

## MIGHTY MEN / WOMEN

<sup>8</sup> These are the names of David's mighty men:

Josheb-Basshebeth, a Tahkemonite, was chief of the Three; he raised his spear against eight hundred men, whom he killed in one encounter.

<sup>9</sup> Next to him was Eleazar son of Dodai the Ahohite. As one of the three mighty men, he was with David when they taunted the Philistines gathered at Pas Dammim for battle. Then the men of Israel retreated, <sup>10</sup> but he stood his ground and struck down the Philistines till his hand grew tired and froze to the sword. The LORD brought about a great victory that day. The troops returned to Eleazar, but only to strip the dead. (2 Samuel 23:9-10)

**A harlot named Rahab on the walls of Jericho** had faith in the God of Israel

- ◆ She risked her life, but gained entrance into the nation of Israel and the Kingdom of God!

**Ester fasted and prayed** - and put her life on the line

- ◆ God delivered the Jews from Naman's death warrant

**Hannah, Michael and Azariah defied the king's edict by obeying the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> commandments of the Law of Moses**

- ◆ An angel of the Lord came to their rescue and saved them!

(2 Samuel 23:11)

<sup>11</sup> Next to him was Shammah son of Agee the Hararite. When the Philistines banded together at a place where there was a field full of lentils, Israel's troops fled from them.

<sup>12</sup> But Shammah took his stand in the middle of the field. He defended it and struck the Philistines down, and the LORD brought about a great victory. (2 Samuel 23:11)

- ◆ It wasn't much...just a piece of ground
- ◆ No telling how many times the Philistines had pillaged it before
- ◆ Nobody else would have defended it!!!
- ◆ What would cause Shammah to fight for it????!!!

**You see there was something different about Shammah**

➤ **He was different from everyone else:**

- ◆ When the people all **fled**...Something in him said **stand**.
- ◆ When they all **ran**...something in him said **fight**.

- ◆ When they all **gave up** ...something in him said **press on**.

He was different in a way that **John the Baptist was different**

He was different in a way that **Peter was different**

He was different in a way that **Paul was different**

## But He stood alone anyway

- ◆ It didn't matter what you thought ...
- ◆ It didn't matter what the majority thought
- ◆ It didn't matter what peer pressure said
- ◆ It didn't matter that he was outnumbered
- ◆ It didn't matter that no one stood by his side
- ◆ It simply didn't matter!

## He stood alone.

- ◆ He knew what his responsibilities were
- ◆ He knew what his **calling was**
- ◆ He knew who **he was**
- ◆ and He knew who his **God was**.

## God is looking for a Shammah in these last days

- ◆ He's looking for an Ester who stood up for her people facing annihilation
- ◆ He's looking for a Saul of Tarsius to become Paul the Missionary
- ◆ He's looking for a Simon the fisherman to become Peter - the Evangelist to the world!

(Ezek 22:30 NIV) <sup>30</sup> *"I looked for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found none.*

- Somebody better stand in the Gap
- Somebody better begin to pray

- Someone better fast
- Someone better say we're moving ahead!
- Someone better say we're not turning back!

**Who's going to fight for this piece of ground?**

**Who's going to stand in this field of lentils and not be moved?**

**This is a matter of will.**

We simply cannot afford a failure of the will!

A failure of the will is unacceptable!

- ◆ Our issue isn't a lack of money!
- ◆ It's not a lack of physical resources either.
- ◆ It's a question of the will.

Given the position we Christians occupy in the world, we simply cannot afford a failure of the will

We've been given the ministry of reconciliation.

*We know what it is to fear the Lord so we try to persuade men! (2 Cor 5:11)*

We, like Jesus and the apostles, are ambassadors!

Paul writes,

*<sup>14</sup>For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. <sup>15</sup>And he died for all, that those who live should no longer*

*live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again. (2 Cor 5:14-15)*

Paul says that “Love motivates.”

Real love somehow enables human beings to get outside the entrapment of their own self worship.

Real love somehow enables human beings to put God first.

Real love somehow enables human beings to stand alone and trust God.

That kind of love is centered outside of the ego;

it is a love which transcends and around which all other things in life center.

1 John 2:15 reads “*Love not the world, or any thing in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*”

The power of the gospel is combining its life-changing message with selfless service.

### **This is doable!**

Good deeds validate the Good News.

Jesus calls us the salt and the light of the world.

Each one of us was purposed to do God’s will.

## **Jesus is coming back**

- ◆ He’s coming for the church
- ◆ but He’s coming with vengeance for the wicked.
- ◆ If you don’t reach out to that family member - Who’s going to?
- ◆ If you don’t reach out to that neighbor - Who’s going to?
- ◆ If you don’t talk to that coworker - Who’s’s going to ?

## Who's going to...

- ◆ pray for them?
- ◆ invite them to church?
- ◆ teach them the Bible?
- ◆ win them to God?

**I'll tell you who.....NOBODY!!!**

## You're it!

## You're the one

**You have a calling on your life and it's NOT**

- ◆ to warm a pew
- ◆ to take up space
- ◆ to be served

But it's to reach out to a lost and dying world.

It's to reach into a life that's without Christ and lead them to Calvary!

- ◆ You are Shammah to your family
- ◆ You are Ester in your neighborhood
- ◆ You are the Eleazar that says "I'm not letting go of this sword until I win someone to God."
- ◆ You're the Peter who used to be an old foul-mouthed fisherman...
- ◆ but now you are the Evangelist to everyone around you.
- ◆ You are their hope!!!
- ◆ You are their only chance!!!
- ◆ **You may be the only source of light that that life ever gets!!!**

You see to the natural eye Shammah stood alone.

**As far as every one around him saw...he was alone.**

**But let me tell you...**

When you are with God you are not alone  
With God you are the Majority.

- Gideon + God = victory
- Moses + God = deliverance
- Peter and the eleven + God = Pentecost
- Paul and Silas + God = deliverance from prison and a jailer's whole household being saved.

**I wonder what...**

- You + God could equal.
- I wonder what you and a Bible + God could equal.
- I wonder what your testimony + God could do for someone's life.

**I wonder if you would be willing to Stand in a worthless field of lentils and say I'M not moving until something happens in this place!**

The Lord seeks a few good men, who will be courageous in the spiritual war of the last days.

The Lord is not seeking a great host, but a dedicated and righteous few (Ezek 22:30).

## **Will you stand alone.**

- ◆ **You know what your responsibilities are**
- ◆ **You know what your **calling is****
- ◆ **You know who **you are****
- ◆ **and You know who your **God is.****

God is looking for a Shammah in these last days

Will you be one?