



IMPact  
GROUPS

The logo features the word "IMPact" in a large, stylized font. The letters "IMP" are rendered in a thick, red, 3D-style font. The letters "act" are in a thinner, grey, sans-serif font. Below "IMPact", the word "GROUPS" is written in a smaller, grey, sans-serif font. The background is black with a colorful, wavy, abstract design at the top in shades of orange, yellow, and green.

**LEADERSHIP**



Change  
**YOUR**  
Community

Verander  
**JOU**  
Gemeenskap

# LEADERSHIP

IN 2 CHRONICLES <sup>11 & 12</sup>



**1 Chronicle 11:** Then all Israel came together to David at Hebron, saying, "Indeed we are your bone and your flesh. 2 Also, in time past, even when Saul was king, you were the one who led Israel out and brought them in; and the Lord your God said to you, 'You shall shepherd My people Israel, and be ruler over My people Israel.' " 3 Therefore all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord. And they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the Lord by Samuel.



# THIS STORY REPRESENTS TWO THINGS HERE

- David is **firstly** a imperfect Godly chosen Leader.
- **Secondly** he is a representative of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom

## David's mighty men of valour

- David's men represents how leaders in the Kingdom should **function**,
- And how we as leaders should **follow** Jesus Christ

# DAVID

- David was the leader who was **chosen** by God for the appointed time and season in the history of Israel.
- The men never chose David, God chose David, and God anointed him through Samuel the prophet.
- In total, David was anointed three times.
- But the elders of Israel **acknowledged** David's leadership.
- David came to set a **new standard** in Jerusalem and in Judah. He had a different vision to Saul.

# DAVID

- **1 Chron 11:1** "... "Indeed we are your bone and your flesh."
- **2** Also, in time past, even when Saul was king, you were the one who led Israel out and brought them in; and the LORD your God said to you, 'You shall shepherd My people Israel, and be ruler over My people Israel.'"
- **3** ... all the elders of Israel came to the king ... and David made a covenant with them ... before the LORD. And they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the LORD by Samuel.

**NOT EVERYONE IN JUDAH WERE WARRIORS.  
DAVID HAD VULNERABLE PEOPLE TO PROTECT.  
HE WAS KING, SHEPHERD AND WARRIOR.**

These three characteristics should mark anyone who leads God's people.

- A leader must **belong** to God's people in heritage and heart.
- A leader must demonstrate **capability** to lead.
- A leader must have an evident **call** from God.



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- The **elders** of Israel received David's leadership.
  - David as king was **accountable** to Yahweh for his flock.

But some of the bravest men in the Kingdom **came to David** and stood and fought the battle with David.

