### 2 Samuel

## Chapter 23

1And those were the last words of David.  
  
  
David son of JesSe was a trustworthy man whom the Lord had elevated to the position of the anointed of the God of Jacob.  
  
He also wrote many of the beautiful psalms of IsraEl… Such as:  
  
 2‘Through me, spoke the Breath of Jehovah,  
 And His words were there on my tongue.  
 3It was IsraEl’s God who guards us,  
 And who gave this parable to me.  
  
 ‘I once asked this of a man:  
 How can I teach you to fear [God’s] anointed?  
 4For it’s God who brings light in the morning…  
 The sun as it rises into the day,  
 And after its brightness, it then fades away.  
  
 ‘He’s the One who sends us the rain  
 That causes tender shoots to sprout from the ground.  
 5And He’s the One who made my house strong…  
 Who made it stand throughout the ages  
 Through the promise that He gave to me.  
  
 ‘He’s the One who guarded and saved me,  
 So I’ll serve Jehovah and not break His Laws.  
 6For, thorn-bushes couldn’t stand and oppose me;  
 And by the hands of men, they were taken away.  
  
 7‘Although there were some who worked hard  
 Turning iron and wood into spears;  
 These things were then burned in the flames…  
 In their shame, they all were consumed.’  
  
  
8These are the names of the three mighty ones of David:  
  
  
JeBosthe the CanaAnite, who was the greatest of the three.  
  
He [was also known as] AdiNon the Asonite; for he was the one who unsheathed his broadsword and killed 800 men in one battle.  
  
  
9EliYanan (AdiNin’s nephew).  
  
He was with David in SeiRa when he berated the Philistines while they gathered for war against him. It was then that this man of IsraEl went right up to them 10and kept killing Philistines until his hand got tired... So he tied his sword to his hand [and kept fighting].  
  
Jehovah gave him a great victory that day, and the only reason why the rest of the people had to return to [the field] was just to strip the dead.  
  
  
11SamaiJa son of Asa the Arachite.  
  
When the Philistines went to Theria and people there were picking lentils in a field, they all ran from the Philistines... 12But he stood there like a stone monument in the middle of the field and protected it, cutting down the Philistines in a great victory!  
  
  
13It was these three (from among the 30 of the leaders) who went to David when he was at Kason in the cave of OdolLam, as the Philistines camped [against him] in the Valley of Rephaim.  
  
  
14Also, when David was in the citadel and the Philistines were in BethLehem, 15and David [got thirsty] and asked:  
  
 ‘Who’ll go to the well that’s at the city gate in BethLehem to get me some water to drink?’  
  
[Yes,] although all the Philistines were assembled in BethLehem!  
  
16It was these same three mighty ones who tore up the camp of the Philistines, drew water from the well that was in BethLehem, and brought it to David.  
  
However, he wouldn’t drink it and offered it to Jehovah instead.  
  
17For he said:  
  
 ‘Please be kind to me, O Jehovah, for offering this.  
  
 ‘How could I drink it after these men risked their blood and their lives to bring it to me?’  
  
So he didn’t drink it. And it was these three mighty ones did these things.  
  
  
18Now, AbiShai son of ZeruJah (JoAb’s brother) was above the three. And because he’d killed 300 men, he was also considered to be with the three. 19He was never part of the group, but he was the most highly regarded, so he was put in charge over them.  
  
  
20Then there was BenaiJah son of JehoiAda.  
  
He also did many marvelous things. For at KabeseEl, he struck down the two sons of AriEl the Moabite. And he’s the one who went and killed a lion in the midst of a pit on a snowy day!  
  
21He also cut down a remarkable Egyptian man who carried a wooden spear that was as large as a ladder... He went right up to him with a rod, grabbed the wooden spear out of the Egyptian’s hand, and killed him with his [own] spear!  
  
22Yes, these are things that BenaiJah son of JehoiAda did, and that’s why he was also considered among the mighty ones. 23So, he was viewed one of the three, but he was never part of their group... Although he was given more honor, for David had appointed him [to be the head of his guards].  
  
  
24And these are names of the [other] mighty ones of King David:  
  
 • AshaEl, JoAb’s brother (who was also one of the 30),  
 • ElAnan (son of his uncle Dudi of BethLehem),  
 • 25SamAi the Arudite,  
 • 26Seles the KelOthite,  
 • Iras (son of EkKas the Thekoite),  
 • 27AbiEzer the AnathOthite (from the sons of the Asothites),  
 • 28ElLon the Awiite,  
 • MoOr the NetoPhathite,  
 • 29Ethi (son of Riba of GabeOth, son of BenJamin the Ephrathite),  
 • 30Adroi of the Brooks,  
 • 31GadabiEl (son of the ArabOthite),  
 • AzMoth the BarSamite,  
 • 32The sons of EliAsou the Salabonite:  
 • Jaban, and  
 • JoNathan.  
 • 33SamNan the Arodite,  
 • Acian (son of Arai the SaraUrite),  
 • 34AlipPhaleth (the son the Asbitite and grandson of MaAchathi),  
 • EliAb (son of AhiThophel the Gelonite),  
 • 35AsarAi the CarMelite of Uraeoerchi,  
 • 36GaAl (son of Nathan, a powerful son of Galaaddi),  
 • 37ElYe the Ammanite,  
 • GelorAi the BerOthite (who was the arms bearer for JoAb son of ZeruJah),  
 • 38Iras the Jethirite,  
 • Gareb the Ethenite, and  
 • 39UriAh the Hittite.  
  
In all, they numbered 37 [mighty men].