

# 1 Chronicles 11:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So David waxed greater and greater: for the LORD of hosts was with him.

## Analysis

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David's progressive increase in greatness is explicitly attributed to 'the LORD of hosts' being with him. The Hebrew word translated 'greater and greater' (halok v'gadol) suggests continuous, divinely-sustained growth. This demonstrates the Reformed doctrine that all human achievement, even legitimate conquest and leadership, derives from God's enabling grace. The title 'LORD of hosts' (YHWH Sabaoth) emphasizes God's sovereign command over heavenly and earthly armies. David's military success wasn't due to superior tactics but divine favor, pointing to Christ whose kingdom advances through God's power, not human might.

## Historical Context

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David's rise from shepherd to king (c. 1010-1003 BCE) involved strategic alliance-building and military victories against Philistines, Jebusites, and other enemies. The Chronicler attributes all success to divine presence, contrasting with ancient Near Eastern kings who boasted of personal prowess.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How should attributing all success to God's presence change your attitude toward personal achievements?
2. In what areas of spiritual growth do you need to rely more fully on 'the LORD of hosts' rather than your own strength?

## Interlinear Text

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waxed So David greater and greater for the LORD of hosts H5973  
H3212 H1732 H1980 H1419 H3068 H6635

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Samuel 3:1** (References David): Now there was long war between the house of Saul and the house of David: but David waxed stronger and stronger, and the house of Saul waxed weaker and weaker.

**Isaiah 41:10** (Parallel theme): Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

**Isaiah 41:14** (References Lord): Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the LORD, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.

**Romans 8:31** (Parallel theme): What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

**1 Chronicles 9:20** (References Lord): And Phinehas the son of Eleazar was the ruler over them in time past, and the LORD was with him.

**2 Samuel 5:10** (References Lord): And David went on, and grew great, and the LORD God of hosts was with him.

**Esther 9:4** (Parallel theme): For Mordecai was great in the king's house, and his fame went out throughout all the provinces: for this man Mordecai waxed greater and greater.

**Psalms 46:7** (References Lord): The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

**Psalms 46:11** (References Lord): The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

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