



# VETERANS DAY

We Salute You

1 Sam. 30:8-10, 18-25

*“Building a Bridge Between Veterans Who Saw Action and  
Those Who Didn’t”*

1 Sam. 30:8 And **David enquired at the LORD**, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake *them*, and **without fail recover all.**

9 So David went, he and the six hundred men that *were* with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed.

10 But David pursued, he and four hundred men: for **two hundred abode behind**, which were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor. ...

18 And **David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away:** and David rescued his two wives.

19 And there was nothing lacking to them, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any *thing* that they had taken to them: **David recovered all.**

20 And David took all the flocks and the herds, *which* they drove before those *other* cattle, and said, **This is David's spoil.**



21 And David came to the two hundred men, which were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to abide at the brook Besor: and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the people that *were* with him: and when David came near to the people, he saluted them.

22 Then answered all **the wicked men and *men of Belial*, of those that went with David**, and said, Because they went not with us, we will not give them *ought* of the spoil that we have recovered, save to every man his wife and his children, that they may lead *them* away, and depart.

23 Then said David, Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with **that which the LORD hath given us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand.**

24 For who will hearken unto you in this matter? **but as his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike.**

25 And it was so from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel unto this day.

## I. THE PLAN OF ATTACK, 1 Sam. 30:8

1 Sam. 30:8 And **David enquired at the LORD**, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake *them*, and **without fail recover all**.

A. The Priority of Prayer, 30:8a “And **David enquired at the LORD**, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them...”

Jer. 33:3 **Call unto me, and I will answer thee**, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.



- We are to seek the Lord = prayer.
- The Lord has promised to answer us = direction.
- The Lord has promised to show us great and mighty things = illumination.
- The Lord will reveal the unknown to us = revelation.

Rom. 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, **which is your reasonable service.**

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, **that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**

Eph. 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

- David prayed before pursuing.
- David prayed specifically about the pursuit.

Jas. 5:16b “...The effectual fervent prayer of a **righteous man** availeth much.”

B. The Promise of the Pursuit, 30:8b “...And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake *them*, and **without fail recover all.**”

1 Jn. 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and **this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.**

- God answers prayer. (Mt. 7:7, Jer. 33:3, etc.)
- God answers prayers, specifically.



## II. THE PURSUIT ABATED, 1 Sam. 30:9-10

1 Sam. 30:9 So David went, he and the six hundred men that *were* with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed.

10 But David pursued, he and four hundred men: for **two hundred abode behind**, which were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor.

A. The Pursuit, 30:9a “So David went, he and the six hundred men that *were* with him...”

B. The Pause, 30:9b-10 “...and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed.  
10 But David pursued, he and four hundred men: for **two hundred abode behind**, which were so faint that they could not go over the brook Besor.”

- Progress of the pursuit was interrupted at the brook Besor to care for the weak.
- These soldiers were exhausted, not cowards going AWOL.
- Accord to 30:21, “...whom **they made** also to abide at the brook Besor...”



### III. THE PREDICATED AWARENESS

#### A. The Mission Accomplished – 30:18-20

1 Sam. 30:18 And **David recovered all that the Amalekites had carried away:** and David rescued his two wives.

19 And **there was nothing lacking to them**, neither small nor great, neither sons nor daughters, neither spoil, nor any *thing* that they had taken to them: **David recovered all.**

20 And David took all the flocks and the herds, *which* they drove before those *other* cattle, and said, **This is David's spoil.**

## B. The Miscreant Attitude – 30:21-22

1 Sam. 30:21 And David came to the two hundred men, which were so faint that they could not follow David, whom they had made also to abide at the brook Besor: and they went forth to meet David, and to meet the people that *were* with him: and when David came near to the people, he saluted them.

22 Then answered all **the wicked men and men of Belial, of those that went with David**, and said, Because they went not with us, we will not give them *ought* of the spoil that we have recovered, save to every man his wife and his children, that they may lead *them* away, and depart.

- The selfish, griping attitude is a reflection of their character.

30:22 “Then answered all **the wicked men and men of Belial, of those that went with David...**”



- Because some show up for service does not mean that their heart is right toward Christ.
- In their mind, getting back the minimum, their loved ones, was good enough for those left behind.
- The miscreant attitude was that the slackers, after getting their loved ones, could leave – “...that they may lead *them* away, and depart.”

1 Cor. 12:21 And the eye cannot say unto the hand, **I have no need of thee**: nor again the head to the feet, **I have no need of you.**

- A precedent was already established regarding responsibilities:

1 Sam. 25:13 And David said unto his men, Gird ye on every man his sword. And they girded on every man his sword; and David also girded on his sword: and there went up after David about four hundred men; and **two hundred abode by the stuff.**

### C. The Merciful Approach – 30:23-24

1 Sam. 30:23 Then said David, Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with **that which the LORD hath given us, who hath preserved us, and delivered the company that came against us into our hand.**

24 For who will hearken unto you in this matter? **but as his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike.**



- Spiritual leadership guides others to spiritual awareness.
- David reminded the fighters that it was God who provided everything – the victory, the safety, the spoil, and the opportunity for celebration.
- David saw that everyone was worthy of equal shares in the victory and the spoil.
- When faithful Christians need to heal, being left behind out of the physical battle is not a demotion from service – it is a time to heal for future battle.

2 Tim. 4:20 Erastus abode at Corinth: but **Trophimus have I left** at Miletum sick.

Those who “tarried by the stuff” were not AWOL; the faithful soldiers were AWAR –Absent While Awaiting Reassignment.

- David’s spiritual leadership superseded the opinions of some of his troops.

Luke 17:10 So likewise ye, **when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.**

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.



## Conclusion

- Soldiers have various responsibilities during peacetime and/or during war.
- Some are ordered into battle, and some are not.
- Without the support of those who “tarry by the stuff,” the battle would be quickly lost.
- When the battle is over, and the victory won, all who had a part will celebrate together.

2 Tim. 4:8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a **crow**  
**of righteousness**, which the Lord, the righteous judge,  
shall give me at that day: and **not to me only, but**  
**unto all them also that love his appearing.**

Jas. 1:12 Blessed *is* the man that endureth  
temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the  
crown of life, which **the Lord hath promised to them**  
**that love him.**

1 Jn. 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh  
the world: and **this is the victory that overcometh the**  
**world, even our faith.**



Josh. 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? **Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God *is* with thee whithersoever thou goest.**

Phil. 4:13 I can do all things **through Christ** which strengtheneth me.

1 Cor. 16:13 **Watch** ye, **stand fast** in the faith, **quit you like men, be strong.**

