rose up and struck the Philistines until his hand muscles cramped and he couldn’t let go of his sword! Jehovah gave us a great victory that day, and the other soldiers only came back to strip the bodies.]  
  
  
 • [Shammah (son of Aga the HaRarite).]  
  
 [When the Philistines had gathered together to battle against us in a field of lentils, after the rest of the army] turned and ran away from the Philistines, 14he stood there alone in the middle of the field and saved them by killing [all of] the Philistines… For Jehovah used him to bring a great victory!  
  
 15He was also one of the three (from among the 30 generals) who went to David when he was at The Rock at the Cave of OdolLam, which was right in the midst of the camp of the Philistines, there in the valley of the giants. 16David was in the citadel and all the Philistines were in BethLehem 17when David asked:  
  
 ‘Who will bring me a drink of water from the well at the entrance to BethLehem?’  
  
 18And it was these three men who attacked the Philistines, drew water from the well at the entrance to BethLehem, and brought it to David... But then, David refused to drink it. Rather, he offered it to Jehovah, saying:  
  
 19‘It was because of Your kindness to me, O God, that they have done this thing... So, shall I now drink the blood of these men… Something for which [they offered] their lives?  
  
 ‘Why, they risked their lives to bring it to me, so I don’t want to drink it!’  
  
 Yes, it was these three mighty men who did these things.  
  
  
20[There was also:]  
  
  
 • AbiShai, JoAb’s brother.  
  
 He was chief over the three [mightest men]. He had once unsheathed his broadsword and killed 300 men all by himself, and his name was [always mentioned] along with the three. 21In fact, he was more famous than the two [previously mentioned men] of the three, so he became their leader, but not one of them.  
  
  
22Then there was:  
  
  
 • The mighty man BenaiJah (son of JehoiAda).  
  
 He was the one who accomplished many great things at KaBasaEl, for it was there that he killed the two lion-like soldiers of MoAb! It was [also] there that he went down into a pit and killed a lion there on a snowy day.  
  
 23And he also killed the remarkable Egyptian man who stood more than 7 feet (2.13m) tall and carried a spear that was as large as a weaving loom… BenaiJah went and grabbed the spear from the Egyptian’s hands and killed him with it!  
  
 24Yes, these are the kinds of things that BenaiJah (son of JehoiAda) did, and that’s why his name is listed among the three mighty ones.  
  
 25But although he was considered the greatest among the 30, he wasn’t one of the three, because David had put him in charge of his family.  
  
  
[Editor note: Now follows some very extensive lists. If you’re only interested in the story, it resumes in 1 Chronicles 12:16.]  
  
  
26Also counted among the powerful mighty ones were:  
  
 • AsahEl (JoAb’s other brother),  
 • EliHanan (son of DoDoe) the BethLehemite,  
 • 27SamMoth the Arorite,  
 • HelLes the Phelonite,  
 • 28Ora (son of EkKish) the Thekoite,  
 • AbiEzer the AnathOthite,  
 • 29SoboChai the Asothite,  
 • Eli the Achonite,  
 • 30MoorAi the NetoPhathite,  
 • ChoLod (son of NoOza) the NetoPhathite,\*\*  
 • 31AiRi (son of RebiE) from the hills of BenJamin,  
 • BenaiJah the PhaRathonite,\*\*  
 • 32Ouri from Nachali-GaAs,  
 • AbiEl the Arabethite,  
 • 33AzBon the Baromite,  
 • EliAba the SaLobonite,  
 • 34BenAsam the Gizonite,\*  
 • JoNathan (son of Sola) the Ararite,\*\*  
 • 35Achim (son of Achar) the Ararite,  
 • ElPhat (son of ThuroPhar) 36the Mechorathite,  
 • AhiJah the PhelLonite,  
 • 37EseRe the Charmadite,  
 • NaArai (son of AzobAi),\*  
 • 38JoEl (Nathan’s brother),\*  
 • MeBaAl (son of Agari),\*  
 • 39SelLek the AmMonite,  
 • Nachor the BerOthite (who carried the weapons for JoAb, son of ZeruJah),  
 • 40Ira the Jethrite,  
 • Gareb the Jethrite,  
 • 41UriJah the Hittite,  
 • Sabet (son of AchaJa),\* and  
 • 42AdiNa (son of SaIZa), the head of the ReuBenites.\*  
  
[see the translator note for the meaning of the \* and \*\* markings]  
  
  
And with the 30 were:  
  
 • 43Hanan (son of MoOcha),  
 • JoShaphat the Mathnite,  
 • 44OziJa the AstarOthite,  
 • SamMa and JeiEl (the sons of HoTham) the Ararites,  
 • 45JediEl (son of Sameri),  
 • JoZae and his brother (the ThosSaites),  
 • 46EliEl the Maoite,  
 • JaRibi,  
 • JosiJa and his son ElLam,  
 • JethAma the Moabite,  
 • 47DaliEl,  
 • Obed, and  
 • JesSiEl the Mesobite.