# DAVID'S MEN OF VALOUR

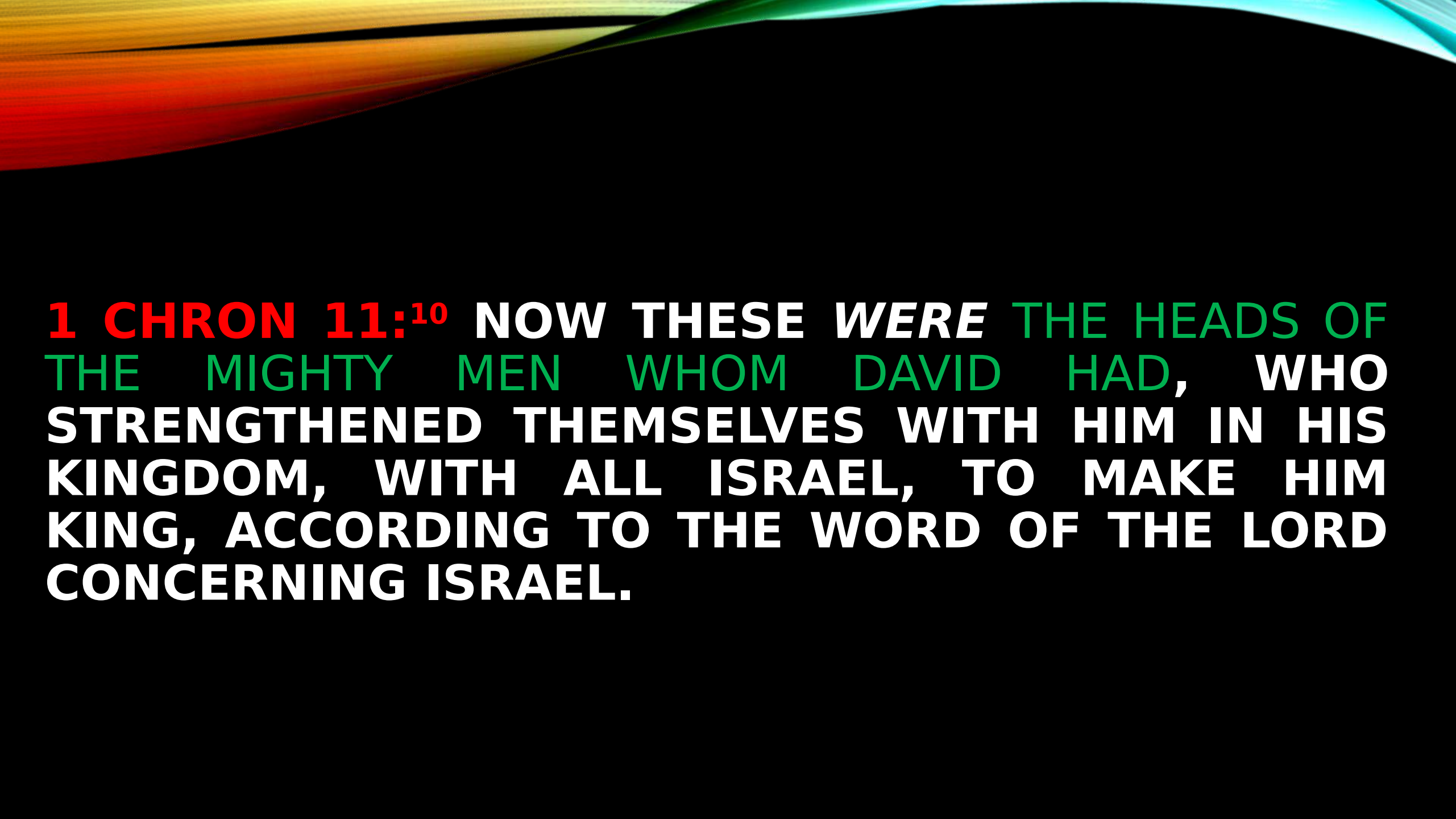
- When **David Livingstone**, the missionary pioneer, was working in Africa, some friends wrote: "We would like to send other men to you. Have you found a good road into your area yet?" Livingstone wrote back: **"If you have men who will only come if they know there is a good road, I don't want them. I want men who will come if there is no road at all."** (In *Reader's Digest* [8/89], p. 143.)

# DAVID'S MEN OF VALOUR

- Down through the ages, whenever God has done a significant work, He has done it through a band of **committed** people.
- God doesn't work through the lukewarm, but only through those who are **fervent** in their love for Christ and His kingdom.
- But great as he was, David did not stand alone. Surrounding him were a band of **mighty men** who accomplished great feats of valour.
- Near the end of King David's life he records an amazing tribute, by name, to each of these 37 mighty men in **2 Samuel 23:8-39**

## 2 SAM 23:8 “THESE ARE THE NAMES OF THE MIGHTY MEN WHOM DAVID HAD...”

- If God is going to accomplish a **great work** among us, then He wants to **raise up** a band of mighty men and women in our midst who can do **great exploits** for God.
- The New Testament makes it clear that God desires men to be in **spiritual leadership** in the home and church.
- **This church**--needs a band of mighty men like these who surrounded David.
- David needed these faithful men for **his success**, and the success of the **kingdom** of Judah.



**1 CHRON 11:<sup>10</sup> NOW THESE *WERE* THE HEADS OF THE MIGHTY MEN WHOM DAVID HAD, WHO STRENGTHENED THEMSELVES WITH HIM IN HIS KINGDOM, WITH ALL ISRAEL, TO MAKE HIM KING, ACCORDING TO THE WORD OF THE LORD CONCERNING ISRAEL.**



## 2.1 TWO OF DAVID'S MIGHTY MEN

- And this *is* the number of the mighty men whom David had: **Jashobeam** ... chief of the captains; he had lifted up his spear against three hundred, killed *by him* at one time. After him was **Eleazar** ... who *was one* of the three mighty men.

## 2.1.1 JASHOBEAM THE SON OF A HACHMONITE, CHIEF OF THE CAPTAINS

- This man is also mentioned in **2 Sam 23:8** records a slightly different name for this man, and records that he killed 800 instead of **three hundred** here in 1 Chronicles.
- The fact that **Jashobeam** was a **chief of the captains** shows that he was a leader among leaders.
- This means that even leaders need leaders.
- Also, his victory alone was counted, showing that **numbers are important**, but they are not the only measure

## 2.1.2 After him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite

- This man led a singular battle against a far more numerous foe, so much so that his hand was **stuck** to his sword (2 Sam 23:10).

