**Module 22. The Warrior’s Life of David**

***Not by strength, nor by might, but with My Spirit. Zechariah 4:6***

**B. Qualities of David’s Warriors**

**David's Three Mighty Men: What do they tell us about leadership?**

[**Mark Woods**](https://www.christiantoday.com/reporter/mark-woods) Thu 15 Sep 2016

King David was a great king, a great warrior and – in spite of some terrible character flaws – a great man of God. But in one of the most revealing stories about him he hardly figures at all. The attention is all on his "three mighty men" – the greatest heroes of his reign.

We'd be hard pressed to recall their names, unless we know our Bibles very, very well indeed. But in their day they would have been the equivalent of the great athletes or sportsmen of our own time. Josheb-Basshebeth "raised his spear against 800 men, whom he killed in one encounter" (2 Samuel 23:8); Eleazar son of Dodai "stood his ground and struck down the Philistines till his hand grew tired and froze to the sword" (verse 10); Shammah son of Agee fought in a field of lentils and "struck the Philistines down, and the Lord brought about a great victory" (verse 12).

These rather bloodthirsty exploits are what gave them their reputation, but it's another episode that reveals something of the character of David – and tells us a lot about leadership, too.

It was evidently before David became king, and he and his men had created a stronghold in the Cave of Adullam. He longed for water from the well at Bethlehem, which was held by the Philistines, and without saying anything the three mighty men broke through their lines and brought some back for him. David, however, refused to drink it but poured it out as an offering to God. "Far be it from me to drink it!" he said. "Is it not the blood of men who went at the risk of their lives?"

This story tells us a great deal about leadership today.

**1. It shows the respect in which David was held**

The three mighty men, honored as they were, weren't ambitious for themselves; they only wanted to honor him. They put themselves at risk and went far beyond what they were contracted to do because they wanted to serve him to their utmost. Great leaders are able to inspire great loyalty. Their staff or followers don't just serve for the money; they go beyond the call of duty because they see something in their leader that's worth following.

**2. It shows the respect in which David held them**

If he had accepted what they'd done it would have set a terrible precedent, as though reckless or extravagant acts were the way to his favor. It would also have meant he approved of men risking their lives for his convenience, which he did not. So he had to find a way of graciously rejecting what they'd done while continuing to honor them. Pouring out the water as an offering to God was the perfect way of doing this. It said he valued their gift, without taking personal advantage of it.

Good leaders don't let themselves be put on a pedestal, no matter how great their talents are. They know that God comes first and that wherever someone is in their organization, they're on the same level before God.

**C. Story of Three Heroes**

**2 Samuel 23:13-17 New International Version (NIV)**

13During harvest time, three of the thirty chief warriors came down to David at the cave of Adullam, while a band of Philistines was encamped in the Valley of Rephaim. 14At that time David was in the stronghold, and the Philistine garrison was at Bethlehem. 15David longed for water and said, “Oh, that someone would get me a drink of water from the well near the gate of Bethlehem!”

**16So the three mighty warriors broke through the Philistine lines, drew water from the well near the gate of Bethlehem and carried it back to David.**

But he refused to drink it; instead, he poured it out before the Lord. 17“Far be it from me, Lord, to do this!” he said. “Is it not the blood of men who went at the risk of their lives?” And David would not drink it.

Such were the exploits of the three mighty warriors.

**D. David vs. Goliath**

**1 Samuel 17: 3-58** New International Version

**David Kills Goliath**

**17:**[**3**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A3&ver=niv) **The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them.** [**4**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A4&ver=niv) **A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. His height was six cubits and a span.** **(9 feet tall)** [**5**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A5&ver=niv)  He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels ; [**6**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A6&ver=niv)  on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. [**7**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A7&ver=niv)  His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels His shield bearer went ahead of him. [**8**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A8&ver=niv)  Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. [**9**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A9&ver=niv)  If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us." [**10**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A10&ver=niv)  Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." [**11**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A11&ver=niv)  On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

