

**Kingdom Come**  
*Kingdom Heroes: David's Mighty Men*  
 2 Samuel 21:15-22; 23:1-25

**The Epilogue of Samuel**

**21:1-14** Kingdom Holiness: God's Justice and Mercy

**21:15-22** Kingdom Heroes: David's Mighty Men

**22:1-23:7 KINGDOM HOPE: GOD'S PROMISE**

**23:8-39** Kingdom Heroes: David's Mighty Men

**24:1-25** Kingdom Holiness: God's Justice and Mercy

**21:15-22**

**Giants** = "*Raphah*" – descendants of Raphah, the Rephaim. This was a race of giant warriors, men of renown—half-angel/half-human—whose origin was unimaginably evil, related to the Nephilim of the ancient world prior to the Great Flood.

**Background:** **Genesis 6:1-8** *When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. Then Yahweh said, "My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years." **The Nephilim** were on the earth in those days, **and also afterward**, when **the sons of God** came in to **the daughters of man** and they **bore children to them**. These were the **mighty men who were of old, the men of renown**. Yahweh saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

**Elohim** – a title used of the one true and living God, Creator of all that exists in both the spirit and physical realms, whose proper name is Yahweh. However, the title **elohim** is also used of the spirit beings THE Elohim created (e.g., **Psalm 8:5** – Yahweh made man a little lower than the **elohim** or gods (i.e., the angels).

Throughout the Hebrew Scriptures, these angelic beings are called *sons of Elohim (God)* or *sons of the Most High (Elyon)*. These majestic spirit beings serve as God's divine council.

Some of the **elohim** rebelled against the Elohim, wanting to be the Elohim themselves. They are the spiritual power behind the idols of pagan religion, thus idols are referred to as **elohim** (gods). These fallen angels broke from the divine council, leaving their proper dwelling (**Jude 6**), some incarnating themselves and cohabiting with human women.

The offspring of these nefarious unions were half-elohim/half-human (the Nephilim, and after the flood, the Rephaim)—a grotesquely evil attempt to counterfeit the future incarnation of Yahweh (the Elohim) as the God/Man—the Savior of the world. These great men of renown are the basis of Greek mythology.

These half-angel/half human men boasted that they were invincible, but Yahweh told them they would die like any other man. **Psalm 82:1, 6** *God (Elohim) has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods (elohim) he holds judgment...I said, "You are gods (elohim), sons of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince."*

**Side Note:** In **John 10:32**, Jesus reasons with the religious leaders from **Psalm 82:6** in defending his claim to be "the Son of God" come in human flesh. Jesus' argument, in quoting this verse, is basically this: If what the fallen angels did by incarnating themselves and producing the Nephilim and Rephaim as mere **sons** of God, then why would you question that I can be **the Son** of God, come in human flesh?

*"David became weary."*

David's Giant Killers

- Ishbi-benob killed by Abishai
- Saph killed by Sibbecai
- Goliath (*brother of* – **1 Chronicles 20:5**) killed by Elhanan
- A huge man with 6 fingers and toes killed by Jonathan (David's nephew through his brother, Shimei)

*"They fell by the hand of David and his servants."*

## 23:8-39

### "The Three"

- Josheb-basshebeth, lead
- Eleazar
- Shammah

### Captains of "The Thirty"

- Abishai, lead (David's nephew through his sister, Zeruiah; Joab and Asahel's brother)
- Benaiah, captain of David's bodyguard.

### "The Thirty"

Asahel	Ithai	Hezro
Elhanan	Benaiah	Paarai
Shammah	Hurai	Igal
Elika	Abi-albon	Bani
Helez	Azmaveth	Zelek
Ira	Eliabba	Naharai
Abiezer	The sons of Jashen (2)	Ira
Sibbecai	Jonathan	Gareb
Zalmon	Ahiam	Uriah
Maharai	Eliphelet	
Heled	Eliam	All total = 37

Where's Joab?! This assertive, take charge, command-and-control guy, who, at times, dominates the scene **in 2 Samuel**, violently forcing his way into the spotlight, didn't make the cut! Ironically, nearly all of David's mighty men are mentioned only here in the Scripture.

The true \_\_\_\_\_ of God's kingdom often time get little-to-no press.

Good king David is not nearly \_\_\_\_\_. "The Thirty" is a stark reminder of his colossal failure.

David's victory over the Rephaim foreshadows Jesus' triumph over the powers of darkness in the spirit realm.

**Colossians 2:15** *He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them through the cross.*

God could have done it all himself, but as he illustrates in David, his anointed one, he wants to share the work of redemption with his people.

- **Luke 22:28-30** - Jesus honors his disciples for hanging with him through his trials.
- **Luke 23:26** - Like David, Jesus became weary. Simon of Cyrene carried his cross for him.
- **Romans 16:4** - Paul honors Prisca & Aquila, his fellow laborers in the Gospel, who risked their lives to save his.

