

# 1 Samuel 13:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan: but with Saul and with Jonathan his son was there found.

## Analysis

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**So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan: but with Saul and with Jonathan his son was there found.**

The military implication is stark: 'in the day of battle, there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people.' Only Saul and Jonathan possessed proper weapons. This impossible military situation - an essentially unarmed force against iron-equipped Philistines - sets the stage for God's dramatic deliverance in chapter 14. Human resources are deliberately shown to be inadequate so that divine power receives full credit. The pattern recalls Gideon's reduced army and foreshadows many biblical deliverances.

## Historical Context

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The contrast between Israelite and Philistine armament was extreme. Philistines possessed iron weapons, chariots, and professional soldiers. Israel had agricultural implements as improvised weapons and only two actual swords. Humanly speaking, victory was impossible.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does God often arrange circumstances so that His power alone can receive credit?
2. When have you seen God work through completely inadequate human resources?

## Interlinear Text

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וַהֲיָה

H1961

**So it came to pass in the day**

H3117

בִּיּוֹם

מִלְחָמָה

**of battle**

H4421

וְלֹא

H3808

נִמְצָא

**found**

H4672

חָרֶב

**that there was neither sword**

H2719

וְחֶבֶל

**nor spear**

H2595

בְּיָד

**in the hand**

H3027

כָּל

H3605

אֶחָד מֵעַמֵּי

**of any of the people**

H5971

אֶשְׁרָא

H834

אֶת

H854

לְשֹׁא וְלֹא

**but with Saul**

H7586

וְאֶת

H853

וְלִיְהוֹנָתָן

**and Jonathan**

H3129

וְנִמְצָא

**found**

H4672

לְשֹׁא וְלֹא

**but with Saul**

H7586

וְלִיְהוֹנָתָן

**and Jonathan**

H3129

בְּנוֹ:

**his son**

H1121

## Additional Cross-References

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**Judges 5:8** (Parallel theme): They chose new gods; then was war in the gates: was there a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in Israel?

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