

# 1 Samuel 30:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said David, Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which the LORD hath given us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand.

## Analysis

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David's correction grounds spoil distribution in theology, not merit: 'that which the LORD hath given us.' The Hebrew 'asher natan YHWH lanu' (which the LORD gave to us) reframes the victory as divine gift, not human achievement. By invoking God's preservation and deliverance, David reminds the warriors that they are recipients, not earners, of victory. This theological foundation removes grounds for boasting and establishes grace-based sharing. What God gives freely should be distributed generously.

## Historical Context

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David's theological reasoning reflects covenant understanding that all Israel shared in divine promises. His argument anticipates his later psalms attributing victory to God rather than military prowess.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

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

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How does recognizing God as the source of success change how you distribute rewards?
2. What happens when grace rather than merit governs community economics?

## Interlinear Text

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אָמַר	דָּוִד	לֹא	תַעֲשֶׂה וְ	כִּי	אָחֵי	אֵת	אֲשֶׁר
Then said	David		Ye shall not do so		my brethren		
H559	H1732	H3808	H6213	H3651	H251	H854	H834
וַתֵּן		יְהוָה	לָנוּ	וַיִּשְׁמַר	אֶתְנוּ		
hath given		with that which the LORD		us who hath preserved			
H5414		H3068	H0	H8104	H853		
וַתֵּן	אֶת	הַגִּדּוֹד	הַבָּא	עָלֵינוּ	בְּיָדָנוּ:		
hath given		the company	that came		against us into our hand		
H5414	H853	H1416	H935	H5921	H3027		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 8:18** (References Lord): But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.