Kingdom work is \_\_\_\_\_ work.

**Kingdom Come**  
*Kingdom Heroes: David's Mighty Men*  
 2 Samuel 21:15-22; 23:1-25

**The Epilogue of Samuel**

**21:1-14** Kingdom Holiness: God's Justice and Mercy

**21:15-22** Kingdom Heroes: David's Mighty Men

**22:1-23:7 KINGDOM HOPE: GOD'S PROMISE**

**23:8-39** Kingdom Heroes: David's Mighty Men

**24:1-25** Kingdom Holiness: God's Justice and Mercy

**21:15-22**

**Giants** = "*Raphah*" – descendants of Raphah, the Rephaim. This was a race of giant warriors, men of renown—half-angel/half-human—whose origin was unimaginably evil, related to the Nephilim of the ancient world prior to the Great Flood.

**Background:** **Genesis 6:1-8** *When man began to multiply on the face of the land and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose. Then Yahweh said, "My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years." The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of man and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, the men of renown. Yahweh saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.*

**Elohim** – a title used of the one true and living God, Creator of all that exists in both the spirit and physical realms, whose proper name is Yahweh. However, the title *elohim* is also used of the spirit beings THE Elohim created (e.g., **Psalm 8:5** – Yahweh made man a little lower than the *elohim* or gods (i.e., the angels).

Throughout the Hebrew Scriptures, these angelic beings are called *sons of Elohim (God)* or *sons of the Most High (Elyon)*. These majestic spirit beings serve as God's divine council.

Some of the *elohim* rebelled against the Elohim, wanting to be the Elohim themselves. They are the spiritual power behind the idols of pagan religion, thus idols are referred to as *elohim* (gods). These fallen angels broke from the divine council, leaving their proper dwelling (**Jude 6**), some incarnating themselves and cohabiting with human women.

The offspring of these nefarious unions were half-*elohim*/half-human (the Nephilim, and after the flood, the Rephaim)—a grotesquely evil attempt to counterfeit the future incarnation of Yahweh (the Elohim) as the God/Man—the Savior of the world. These great men of renown are the basis of Greek mythology.

These half-angel/half human men boasted that they were invincible, but Yahweh told them they would die like any other man. **Psalm 82:1, 6** *God (Elohim) has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods (elohim) he holds judgment...I said, "You are gods (elohim), sons of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince."*

**Side Note:** In **John 10:32**, Jesus reasons with the religious leaders from **Psalm 82:6** in defending his claim to be "the Son of God" come in human flesh. Jesus' argument, in quoting this verse, is basically this: If what the fallen angels did by incarnating themselves and producing the Nephilim and Rephaim as mere sons of God, then why would you question that I can be the Son of God, come in human flesh?

*"David became weary."*

David's Giant Killers

- Ishbi-benob killed by Abishai
- Saph killed by Sibbecai
- Goliath (*brother of* – **1 Chronicles 20:5**) killed by Elhanan
- A huge man with 6 fingers and toes killed by Jonathan (David's nephew through his brother, Shimei)

*"They fell by the hand of David and his servants."*

## 23:8-39

### "The Three"

- Josheb-basshebeth, lead
- Eleazar
- Shammah

### Captains of "The Thirty"

- Abishai, lead (David's nephew through his sister, Zeruiah; Joab and Asahel's brother)
- Benaiah, captain of David's bodyguard.

### "The Thirty"

Asahel	Ithai	Hezro
Elhanan	Benaiah	Paarai
Shammah	Hurai	Igal
Elika	Abi-albon	Bani
Helez	Azmaveth	Zelek
Ira	Eliabba	Naharai
Abiezer	The sons of Jashen (2)	Ira
Sibbecai	Jonathan	Gareb
Zalmon	Ahiam	Uriah
Maharai	Eliphelet	
Heled	Eliam	All total = 37

Where's Joab?! This assertive, take charge, command-and-control guy, who, at times, dominates the scene **in 2 Samuel**, violently forcing his way into the spotlight, didn't make the cut! Ironically, nearly all of David's mighty men are mentioned only here in the Scripture.

The true **heroes** of God's kingdom often time get little-to-no press.

Good king David is not nearly **good enough**. "The Thirty" is a stark reminder of his colossal failure.

David's victory over the Rephaim foreshadows Jesus' triumph over the powers of darkness in the spirit realm.

**Colossians 2:15** *He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them through the cross.*

God could have done it all himself, but as he illustrates in David, his anointed one, he wants to share the work of redemption with his people.

- **Luke 22:28-30** - Jesus honors his disciples for hanging with him through his trials.
- **Luke 23:26** - Like David, Jesus became weary. Simon of Cyrene carried his cross for him.
- **Romans 16:4** - Paul honors Prisca & Aquila, his fellow laborers in the Gospel, who risked their lives to save his.

Kingdom work is **team** work.