

Thankful For a Great Life

At The End of His Life, For What Might David Be Thankful?

1. I'm thankful for a God who loves me and watches over me because without Him, I am nothing!
2. I'm thankful for Godly people that the Lord has placed around me because without them I could accomplish nothing.

These are the kinds of people that I'm thankful for:

- a. I'm thankful for people who defy the odds and lead the way because they encourage my faith. ☺ _____

"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." - 2 Samuel 23:8

- b. I'm thankful for people who won't quit because they encourage me to keep going. ☺ _____

"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, ¹⁰but 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

- c. I'm thankful for people who are willing to stand alone because they show me God's power through people. ☺ _____

"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. ¹²But 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 23:11,12

- d. I'm thankful for people who love me so much that they will risk much for me because that helps me to understand love. ☺ _____

"During harvest time, three of the thirty chief men came down to David at the cave of Adullam, while a band of Philistines was encamped in the Valley of Rephaim. ¹⁴At that time David was in the stronghold, and the Philistine garrison was at Bethlehem. ¹⁵David longed for water and said, "Oh, that someone would get me a drink of water from the well near the gate of Bethlehem!" ¹⁶So the three mighty men broke through the Philistine lines, drew water from the well near the gate of Bethlehem and carried it back to David. But he refused to drink it; instead, he poured it out before the LORD. ¹⁷"Far be it from me, O LORD, to do this!" he said. "Is it not the blood of men who went at the risk of their lives?" And David would not drink it. Such were the exploits of the three mighty men." - 2 Samuel 23:13-17

- e. I'm thankful for people who are willing to lead because it is always lonely at the top and they are paying a price. ☺ _____

"Abishai the brother of Joab son of Zeruiah was the chief of the Three. He raised his spear against three hundred men, whom he killed, and so he became as famous as the Three. ¹⁹Was he not held in greater honour than the Three? He became their commander, even though he was not included among them." - 2 Samuel 23:18,19

- f. I'm thankful for people who are courageous because they get me excited about doing the impossible. ☺ _____

"Benaiah son of Jehoiada was a valiant fighter from Kabzeel, who performed great exploits. He struck down two of Moab's best men. He also went down into a pit on a snowy day and killed a lion. ²¹And he struck down a huge Egyptian. Although the Egyptian had a spear in his hand, Benaiah went against him with a club. He snatched the spear from the Egyptian's hand and killed him with his own spear. ²²Such were the exploits of Benaiah son of Jehoiada; he too was as famous as the three mighty men. ²³He was held in greater honour than any of the Thirty, but he was not included among the Three. And David put him in charge of his bodyguard." - 2 Samuel 23:20-23

- g. I'm thankful for people who are team players because we can accomplish so much more together than we can separately. ☺ _____

"Among the Thirty were: Asahel the brother of Joab, Elhanan son of Dodo from Bethlehem, ²⁵Shammah the Harodite, Elikah the Harodite, ²⁶Helez the Paltite, Ira son of Ikkesh from Tekoa, ²⁷Abiezer from Anathoth, Mebunnai the Hushathite, ²⁸Zalmon the Ahohite, Maharai the Netophathite, ²⁹Heled son of Baanah the Netophathite, Ithai son of Ribai from Gibeath in Benjamin, ³⁰Benaiah the Pirathonite, Hiddai from the ravines of Gaash, ³¹Abi-albon the Arbathite, Azmaveth the Barhumite, ³²Eliabha the Shaalbonite, the sons of Jashen, Jonathan ³³son of Shammah the Hararite, Ahiam son of Sharar the Hararite, ³⁴Eliphelet son of Ahasbai the Maacathite, Eliam son of Ahithophel the Gilonite, ³⁵Hezro the Carmelite, Paarai the Arbite, ³⁶Igal son of Nathan from Zobah, the son of Hagri, ³⁷Zelek the Ammonite, Naharai the Beerothite, the armor-bearer of Joab son of Zeruiah, ³⁸Ira the Ithrite, Gareb the Ithrite ³⁹and Uriah the Hittite. There were thirty-seven in all." - 2 Samuel 23:24-39

- h. I'm thankful for people who work behind the scenes because these are quiet heroes who serve without recognition. ☺ _____

"There were thirty-seven in all." - 2 Samuel 23:39

3. Most of all, I'm thankful for God's forgiveness because without it, I would have no future and no hope!

"...and Uriah the Hittite. There were thirty-seven in all." - 2 Samuel 23:39

- ☺ _____
- CONSIDER:** What could you "pour out before the Lord" in gratitude this week? ✓ _____

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3. Most of all, I'm thankful for God's _____ because without it, I would have no future and no hope!

"...and Uriah the Hittite. There were thirty-seven in all." - 2 Samuel 23:39

- ☺ _____
- CONSIDER:** What could you "pour out before the Lord" in gratitude this week? ✓ _____

For Further Discussion

Thankful for a Great Life

Let's Review

1. I'm thankful for a God who loves me and watched over me because without Him, I am nothing.
2. I'm thankful for Godly people that the Lord has placed around me because without them I could accomplish nothing.
3. Most of all, I'm thankful for God's forgiveness because without it, I would have no future and no hope.

Consider and Discuss the Following:

1. What were some of the best things you learned about David's mighty men?
2. Of all the types of people we talked about, which ones are you most thankful for? Why? Who are they?
3. How would you have felt about David pouring out the water had you been there that day? What does it mean to you now that you understand "pouring out"?
4. What do you have that could be "poured out" for the sake of the Kingdom? What have you "poured out" before in your life in response to someone's love? What was the result?
5. What things are you most thankful for in your life so far?

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