[**12**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A12&ver=niv) **Now David was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons**, and in Saul's time he was very old. [**13**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A13&ver=niv)  Jesse's three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab; the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah. [**14**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A14&ver=niv)  David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul, [**15**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A15&ver=niv)  but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem. [**16**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A16&ver=niv)  For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand. [**17**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A17&ver=niv) **Now Jesse said to his son David,** "Take this ephah of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread for your brothers and hurry to their camp. [**18**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A18&ver=niv)  Take along these ten cheeses to the commander of their unit. See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them. [**19**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A19&ver=niv)  They are with Saul and all the men of Israel in the Valley of Elah, fighting against the Philistines." [**20**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A20&ver=niv)  Early in the morning David left the flock in the care of a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry. [**21**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A21&ver=niv)  Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other. [**22**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A22&ver=niv)  David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and asked his brothers how they were. [**23**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A23&ver=niv)  As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it. [**24**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A24&ver=niv)  Whenever the Israelites saw the man, they all fled from him in great fear. [**25**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A25&ver=niv)  Now the Israelites had been saying, "Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his family from taxes in Israel." [**26**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A26&ver=niv)  David asked the men standing near him, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?" [**27**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A27&ver=niv)  They repeated to him what they had been saying and told him, "This is what will be done for the man who kills him." [**28**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A28&ver=niv)  When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, "Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the wilderness? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle." [**29**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A29&ver=niv)  "Now what have I done?" said David. "Can't I even speak?" [**30**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A30&ver=niv)  He then turned away to someone else and brought up the same matter, and the men answered him as before.

[**31**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A31&ver=niv)  What David said was overheard and reported to Saul, and Saul sent for him. [**32**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A32&ver=niv)  David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him." [**33**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A33&ver=niv)  Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth." [**34**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A34&ver=niv)  But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, [**35**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A35&ver=niv)  I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. [**36**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A36&ver=niv)  Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. [**37**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A37&ver=niv)  The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you." [**38**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A38&ver=niv)  Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. [**39**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A39&ver=niv)  David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. "I cannot go in these," he said to Saul, "because I am not used to them." So he took them off.

[**40**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A40&ver=niv)  Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine. [**41**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A41&ver=niv)  Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David. [**42**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A42&ver=niv)  He looked David over and saw that he was little more than a boy, glowing with health and handsome, and he despised him. [**43**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A43&ver=niv)  He said to David, "Am I a dog that you come at me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. [**44**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A44&ver=niv)  "Come here," he said, "and I'll give your flesh to the birds and the wild animals!" [**45**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A45&ver=niv)  David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. [**46**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A46&ver=niv)  This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. [**47**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A47&ver=niv)  All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

[**48**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A48&ver=niv)  As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. [**49**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A49&ver=niv)  Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground. [**50**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A50&ver=niv)  So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him. [**51**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A51&ver=niv)  David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the sheath. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword. When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran. [**52**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A52&ver=niv)  Then the men of Israel and Judah surged forward with a shout and pursued the Philistines to the entrance of Gath and to the gates of Ekron. Their dead were strewn along the Shaaraim road to Gath and Ekron. [**53**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A53&ver=niv)  When the Israelites returned from chasing the Philistines, they plundered their camp. [**54**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A54&ver=niv)  David took the Philistine's head and brought it to Jerusalem; he put the Philistine's weapons in his own tent. [**55**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A55&ver=niv)  As Saul watched David going out to meet the Philistine, he said to Abner, commander of the army, "Abner, whose son is that young man?" Abner replied, "As surely as you live, Your Majesty, I don't know." [**56**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A56&ver=niv)  The king said, "Find out whose son this young man is." [**57**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A57&ver=niv)  As soon as David returned from killing the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul, with David still holding the Philistine's head. [**58**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Samuel+17%3A58&ver=niv)  "Whose son are you, young man?" Saul asked him. David said, "I am the son of your servant Jesse of Bethlehem."

