

David's Mighty Men

2 Samuel 23:8-39

The word *character* comes from the Greek word: *kharakter* and is used once in the Bible in Hebrew 1:3a.

- Think of *kharakter* as a signature, monogram, or trademark.
- Today we will look at the character of **Loyalty**.
 - ❑ We will also look at a GEM:
What God Enables Me to do because of loyalty.

Loyalty vs Unfaithfulness

Using difficult times to demonstrate my commitment to God and to those whom He has called me to serve.

WITH LOYALTY GOD ENABLES ME

to encourage others during hard times.

- We will be looking at the top three of David's Mighty Men, 2Sam 23:8-17; 1Chr 11:10-19

1 The **Tachmonite**, 2Sam 23:8

- 1Chronicles 11:11 gives his name as, *Joshobeam* and his name means, Sitting in the Council.
- *The Tachmonite*: (tah-**KEY**-ma-nite); means, a wise man
- *The same was Adino the Eznite*, think of this name as a nickname and it means _____.
- Think of it, **using only a spear** he killed 800 men at one encounter.

2 **Eleazar**, 2Sm 23:9-10

- *Eleazar*: means, God is my helper
- *The son of Dodo*: A loving father

- *The Ahohite*: (aw-**HOE**-hite); one who sees things clearly
- Eleazar is good example of what loyalty means when _____!
- When the rest of David's men withdrew from the battle he stayed in there and fought until his had clung to his sword.
 - ❑ Sword fighting is right up close and personal.
 - ❑ NOTE: Because Eleazar was loyal in a very difficult time ^{10b} ***the Lord brought about a great victory that day***; and the people returned after him only to spoil.

3 **Shammah**, 2Sm 23:11-12

- *Shammah*: means, astonishment
- *The son of Agee*: a man with depth
- *A Hararite*: a mountaineer
- *Ground full of lentils*: The lentil is a bushy annual plant ~16" tall and is known for its lens-shaped seeds.
- Notice in 12b that when Shammah _____
_____, *the LORD wrought a great victory.*

4 **These mighty men were loyal to David**, 2Sm 23:13-14

- What was David doing in the cave of **Adullam**? Vs 13

- No doubt the Philistines took advantage of the conflict between Saul and David; they invaded the area and set up camp in the **Valley of Rephaim**, vs 13
- The Philistines had also seized **Bethlehem**, fortified it and stationed a body of troops in David's home town, vs 14

- David audibly expressed a desire for a drink of water from the well by Bethlehem's gate, vs 15
- David wasn't necessarily thinking of water; he very well could have been thinking of a simpler time when he wasn't on the run — let's call this a wish from nostalgia.
- The three mighty men broke through the Philistines and brought back some of the water to David, vs 16
 - Somehow these three might men got through the Philistines army to and from Bethlehem.
- What did David teach about loyalty by refusing to drink the water? Vs 16b
 - Loyalty_____ is admirable; however, recklessness is not acceptable.
 - It's the old question of could and should.
- Even though David was overwhelmed with their action and poured the water out to the Lord; what they did was something _____ ! 2Sam 23:1
- It was loyalty that put David in a difficult spot with Saul; even though Saul tried to kill him, David did not retaliate.
- David was 30 yrs old when he became king and he reigned for 40 years, 2Sam 5:4, so when he said these words he was 70 yrs old.
 - After all that David had been through as king and as he was nearing the end of his life he still remembered the loyalty of these men.

Application

- These three mighty men were lived in difficult times.
 - ❑ The character quality of **Loyalty** gave them mental toughness so that they not to quit.
 - They faced overwhelming odds
 - They fought the enemy
 - They had to stand alone in order to finish the job
- When David had these three loyal men standing with him that he was _____?
- A family also needs a mighty man as described in 1Cor 16:13-14.
 - ❑ *Watch ye* — One who is alert for danger
 - ❑ *Stand fast in the faith* — One who is true to God
 - ❑ *Quit you like men,* — One who is a man
 - **Quit** can mean "to stop" or "to give up," but it can also mean to conduct oneself with courage.
 - ❑ *Be strong* — One who is dependable
 - ❑ *Let all your things be done with charity* — one who is loving
- The bible word for Loyalty is **Faithfulness** and it is one of the fruits of the Spirit, Gal 5:22-23
 - ❑ The importance of Loyalty/Faithfulness is given in Rev 2:10; Rev 17:14

May we be characterized by **Loyalty** to Christ
and demonstrate it to our families!