



Lesson 100

David's Mighty Men

Story Elements

Text: 2 Sam. 23:8-39; 1 Chron. 11:11-47

Setting: between 970 and 1010 B.C.

Main Characters: God, David, and David's Mighty Men

Plot: The amazing exploits of David's most elite troops are described.

Key word(s): " _____ "

Climax: 2 Sam. 23:16 *"And the three mighty men brake through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Beth-lehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: nevertheless he would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto the LORD."*

“The Three”

1. As the Bible narrative nears the end of David’s life, a parenthetical passage is inserted that reviews the brave men that served in David’s army. (23:8) The first of David's mighty men to be mentioned is **Adino** the Eznite (also called Joshebeam in 1 Chr. 11:11). He was chief of the three, or the greatest of the greatest. He was renowned for slaying _____ men in one battle.
 - (a) (23:9-10) Next was **Eleazar**, the son of Dodo. He was known for continuing in battle when all others had retreated. He swung his sword for so long that his hand clung to the _____.
 - (b) (23:11-12) The third of The Three was **Shammah**, a man who alone defended a field of lentils and barley against a force of Philistine _____.

2. (23:13-17) Years earlier, while David was on the run from Saul and hiding in the cave of Adullam (1 Sam. 22:2), these three mighty men joined his motley crew.
 - (a) During that time, David longed for a drink of water from the well of Bethlehem, but a garrison of Philistines had invaded the city. Why do you think David would have desired such a thing? _____

 - (b) The Three, at risk of their own lives, showed their valor and loyalty by breaking through the Philistine garrison and fetching back to David a drink from his boyhood well. David, in a holy expression of gratitude, poured the water out. Why would he do that? _____

“The Thirty”

3. (23:18-19) Below The Three was The Thirty, led by **Abishai**, Joab's brother. Abishai famously slew _____ men in one battle.

