

1CHRONICLES 11: 1 Then all Israel gathered themselves to David to Hebron, saying, "Behold, we are your bone and your flesh."

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David is anointed king in Hebron, 1Chr 11:1-3. He wars against the Jebusites, and takes their city, 1Chr 11:4-9. An account of David's three mightiest heroes; and particularly of their hazardous exploit in bringing water from the well of Beth-lehem, 1Chr 11:10-19. A list of the rest, and an account of their acts, vv. 20-47.

Verse 1

Then all Israel gathered themselves to David - See 2Sam 5:1-10 (note), for the history contained in the first nine verses of this chapter, and the notes there.

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1CHRONICLES 11: 2 In times past, even when Saul was king, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. The LORD your God said to you, "You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over my people Israel."

1CHRONICLES 11: 3 So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the LORD; and they anointed David king over Israel, according to the LORD's word by Samuel.

1CHRONICLES 11: 4 David and all Israel went to Jerusalem (the same is Jebus); and the Jebusites, the inhabitants of the land, were there.

1CHRONICLES 11: 5 The inhabitants of Jebus said to David, "You shall not come in here." Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion. The same is the city of David.

1CHRONICLES 11: 6 David said, "Whoever strikes the Jebusites first shall be chief and captain." Joab the son of Zeruiah went up first, and was made chief.

1CHRONICLES 11: 7 David lived in the stronghold; therefore they called it the city of David.

1CHRONICLES 11: 8 He built the city all around, from Millo even around; and Joab repaired the rest of the city.

1CHRONICLES 11: 9 David grew greater and greater; for the LORD of Armies was with him.

1CHRONICLES 11: 10 Now these are the chief of the mighty men whom David had, who showed themselves strong with him in his kingdom, together with all Israel, to make him king, according to the LORD's word concerning Israel.

1CHRONICLES 11: 11 This is the number of the mighty men whom David had: Jashobeam, the son of a Hachmonite, the chief of the thirty; he lifted up his spear against three hundred and killed them at one time.

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Verse 11

The number of the mighty men - See 2Sam 23:8 (note), etc., and the notes there. The Targum has a remarkable addition here. "These are the numbers of the strong men who were with David; he was the potent chief of the army; he sat upon the throne of judgment, anointed with the holy oil, all the prophets and wise men standing about him. When he went to battle, he was assisted from on high; and when he sat down to teach the law, the true meaning arose up in his mind. He was elect and pleasant, of a beautiful mien and lovely countenance, exercised in wisdom, prudent in counsel, and strong in virtue; the prince of the assembly, of a melodious voice, master in hymns, and chief among the mighty. He was instructed in the use of martial weapons; he carried a spear, to which was appended the ensign of the host of Judah; he went forth according to the voice of the Holy Spirit, was victorious in battle, and overthrew with his spear three hundred men at one time." - T.

On this and some of the following verses there is a judicious note of Dr. Kennicott, which I shall take the liberty to introduce, referring to his first Dissertation on the Hebrew text for farther illustration and proof, p. 128-144. "Among the parallel places, a comparison of which may be of very considerable service, scarce any passages will appear more effectually to correct each other than the catalogue of David's mighty men of valor, as it now stands in 2 Samuel 23:8-39, and in this chapter. About thirty-four Hebrew words have been lost out of this part of the passage in Chronicles, which are happily preserved in Samuel. "The chief point of proof is this, that the catalogue divides these thirty-seven warriors into the captain-general, a first three, a second three, and the remaining thirty; and yet that the third captain of the first ternary is now here omitted. The following juxtaposition will show the whole deficiency, and properly supply it. But let it be observed that Jashobeam, the first captain of the first ternary, had been already mentioned, and that the history is here speaking of the second captain, namely, Eleazar. 2 Samuel 1 Chronicles 2Sam 23:9 And after him was Eleazar the son 1Chr 11:12 And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, one of the three mighty of Dodo, the Ahohite, who was one of the three mighties. men with David when they defied 1Chr 11:13 He was with David at Pas-dammim, and there the Philistines that were there gathered together to the Philistines were gathered together to battle, and the men of Israel were gone away. battle, 2Sam 23:10 He arose and smote the Philistines until his hand was weary and his hand clave unto the sword; and the Lord wrought a great victory that day: and the people returned after him only to spoil. 2Sam 23:11 And after him was Shammah. The son of Agee, the Hararite: and the Philistines were gathered together into a troop, where was where was a piece of ground full of lentiles: and the people a parcel of ground full of barley, and the people fled from the Philistines. 2Sam 23:12 But he fled from before the Philistines. 1Chr 11:14 And they set stood in the midst of the ground and defended themselves, in the midst of that parcel, and delivered it, and slew the Philistines: and the Lord it, and slew the Philistines: and the Lord wrought a great victory. saved them by a great deliverance.