**E. Adultery and Murder**

**2 Samuel 11 & 12** New International Version

**David and Bath-sheba**

**11**:[**1**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A1&ver=niv)  In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem. [**2**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A2&ver=niv)  One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, [**3**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A3&ver=niv)  and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." [**4**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A4&ver=niv)  Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. [**5**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A5&ver=niv)  The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."

[**6**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A6&ver=niv)  So David sent this word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent him to David. [**7**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A7&ver=niv)  When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. [**8**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A8&ver=niv)  Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. [**9**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A9&ver=niv)  But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house. [**10**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A10&ver=niv)  David was told, "Uriah did not go home." So he asked Uriah, "Haven't you just come from a military campaign? Why didn't you go home?" [**11**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A11&ver=niv)  Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my commander Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and make love to my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!" [**12**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A12&ver=niv)  Then David said to him, "Stay here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. [**13**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A13&ver=niv)  At David's invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master's servants; he did not go home.

[**14**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A14&ver=niv)  In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. [**15**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A15&ver=niv)  In it he wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die." [**16**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A16&ver=niv)  So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. [**17**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A17&ver=niv)  When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died. [**18**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A18&ver=niv)  Joab sent David a full account of the battle. [**19**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A19&ver=niv)  He instructed the messenger: "When you have finished giving the king this account of the battle, [**20**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A20&ver=niv)  the king's anger may flare up, and he may ask you, 'Why did you get so close to the city to fight? Didn't you know they would shoot arrows from the wall? [**21**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A21&ver=niv)  Who killed Abimelek son of Jerub-Besheth? Didn't a woman drop an upper millstone on him from the wall, so that he died in Thebez? Why did you get so close to the wall?' If he asks you this, then say to him, 'Moreover, your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead.” [**22**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A22&ver=niv)  The messenger set out, and when he arrived he told David everything Joab had sent him to say. [**23**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A23&ver=niv)  The messenger said to David, "The men overpowered us and came out against us in the open, but we drove them back to the entrance of the city gate. [**24**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A24&ver=niv)  Then the archers shot arrows at your servants from the wall, and some of the king's men died. Moreover, your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead." [**25**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A25&ver=niv)  David told the messenger, "Say this to Joab: 'Don't let this upset you; the sword devours one as well as another. Press the attack against the city and destroy it.' Say this to encourage Joab." [**26**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A26&ver=niv)  When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. [**27**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+11%3A27&ver=niv)  After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the Lord.

**2 Samuel 12** New International Version

**Nathan Reproves David**

**12:** [**1**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A1&ver=niv)  The Lord sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. [**2**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A2&ver=niv)  The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, [**3**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A3&ver=niv)  but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. [**4**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A4&ver=niv)  "Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him." [**5**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A5&ver=niv)  David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! [**6**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A6&ver=niv)  He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity." [**7**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A7&ver=niv)  Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. [**8**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A8&ver=niv)  I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. [**9**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A9&ver=niv)  Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. [**10**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A10&ver=niv)  Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.' [**11**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A11&ver=niv)  "This is what the Lord says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. [**12**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A12&ver=niv)  You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.” [**13**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A13&ver=niv)  Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." Nathan replied, "The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die. [**14**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A14&ver=niv)  But because by doing this you have shown utter contempt for the Lord, the son born to you will die."