# WHAT CHARACTERIZED THESE MEN?

- A study of this text reveals that there were two salient marks of these mighty men:
  - They were **attracted** to David's person, and
  - they were **committed to his cause**. Similarly,

# THE CHURCH NEEDS MIGHTY MEN WHO ARE ATTRACTED TO THE PERSON OF CHRIST.

- They were **willing volunteers** who served out of devotion to David.
- The **love** these men had for David can be seen in the incident described in **23:13-17**.




## A. THE CAUSE

**It is a *great* cause.**

- The cause of **God's Kingdom**. There is no greater cause!
- David's mighty men realized that David's kingdom was the **center** for God's kingdom upon earth.
- God had promised David that his house and kingdom would endure forever (**2 Sam. 7:16**).
- And we have the privilege of **advancing** His kingdom in our day.
- There is simply no greater cause than the **cause of Christ!**

# IT IS A **TEAM** CAUSE

- David, as great as he was, **anointed** of God, could not have accomplished God's purpose **alone**.
- He **needed** his mighty men and the rest of his faithful troops to pull it off.
- Even so, the Lord Jesus has not called us to be a bunch of **isolated** great people for His cause.
- It is a **team** effort.
- We are part of the Body, and every part is essential.

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- True, not all of us can attain to the greatness of these mighty men.
  - But we all are on the team, and we all have **important tasks** given to us by our Captain.


Because the cause is a **great** cause and because it is a **team** cause, **every person** must **commit** himself wholeheartedly to the cause.

Note the commitment of these mighty men.

## B. THE COMMITMENT

- A commitment which overcomes the odds with faith in God.
- Note **23:8, 9-10, 11-12, 18, 21** (a 7 1/2 foot giant, acc. to **1 Chron. 11:23**).
- In every case these mighty men faced insuperable odds.

But note **23:10, 12** “**the Lord brought about a great victory.**” These men weren’t considering the odds for victory; they were looking to the God of victory.

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- There are always enough people sitting on the **side-lines**, pointing out the size of the giants in the land.
  - We need some mighty men whose **commitment** to the cause overcomes the odds with faith in the living God.




## A) COMMITMENT WHICH ENDURES EXHAUSTION

- See **23:10**. Eleazar was so **tired** he couldn't open his hand after the battle was over.
- I don't know how long it took Adino the Eznite to knock off 800 men on one occasion or how he did it (**23:8**), but you can be sure that he was **exhausted** when it was over.
- You can count on being tired if you commit yourself to serve Christ--not tired **of** serving, but tired **in** serving. But it is a great feeling to go to bed at night exhausted from serving the cause of Christ.


# A. COMMITMENT WHICH SPURNS THE ATTITUDE OF THE CROWD

- Note **23:9-12**. The Israelite warriors had fled. The people of God were in **retreat**.
- If you had taken a vote, it would have been a landslide in favor of surrender.
- But these mighty men ignored the majority and **stood alone** for God.
- The cowards returned to gather the spoils (**23:10**).


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- They **benefited** from the **courage** of these men whom they would have called fools a few hours earlier.
  - If the church is going to go **forward** and **conquer** for Christ, it can't be operated as a pure democracy.
  - The majority often capitulates to the world.
  - But God is looking for mighty men of **commitment who spurn** the attitude of the crowd, who take a stand for Christ, and win great victories for Him.

## D) A COMMITMENT WHICH TAKES THE INITIATIVE

- These mighty men were not **passive**.
- They were not just on the **defensive**--they were on the **offensive** as well. Note **23:20-21**.
- It's impressive enough to kill a lion in a pit--but to do it on a snowy day! Wow!
- Most of us would have been glad to leave well enough alone if we happened upon a lion in a pit on a snowy day.
- But this guy Benaiah went after the lion and killed it! He also went after this 7 1/2 foot Egyptian who had a spear: "May I borrow that please? Thank you. Zip!"


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- Do you know what is one of the greatest blights in Christianity today? **Passive men!**
  - Chuck Swindoll once asked a Christian counsellor what was the number one problem he faced in counselling Christian families. Without hesitation the counsellor replied, "Passive males."
  - **Men**, why is it that with many of you, your wife must take the initiative in spiritual things?



