

# 2 Samuel 23:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the man that shall touch them must be fenced with iron and the staff of a spear; and they shall be utterly burned with fire in the same place.

## Analysis

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**But the man that shall touch them must be fenced with iron and the staff of a spear; and they shall be utterly burned with fire in the same place.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of Last Words and Mighty Men, emphasizing legacy, faithful servants. David's last words emphasize the eternal covenant God established (v. 5) and declare principles of righteous rule. The accounts of David's mighty men demonstrate extraordinary courage and devotion. The water-drawing incident reveals David's unwillingness to value his comfort above his soldiers' lives. Theological themes include the importance of final testimonies, the eternal nature of God's covenant, the value of faithful servants, and the necessity of sacrificial leadership.

## Historical Context

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The historical setting of 2 Samuel 23 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding legacy, faithful servants provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from

modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

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

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of legacy, faithful servants?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

## Interlinear Text

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וְאִישׁ	יִגַּע	בָּהֶם	יִמָּלֵא	בַּרְזֶל	וְעֵץ
But the man	that shall touch	H0	them must be fenced	with iron	and the staff
H376	H5060		H4390	H1270	H6086
חֶנֶּן יֵשׁ	וּבָאֵשׁ	יִשְׂרָפּוּ	יִשְׂרָפּוּ		
of a spear	with fire	and they shall be utterly	and they shall be utterly		
H2595	H784	H8313	H8313		
בַּשָּׂדֶה:					
in the same place					
H7675					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hebrews 6:8** (Parallel theme): But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned.

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