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1CHRONICLES 11: 12 After him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, who was one of the three mighty men.

1CHRONICLES 11: 13 He was with David at Pasdammim, and there the Philistines were gathered together to battle, where there was a plot of ground full of barley; and the people fled from before the Philistines.

1CHRONICLES 11: 14 They stood in the midst of the plot, and defended it, and killed the Philistines; and the LORD saved them by a great victory.

1CHRONICLES 11: 15 Three of the thirty chief men went down to the rock to David, into the cave of Adullam; and the army of the Philistines were encamped in the valley of Rephaim.

1CHRONICLES 11: 16 David was then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then in Bethlehem.

1CHRONICLES 11: 17 David longed, and said, "Oh that one would give me water to drink of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!"

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Verse 17

David longed - See the notes on 2Sam 23:15-17 (note).

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1CHRONICLES 11: 18 The three broke through the army of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: but David would not drink of it, but poured it out to the LORD,

1CHRONICLES 11: 19 and said, "My God forbid it me, that I should do this! Shall I drink the blood of these men who have put their lives in jeopardy?" For they risked their lives to bring it. Therefore he would not drink it. The three mighty men did these things.

1CHRONICLES 11: 20 Abishai, the brother of Joab, he was chief of the three; for he lifted up his spear against three hundred and killed them, and had a name among the three.

1CHRONICLES 11: 21 Of the three, he was more honourable than the two, and was made their captain: however he didn't attain to the three.

1CHRONICLES 11: 22 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada, the son of a valiant man of Kabzeel, who had done mighty deeds, he killed the two sons of Ariel of Moab: he went down also and killed a lion in the midst of a pit in time of snow.

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Verse 22

Benaiah - slew two lion-like men of Moab - The Targum says, "Benaiah was a valiant man, fearing sin, and of a righteous conduct in Kabzeel; he slew two of the nobles of Moab, who were like two strong lions. He was a great and righteous man as any in the second sanctuary. On a certain day, having struck his foot against a dead tortoise, he went down to Shiloh, and having broken pieces of ice, he washed himself with them, and afterward went up, and read the book of the law of the priests, in which much is contained, in a short winter's day, viz., the tenth of the month Tebeth."

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1CHRONICLES 11: 23 He killed an Egyptian, a man of great stature, five cubits high; and in the Egyptian's hand was a spear like a weaver's beam; and he went down to him with a staff, and plucked the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and killed him with his own spear.

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Verse 23

Plucked the spear out of the Egyptian's hand, and slew him with his own spear - See the note on 2Sam 23:21.

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1CHRONICLES 11: 24 Benaiah the son of Jehoiada did these things, and had a name among the three mighty men.

1CHRONICLES 11: 25 Behold, he was more honourable than the thirty, but he didn't attain to the three: and David set him over his guard.

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Verse 25

David set him over his guard - "Made him chief ruler over his disciples." - T.

For other particulars, see the notes on the parallel places, where the subject is farther considered.

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1CHRONICLES 11: 26 Also the mighty men of the armies: Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem,

1CHRONICLES 11: 27 Shammoth the Harorite, Helez the Pelonite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 28 Ira the son of Ikkes the Tekoite, Abiezer the Anathothite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 29 Sibbecai the Hushathite, Ilai the Ahohite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 30 Maharai the Netophathite, Heled the son of Baanah the Netophathite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 31 Ithai the son of Ribai of Gibeah of the children of Benjamin, Benaiah the Pirathonite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 32 Hurai of the brooks of Gaash, Abiel the Arbathite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 33 Azmaveth the Baharumite, Eliahba the Shaalbonite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 34 the sons of Hashem the Gizonite, Jonathan the son of Shagee the Hararite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 35 Ahiam the son of Sacar the Hararite, Eliphal the son of Ur,

1CHRONICLES 11: 36 Hopher the Mecherathite, Ahijah the Pelonite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 37 Hezro the Carmelite, Naarai the son of Ezbai,

1CHRONICLES 11: 38 Joel the brother of Nathan, Mibhar the son of Hagri,

1CHRONICLES 11: 39 Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Berothite, the armour bearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah,

1CHRONICLES 11: 40 Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 41 Uriah the Hittite, Zabad the son of Ahlai,

1CHRONICLES 11: 42 Adina the son of Shiza the Reubenite, a chief of the Reubenites, and thirty with him,

1CHRONICLES 11: 43 Hanan the son of Maacah, and Joshaphat the Mithnite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 44 Uzzia the Ashterathite, Shama and Jeiel the sons of Hotham the Aroerite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 45 Jediael the son of Shimri, and Joha his brother, the Tizite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 46 Eliel the Mahavite, and Jeribai, and Joshaviah, the sons of Elnaam, and Ithmah the Moabite,

1CHRONICLES 11: 47 Eliel, and Obed, and Jaasiel the Mezobaite.

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