**2 Samuel 23** (https://www.esv.org/2+Samuel+23/)

Peter B. Luh, 7/21, 22, 8/14/2018

**The Last Words of David**

23 Now

these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David,

the son of Jesse,

the oracle of the man

who was raised on high,

the anointed of the God of Jacob,

the sweet psalmist of Israel

2 “The Spirit of the Lord speaks by me;

his word is on my tongue.

3 The God of Israel has spoken;

the Rock of Israel has said to me:

When one rules justly over men,

ruling in the fear of God,

4 he dawns on them like the morning light,

like the sun shining forth on a cloudless morning,

like rain that makes grass

to sprout from the earth.

5 “For does not my house stand so with God?

For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,

ordered in all things

and

secure.

For will he not cause to prosper

all my help

and

my desire?

6 But

worthless men are all like thorns

that are thrown away,

for they cannot be taken with the hand;

7 but

the man

who touches them

arms himself with iron

and

the shaft of a spear,

and

they are utterly consumed with fire.”

**David's Mighty Men**

8 These are the names of the mighty men

whom David had:

Josheb-basshebetha Tahchemonite;

he was chief of the three.

He wielded his spear against eight hundred

whom he killed at one time.

9 And

next to him among the three mighty men was Eleazar the son of Dodo,

son of Ahohi.

He was with David

when they defied the Philistines

who were gathered there for battle,

and

the men of Israel withdrew.

10 He rose

and

struck down the Philistines

until his hand was weary,

and

his hand clung to the sword.

And

the Lord brought about a great victory that day,

and

the men

returned after him

only to strip the slain.

11 And

next to him was Shammah,

the son of Agee the Hararite.

The Philistines gathered together at Lehi,

where there was a plot of ground full of lentils,

and

the men fled from the Philistines.

12 But

he took his stand in the midst of the plot

and

defended it

and

struck down the Philistines,

and

the Lord worked a great victory.

13 And

three of the thirty chief men went down

and

came about harvest time to David at the cave of Adullam,

when a band of Philistines was encamped in the Valley of Rephaim.

14 David was then in the stronghold,

and

the garrison of the Philistines was then at Bethlehem.

15 And

David said longingly,

“Oh, that some one would give me water

to drink from the well of Bethlehem

that is by the gate!”

16 Then the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Philistines

and

drew water out of the well of Bethlehem

that was by the gate

and

carried and brought it to David.

But

he would not drink of it.

He poured it out to the Lord

17 and

said,

“Far be it from me, O Lord,

that I should do this.

Shall I drink the blood of the men

who went at the risk of their lives?”

Therefore he would not drink it.

These things the three mighty men did.

18 Now

Abishai, the brother of Joab, the son of Zeruiah,

was chief of the thirty.

And

he wielded his spear against three hundred men

and

killed them

and

won a name beside the three.

19 He was the most renowned of the thirty

and

became their commander,

but

he did not attain to the three.

20 And

Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was a valiant man of Kabzeel,

a doer of great deeds.

He struck down two ariels of Moab.

He also went down

and

struck down a lion in a pit on a day

when snow had fallen.

21 And

he struck down an Egyptian,

a handsome man.

The Egyptian had a spear in his hand,

but

Benaiah went down to him with a staff

and

snatched the spear out of the Egyptian's hand

and

killed him with his own spear.

22 These things did Benaiah the son of Jehoiada,

and

won a name beside the three mighty men.

23 He was renowned among the thirty,

but

he did not attain to the three.

And

David set him over his bodyguard.

24 Asahel the brother of Joab

was one of the thirty;

Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,

25 Shammah of Harod,

Elika of Harod,

26 Helez the Paltite,

Ira the son of Ikkesh of Tekoa,

27 Abiezer of Anathoth,

Mebunnai the Hushathite,

28 Zalmon the Ahohite,

Maharai of Netophah,

29 Heleb the son of Baanah of Netophah,

Ittai the son of Ribai of Gibeah of the people of Benjamin,

30 Benaiah of Pirathon,

Hiddai of the brooks of Gaash,

31 Abi-albon the Arbathite,

Azmaveth of Bahurim,

32 Eliahba the Shaalbonite,

the sons of Jashen, Jonathan,

33 Shammah the Hararite,

Ahiam the son of Sharar the Hararite,

34 Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai of Maacah,

Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite,

35 Hezro of Carmel,

Paarai the Arbite,

36 Igal the son of Nathan of Zobah,

Bani the Gadite,

37 Zelek the Ammonite,

Naharai of Beeroth,

the armor-bearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah,

38 Ira the Ithrite,

Gareb the Ithrite,

39 Uriah the Hittite:

thirty-seven in all.