[**15**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A15&ver=niv)  After Nathan had gone home, the Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife had borne to David, and he became ill. [**16**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A16&ver=niv)  David pleaded with God for the child. He fasted and spent the nights lying in sackcloth on the ground. [**17**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A17&ver=niv)  The elders of his household stood beside him to get him up from the ground, but he refused, and he would not eat any food with them. [**18**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A18&ver=niv)  On the seventh day the child died. David's attendants were afraid to tell him that the child was dead, for they thought, "While the child was still living, he wouldn't listen to us when we spoke to him. How can we now tell him the child is dead? He may do something desperate." [**19**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A19&ver=niv)  David noticed that his attendants were whispering among themselves, and he realized the child was dead. "Is the child dead?" he asked. "Yes," they replied, "he is dead." [**20**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A20&ver=niv)  Then David got up from the ground. After he had washed, put on lotions and changed his clothes, he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house, and at his request they served him food, and he ate. [**21**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A21&ver=niv)  His attendants asked him, "Why are you acting this way? While the child was alive, you fasted and wept, but now that the child is dead, you get up and eat!" [**22**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A22&ver=niv)  He answered, "While the child was still alive, I fasted and wept. I thought, 'Who knows? The Lord may be gracious to me and let the child live.' [**23**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A23&ver=niv)  But now that he is dead, why should I go on fasting? Can I bring him back again? I will go to him, but he will not return to me." [**24**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A24&ver=niv)  Then David comforted his wife Bathsheba, and he went to her and made love to her. She gave birth to a son, and they named him Solomon. The Lord loved him; [**25**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A25&ver=niv)  and because the Lord loved him, he sent word through Nathan the prophet to name him Jedidiah.

**David Captures Rabbah**

[**26**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A26&ver=niv)  Meanwhile Joab fought against Rabbah of the Ammonites and captured the royal citadel. [**27**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A27&ver=niv)  Joab then sent messengers to David, saying, "I have fought against Rabbah and taken its water supply. [**28**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A28&ver=niv)  Now muster the rest of the troops and besiege the city and capture it. Otherwise I will take the city, and it will be named after me." [**29**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A29&ver=niv)  So David mustered the entire army and went to Rabbah, and attacked and captured it. [**30**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A30&ver=niv)  David took the crown from their king's head, and it was placed on his own head. It weighed a talent of gold, and it was set with precious stones. David took a great quantity of plunder from the city [**31**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=2+Samuel+12%3A31&ver=niv)  and brought out the people who were there, consigning them to labor with saws and with iron picks and axes, and he made them work at brickmaking. David did this to all the Ammonite towns. Then he and his entire army returned to Jerusalem.

**F. Record of Casualties**

**1 Chronicles 18 & 19** New International Version

**David Extends His Kingdom**

**18:**[**1**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A1&ver=niv)  In the course of time, David defeated the Philistines and subdued them, and he took Gath and its surrounding villages from the control of the Philistines. [**2**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A2&ver=niv)  David also defeated the Moabites, and they became subject to him and brought him tribute. [**3**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A3&ver=niv)  Moreover, David defeated Hadadezer king of Zobah, in the vicinity of Hamath, when he went to set up his monument at the Euphrates River. [**4**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A4&ver=niv)  David captured a thousand of his chariots, seven thousand charioteers and twenty thousand foot soldiers. He hamstrung all but a hundred of the chariot horses. [**5**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A5&ver=niv)  When the Arameans of Damascus came to help Hadadezer king of Zobah, David struck down twenty-two thousand of them. [**6**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A6&ver=niv)  He put garrisons in the Aramean kingdom of Damascus, and the Arameans became subject to him and brought him tribute. The Lord gave David victory wherever he went. [**7**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A7&ver=niv)  David took the gold shields carried by the officers of Hadadezer and brought them to Jerusalem. [**8**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A8&ver=niv)  From Tebah and Kun, towns that belonged to Hadadezer, David took a great quantity of bronze, which Solomon used to make the bronze Sea, the pillars and various bronze articles.

[**9**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A9&ver=niv)  When Tou king of Hamath heard that David had defeated the entire army of Hadadezer king of Zobah, [**10**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A10&ver=niv)  he sent his son Hadoram to King David to greet him and congratulate him on his victory in battle over Hadadezer, who had been at war with Tou. Hadoram brought all kinds of articles of gold, of silver and of bronze. [**11**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A11&ver=niv)  King David dedicated these articles to the Lord, as he had done with the silver and gold he had taken from all these nations: Edom and Moab, the Ammonites and the Philistines, and Amalek. [**12**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A12&ver=niv)  Abishai son of Zeruiah struck down eighteen thousand Edomites in the Valley of Salt. [**13**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A13&ver=niv)  He put garrisons in Edom, and all the Edomites became subject to David. The Lord gave David victory wherever he went.

