

David's Mighty Men *2 Samuel 21 and 23*

2 Samuel 21			
Four giants slain by...	Abishai	the son of Zeruiah	21:15-22
	Sibbecai	the Hushathite	
	Elhanan	the son of Jaare-oregim	
	Jonathan	the son of Shimei, David’s brother	
2 Samuel 23			
The Three	Josheb-basshebeth	a Tahchemonite	23:8-17
	Eleazar	the son of Dodo, son of Ahohi	
	Shammah	the son of Agee, the Hararite	
Renowned, but did not attain to the three	Abishai	the brother of Joab, the son of Zeruiah	23:18-23
	Benaiah	the son of Jehoiada	
The Thirty	“ ²⁴ Asahel the brother of Joab was one of the thirty; Elhanan the son of Dodo of Bethlehem, ²⁵ Shammah of Harod, Elika of Harod, ²⁶ Helez the Paltite, Ira the son of Ikkes of Tekoa, ²⁷ Abiezer of Anathoth, Mebunnai the Hushathite, ²⁸ Zalmon the Ahohite, Maharai of Netophah, ²⁹ Heleb the son of Baanah of Netophah, Ittai the son of Ribai of Gibeath of the people of Benjamin, ³⁰ Benaiah of Pirathon, Hiddai of the brooks of Gaash, ³¹ Abi-albon the Arbathite, Azmaveth of Bahurim, ³² Eliahba the Shaalbonite, the sons of Jashen, Jonathan, ³³ Shammah the Hararite, Ahiam the son of Sharar the Hararite, ³⁴ Eliphelet the son of Ahasbai of Maacah, Eliam the son of Ahithophel the Gilonite, ³⁵ Hezro of Carmel, Paarai the Arbite, ³⁶ Igal the son of Nathan of Zobah, Bani the Gadite, ³⁷ Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai of Beeroth, the armor-bearer of Joab the son of Zeruiah, ³⁸ Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite, ³⁹ Uriah the Hittite: thirty-seven in all.”		23:24-39

“However, the focus on their exploits, rather than on David's, appears to push David out of center stage. It thus prepares the way for the view of David that emerges in the next chapter—the view of one who has lost his confidence in God to help him in time of trouble and who has begun to rely instead on his own strength. It can hardly be accidental that the list of mighty warriors in chapter 23 ends with the name Uriah the Hittite. The reader is immediately reminded of David's sin with Bathsheba, his first failure to obey God's will in ruling his people. Thus, we are brought back to David's first failure as an introduction to his last failure, the numbering of his army.” (Sailhamer, *NIV Compact Study Bible*, 248)