

## **MIGHTY MEN TAKE RESPONSIBILITY.**

2 Samuel 23:1-7 David's last speech carries a charge and a warning:

*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: <sup>2</sup> "The Spirit of the LORD speaks by me; his word is on my tongue. <sup>3</sup> 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, <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> "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? <sup>6</sup> But worthless men are all like thorns that are thrown away, for they cannot be taken with the hand; <sup>7</sup> but the man who touches them arms himself with iron and the shaft of a spear, and they are utterly consumed with fire."*

### Trademarks of mighty men:

- 1) Mighty men **run** with mighty men – 23:8-39

Proverbs 13:20

*Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.*

Proverbs 22:24-25

*Make no friendship with a man given to anger, nor go with a wrathful man, <sup>25</sup> lest you learn his ways and entangle yourself in a snare.*

- 2) Mighty men **stand** against evil and for what is bigger than themselves...even if it means they stand alone – 23:9-12

- Eleazar was left alone with David and fought until his hand froze to his sword – 23:9-10
- Shammah stood alone in a field of lentils and defended it while the other men fled – 23:11-12

- 3) Mighty men **rise** to challenges rather than surrender to compromise – 23:13-23

- Three of the Mightiest of the Mighty Men broke through enemy lines to get David a drink of water – 23:13-17
- Abishai took his spear and slew 300 Philistines – 23:18
- Benaiah (Head of David's Bodyguard) killed a lion in a pit on a snowy day and another time having only a staff he killed a massive enemy with the man's own spear – 23:20

1 Chronicles 12:8

*"From the Gadites there went over to David at the stronghold in the wilderness mighty and experienced warriors, expert with shield and spear, whose faces were like the faces of lions and who were swift as gazelles upon the mountains:"*