**David's Officers**

[**14**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A14&ver=niv)  David reigned over all Israel, doing what was just and right for all his people. [**15**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A15&ver=niv)  Joab son of Zeruiah was over the army; Jehoshaphat son of Ahilud was recorder; [**16**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A16&ver=niv)  Zadok son of Ahitub and Ahimelek son of Abiathar were priests; Shavsha was secretary; [**17**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+18%3A17&ver=niv)  Benaiah son of Jehoiada was over the Kerethites and Pelethites; and David's sons were chief officials at the king's side.

**1 Chronicles 19** New International Version

**The Defeat of the Ammonites and Syrians**

**19** [**1**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A1&ver=niv)  In the course of time, Nahash king of the Ammonites died, and his son succeeded him as king. [**2**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A2&ver=niv)  David thought, "I will show kindness to Hanun son of Nahash, because his father showed kindness to me." So David sent a delegation to express his sympathy to Hanun concerning his father. When David's envoys came to Hanun in the land of the Ammonites to express sympathy to him, [**3**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A3&ver=niv)  the Ammonite commanders said to Hanun, "Do you think David is honoring your father by sending envoys to you to express sympathy? Haven't his envoys come to you only to explore and spy out the country and overthrow it?" [**4**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A4&ver=niv)  So Hanun seized David's envoys, shaved them, cut off their garments at the buttocks, and sent them away. [**5**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A5&ver=niv)  When someone came and told David about the men, he sent messengers to meet them, for they were greatly humiliated. The king said, "Stay at Jericho till your beards have grown, and then come back."

[**6**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A6&ver=niv)  When the Ammonites realized that they had become obnoxious to David, Hanun and the Ammonites sent a thousand talents of silver to hire chariots and charioteers from Aram Naharaim, Aram Maakah and Zobah. [**7**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A7&ver=niv)  They hired thirty-two thousand chariots and charioteers, as well as the king of Maakah with his troops, who came and camped near Medeba, while the Ammonites were mustered from their towns and moved out for battle. [**8**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A8&ver=niv)  On hearing this, David sent Joab out with the entire army of fighting men. [**9**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A9&ver=niv)  The Ammonites came out and drew up in battle formation at the entrance to their city, while the kings who had come were by themselves in the open country. [**10**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A10&ver=niv)  Joab saw that there were battle lines in front of him and behind him; so he selected some of the best troops in Israel and deployed them against the Arameans. [**11**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A11&ver=niv)  He put the rest of the men under the command of Abishai his brother, and they were deployed against the Ammonites. [**12**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A12&ver=niv)  Joab said, "If the Arameans are too strong for me, then you are to rescue me; but if the Ammonites are too strong for you, then I will rescue you. [**13**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A13&ver=niv)  Be strong, and let us fight bravely for our people and the cities of our God. The Lord will do what is good in his sight." [**14**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A14&ver=niv)  Then Joab and the troops with him advanced to fight the Arameans, and they fled before him. [**15**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A15&ver=niv)  When the Ammonites realized that the Arameans were fleeing, they too fled before his brother Abishai and went inside the city. So Joab went back to Jerusalem. [**16**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A16&ver=niv)  After the Arameans saw that they had been routed by Israel, they sent messengers and had Arameans brought from beyond the Euphrates River, with Shophak the commander of Hadadezer's army leading them. [**17**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A17&ver=niv)  When David was told of this, he gathered all Israel and crossed the Jordan; he advanced against them and formed his battle lines opposite them. David formed his lines to meet the Arameans in battle, and they fought against him. [**18**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A18&ver=niv)  But they fled before Israel, and David killed seven thousand of their charioteers and forty thousand of their foot soldiers. He also killed Shophak the commander of their army. [**19**](https://www.christianity.com/bible/bible.php?q=1+Chronicles+19%3A19&ver=niv)  When the vassals of Hadadezer saw that they had been routed by Israel, they made peace with David and became subject to him. So the Arameans were not willing to help the Ammonites anymore.