**David's Mighty Men**

**November 13, 2024**

**2 Samuel 23:13-17**

**David was, perhaps, the greatest king Israel would ever know, but he didn’t become great all on his own. He depended upon God, but he also relied on at least thirty special soldiers for much of his military might. Three men formed David’s inner circle-Jashobeam, Eleazar, and Shammah.**

**The same can be said of these three men, as well as soldiers of Christ today! So, what can we learn from these heroic men? What was it that made them so mighty? What is it that makes a person mighty in God’s kingdom today?**

**Well, first of all, they were mighty because they were...**

1. **CLOSE: They were close enough to hear David’s whispered words.**

**This is an example for us to follow in our relationship with the Captain of our salvation! If we want to be mighty men and women in the kingdom of God, then we need to be close enough to our King to know His desires and hear His words.**

**How to do that…**

**#1: Pray constantly! Prayer is the key to the morning and the bolt to the evening.**

**#2: Sing continually!**

**#3: Listen carefully!**

1. **COMMITTED: They were committed enough to take David’s wish as their command.**

**They were so committed and enthusiastic in their service to David that they jumped to their feet and marched off to battle. His wish was their command.**

**Today, God’s kingdom desperately needs Christians with that sort of commitment and zeal. We must be willing to risk being called "religious fanatics."**

1. **COURAGEOUS: They were courageous enough to obey at any cost.**

**But in spite of the danger or consequences, they traveled twelve miles, broke through enemy lines, and came back with the water. David’s men were prepared to risk life and limb to please their king.**

**If only all of Christ’s followers displayed that level of courage! Courage is not just for extreme situations. In fact, courage is basic to the exercise of every other virtue.**

**An unwillingness to share your faith can result from a fear of rejection. A refusal to serve others with our time and talents may stem from a fear of being taken advantage of or exploited. We stop giving because we fear the economic times.**

**Being courageous is central to our daily lives as followers of Christ. Without courage, all of our other virtues will be weak and easily compromised. They’ll fade away at the slightest challenge.**

**What is truly special about this story, though, is how it ends. It was an act of dedication that symbolized a person’s life poured out in the service of the Lord. The three men had given themselves as a sacrifice to the Lord to serve David.**

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**Other scripture in order of citation: 2 Sam. 5:17; Hosea 6:6; 1 Thess. 5:17; 1 Cor. 4:13; 1 Pet. 4:4; Matt. 5:11; Num. 25:13; Gal 4:18; 1 Chron. 28:20**