

## **Jesus Christ – Defying the Enemy!** **2 Samuel 23:8-10**

### **Introduction:**

1. Beginning in verse 8, we have a list of David's mighty men. These were the men who fought for King David and were valiant in battle. There were 37 men in all.
2. Verse 9 mentions a man by the name of Eleazar. This man caught my attention. It says that he "*defied*" the Philistines, who were the arch-enemies of God's people.
  - The word "*defied*" means "to pull off; to expose (as by stripping)." Eleazar exposed the Philistines and stripped them of their power and authority.
3. Of course, the Christian's enemy is Satan (1 Peter 5:8). Satan roars as a lion and attempts to intimidate God's people. But, like Eleazar, believers today can defy Satan. We can expose him for who he really is and overcome him.
4. You say, "But how can I do this? After all, Satan is wise and powerful, and was once the anointed cherub of God. I'm just a human being."
5. Praise God, the victory has already been won! Jesus Christ defied Satan and has overcome Him through his cross-work and resurrection. If we know Christ, He lives in us, and we simply walk in the victory that He has already wrought!
6. How did Eleazar defy the Philistines? Let's examine this, make application, see how Christ has defied Satan, and how we can defy Satan on a daily basis.

### **First, you must be willing to stand. vs. 9**

1. When the Philistines gathered together to battle, the men of Israel were fearful and fled. It was easier to flee than to stand.
2. But notice Eleazar – he arose and smote the Philistines (vs. 10). He stood there alone and outnumbered, but yet he took a stand and held his ground.
3. This reminds me of another man called Jesus. When Jesus was betrayed and was being led away, all the disciples forsook Him and fled. He was left to stand alone.
4. Even the Father had to turn away as Christ was made sin for us on the cross. He hung on that cross atoning for our sin all alone. Had He not stood alone, our souls would have no hope and would be bound for an eternal hell.
5. Christ stood that day on the cross and defied the devil. Hebrews 2:14-15
6. If Jesus was able to stand that day and defy the devil, and He now lives in us, we too can stand and we too can defy the devil. We must stand in Christ's power! Ephesians 6:11, 13

### **Second, you must remain faithful while weary. vs. 10**

1. Eleazar smote the Philistines until his hands were weary, yet his hand clave to his sword.
  - The word "*weary*" means "to gasp; to be exhausted; to tire." Can't you just picture him all by himself, weary and exhausted? But he was faithful!

2. This reminds me of our Savior. The soldiers tried to wear Him down and make Him admit that He wasn't the Son of God. He went through unthinkable torture.
3. The soldiers, the demons of hell, and Satan himself were all watching and waiting to see what would happen, and how Jesus would respond. He could have called 10,000 angels.
4. Jesus was human, therefore weary. Simon had to carry the cross to Golgotha's Hill. Yet Christ did not quit. He remained faithful. Matthew 27:42
5. As Christ was hung on that cross, it looked as if Satan had won that day. In reality, Jesus openly defied and defeated Satan and the demons of hell. Why? He remained faithful while weary.
6. How about you today? Have you been weary and felt like quitting or giving up? Satan and his world system will wear you down and get you weary. They want you to quit. They want you to pack it in, throw in the towel, and quit.
7. But remember, Christ the Victor lives **in** us. We must trust Him and His victory if we are to defy Satan. Galatians 2:20, 6:9
8. When you feel like quitting, think about Jesus! Meditate on Him. Hebrews 12:2-3

**Third, you must find your victory through the Lord. vs. 10**

1. Notice verse 10, "...*the Lord wrought a great victory that day...*"
2. On Calvary, God the Father and God the Son wrought a great victory. A person may say, "But He died." Yes He did. He died for our sins and made a complete payment.
3. But what are the first two words of verse 10? "*He arose!*" Christ defied Satan and won a great victory over death, hell, and the grave.
4. Just like Eleazar received victory through the Lord, there is only one way that we can receive victory, and that is through the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - Apply to the lost person: If you want victory over death, hell, and the grave, you must go to the One who has already fought that battle and won that victory. 1 Corinthians 15:55-57
  - Apply to the Christian: The only way for you to defy the devil is through Christ. The same place you received victory for salvation is the same place you go for daily victory.
5. Look at the end of verse 10. The people received the spoils of Eleazar's victory. What does this remind you of? Ephesians 1:3 – We have received the spoils of Christ's victory. Aren't you thankful?