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- Why is it that if the children are going to receive any spiritual training in the home, your wife must be the one to do it?
  - We need mighty men in the church who will take the **initiative** in spiritual leadership. That does not mean barking commands at your family! It means **setting the example** in love for Christ and in serving your family and others.


## E) A COMMITMENT WHICH RISKS LIFE ITSELF, IF NEED BE


- These mighty men all risked their lives because of their **commitment** to David and his cause.
- During the early years of the Africa Inland Mission, more of their missionaries died from the harsh jungle conditions, than what Africans became Christians.
- The area became known as the white man's graveyard. But still the missionaries came.
- But they began arriving with their belongings packed in **coffins**.

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- The Africans were amazed with this **determination**. They said, “Surely only a message of great importance would inspire such actions!”
  - It’s hard to relate to that kind of dedication. I don’t know whether you or I will ever have to face the possibility of risking our lives for the cause of Christ.
  - But I do know this: if you have been a **convenience Christian**--one who attends church when it’s convenient, who supports the cause of Christ financially when it’s convenient, who is willing to serve Christ when it’s convenient--then you won’t risk your life for the cause of Christ if it ever comes to that.

# CONCLUSION

- God wants to raise up a band of mighty men who are **attracted** to the person of Christ and who are committed to His cause.
- Perhaps you're thinking, "Where do I start?"
- If your heart has **grown cold** and **complacent** toward Christ, then start there.
- The Lord directed the church at Ephesus which had lost its first love to "remember from where you have fallen and **repent** and do the deeds you did at first" (**Rev. 2:5**).
- Remember what the Lord has done for you.

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- Take the **time** to spend alone with Him in His Word each day.
  - **Work** on your love life with Jesus. It is drudgery to labor without love.
  - But it is **laziness** to love without labor.
  - So once you **rekindle** that **first love** for Him, then get off the bench and commit yourself to His cause in the church.
  - “Do the deeds you did at first.”
  - Commit your **time**, **effort** and **money** to the great cause of Christ as we seek to make Him known in this community.

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- Christ loved us and **gave** Himself for us. With the hymn writer Isaac Watts, our response must be, “Love so amazing so divine, Demands my life, my soul, my all.”
  - These men saw it as an **honour** to follow the leader who was sanctioned by the heavenly headquarters to take command of God’s matters.
  - **1 Chron 11:14** But they stationed themselves in the middle of *that* field, defended it, and killed the Philistines. So the LORD brought about a great victory.

# THEY WERE IN THE SAME BATTLE AS THEIR LEADER

- **1 Chron 11:<sup>17</sup>** And David said with longing, "Oh, that someone would give me a drink of water from the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!" **18** So the three broke through the camp of the Philistines, drew water from the well of Bethlehem that *was* by the gate, and took *it* and brought *it* to David. Nevertheless David would not drink it, but poured it out to the LORD. **19** And he said, "Far be it from me, O my God, that I should do this! Shall I drink the blood of these men *who have put* their lives *in jeopardy*? For at the risk of their lives they brought it." Therefore he would not drink it. These things were done by the three mighty men.



# THIS IS A STORY OF THE **MUTUAL COMMITMENT** IN LEADERSHIP.

- Some of David's committed men knew his heart and they **pursued** it with David, down to the wire.
- But David also demonstrated his **commitment** to them, and gave their sacrifice to God.
- David acknowledged their **loyalty**.
- They in turn **served** David's vision and heart to the very finest detail. They knew if David died of thirst that day, their leader would be gone, and they too.

# THIS IS AN HONOUR ROLL OF DAVID'S LEADERS.

- These remarkable men were the **foundation** of the greatness of David's reign.
- They did not come to David as great men, but God used his leadership to **transform** them from men who were *in distress, in debt and discontented*, to remarkable leaders.
- "More than all his victories against outside foes, the **influence** of his life and **character** on the men nearest to him testify to his essential greatness." (Morgan)

# EVERYONE DID NOT FOLLOW DAVID'S VISION

- David had opposition – not everybody stood with David.

**Chron 12:17** And David went out to meet them, and answered and said to them, "If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be united with you; but if to betray me to my enemies, since *there is* no wrong in my hands, may the God of our fathers look and bring judgment." **18** Then the Spirit came upon Amasai, chief of the captains, *and he said:* "We are yours, O David; We *are* on your side, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, And peace to your helpers! For your God helps you." So David received them, and made them captains of the troop.