

GIVE US MEN WHO ARE SEPARATED

I Chronicles 12:8-15

I Chronicles 12:8 (NASB 95)

(8) From the Gadites there came over to David in the stronghold in the wilderness, mighty men of valor, men trained for war, who could handle shield and spear, and whose faces were like the faces of lions, and *they were* as swift as the gazelles on the mountains.

1. This passage revealed 6 characteristics of men David needed to constitute his army.
2. We need men today with the same characteristics these men had.
3. What are the characteristics of men we need today? You need to be:

I. SEPARATED MEN (v.8)

"Came over" -*separate, distinguish. They separated themselves; they distinguished themselves.* A verb meaning to separate, to divide, to detach.

To - A preposition meaning to, into, concerning. It has the basic meaning of toward. It is used in all kinds of situations indicating direction.

Stronghold - A masculine noun defining a stronghold, a fortress. It refers to a place with powerful natural or manmade defenses, difficult of access, and a place for refugees, etc. Also, it refers to a place for further fortification by military engines and soldiers;

Wilderness- A masculine noun referring to a desert, a wilderness. It indicates a wilderness area, a desert, or a pasture used for animals in general.

II. MIGHTY MEN (v.8) (Men of might)

Men- ghib-bore' -(g-BORE)- An adjective meaning brave, strong, mighty, powerful. **HERO**. The word describes a warrior who has been proven.

The word means manly, strong, vigorous, and was a term of approval and commendation and sanction.

- **The word describes the Lord:**

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the **mighty** God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6 Zephaniah 3:17)

- **The word is described angels**
20 Bless the LORD, you His angels,
Mighty in strength, who perform His word
Obeying the voice of His Word! [Psalm 103:20](#)
- **Men do you see our potential?**

Valor = Mighty- A masculine noun meaning strength, wealth. This word has the basic idea of strength and influence.

III. TRAINED MEN (v.8) Men trained for war/fit for battle (soldiers, if you will)

Trained- The word has to do with fighting...warring. It also means "to render service." Men trained, fit for battle and ready for the fight. We might say "fighting men." Men fit for the engagement.

The word implies hardship, difficult service, even divine service. **Paul instructed Timothy:**

"Suffer hardship with [me] as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier. (2 Timothy 2:3-4)

A. WHO CAN HANDLE SHIELD AND SPEAR-

Handle- A verb meaning to arrange, to set in order, to prepare. It is used of arranging or preparing something for various reason. As a technical military term, it means to prepare for battle.

Shield- large **shield** (covering whole body); - Paul said: "in addition to all, taking up the **shield** of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil [one]". (Ephesians 6:16)

Spear- From a word meaning "to hurl" a *lance* (as *thrown*); especially the iron *point*: javelin, lancet, spear. A masculine noun meaning a spear, a javelin. It refers to a weapon of war or a hunting tool with a long shaft and a pointed sharp end. It could cut like a knife. It was a major weapon of war.

The weapons of our warfare are mighty (2 Cor.10:4)

B. WHOSE FACES WERE LIKE THE FACES OF LIONS. This seems to picture strength, power and might, etc.

Faces- your face is what you are identified by. It may reflect what is on your mind. It may indicate what your attitude is. The Bible talks about **hard faces**, [Jeremiah 5:3](#); **brazen faces**, [Proverbs 7:13](#); **sad faces**, [Genesis 40:7](#). Here, faces of lions.

Lions- the lion seems to describe strength, power, might, accuracy.

C. WHO ARE SWIFT

Swift- a verb meaning to hurry, to do more quickly, to hasten. It has the sense always of doing something quickly, in a hurry, hastily, or even rashly because of being in haste.

Gazelles- (as *beautiful*), graceful. A masculine noun meaning beauty, glory, a gazelle.

Mountains- the mountains symbolize strength ([Isaiah 2:14](#)); great age, antiquity, and stability ([Proverbs 8:25](#)).

IV. BOLD MEN

MEN WHO PUT THEIR NAMES AND REPUTATIONS ON THE LINE (V.9-13).

For Example:

Ezer- (v.9) God is a help

Obadiah- (v.9) Servant of Jehovah

Eliel- (v.11) My God is God

Johanan- (v.12) God has grace

Elzabad- (v.12) God has endowed

V. MEN EQUAL TO THE TASK (v.14-15)