

2 Samuel 23:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These be the names of the mighty men whom David had: The Tachmonite that sat in the seat, chief among the captains; the same was Adino the Eznite: he lift up his spear against eight hundred, whom he slew at one time.

Analysis

These be the names of the mighty men whom David had: The Tachmonite that sat in the seat, chief among the captains; the same was Adino the Eznite: he lift up his spear against eight hundred, whom he slew at one time.

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

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

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

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

אֵלֶּה	שְׁמֹת	הַגִּבֹּרִים	אֲשֶׁר	לְדָוִד	יָשָׁב
H428	These be the names	of the mighty men	H834	whom David	that sat
	H8034	H1368		H1732	H3427
בַּשֵּׁן	תַּחְכֻּמֵי	רֹאשׁ	הַשָּׂלֹשׁ	יְהוֹאָחָז	
in the seat	had The Tachmonite	chief	among the captains	H1931	
H7675	H8461	H7218	H7991		
וְעַדִּין	הָעֶזְנִי	עָלָה	שִׁמְכָה	מֵאֶת	
the same was Adino	the Eznite	H5921	he lift up his spear against eight	hundred	
H5722	H6112		H8083	H3967	
לְהַלֵּךְ	בְּפֶתַח	אֶחָד:			
whom he slew	time	at one			
H2491	H6471	H259			

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 27:2 (Parallel theme): Over the first course for the first month was Jashobeam the son of Zabdiel: and in his course were twenty and four thousand.