

The Lakeland Hills Leader

Lakeland Hills Blvd church of Christ

2510 Lakeland Hills Blvd
Lakeland, FL 33805
(863) 688-4336

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:00 AM Bible Study
9:50 AM Worship
5:00 PM Worship

Wednesday

7:00 PM Bible Study

Visit our Website:

www.lakelandhillschurchofchrist.com

For Sermon & Class outlines,
Bible Study Materials and
Other Information.

Visit our Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/LakelandHillschurchofchrist for events,
information, and links to our
YouTube Archives

Visit us on YouTube:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCu7AG_3jUtpBDIr2NPqB3iw for
Live Streams and Video
Archives.

Elders

Bob Marschall
Leon Miller
Larry Wisdom

Deacons

Bucky Day
Sherman Johnson
Michael Sadler
David Williams

Evangelist

Kent Heaton

Men of Valor Needed:

The sons of Benjamin were Bela, Becher, and Jedial—three in all. The sons of Bela were Ezbon, Uzzi, Uzziel, Jerimoth, and Iri—five in all. They were heads of their fathers' houses, and they were listed by their genealogies, twenty-two thousand and thirty-four mighty men of valor. (1 Chronicles 7:6-7)

The Davidic dynasty is outlined in the opening chapters of Chronicles, with thousands of men known as men of valor. These were specially trained men who were powerful soldiers and fitted for the warlike enterprise of protecting the nation. The sons of Tola were mighty men of valor in their generation, numbering as high as 22,600 soldiers. From the family of Issachar 87,000 were men of valor. In the house of Bela were 22,034 mighty men of valor. Twenty thousand two hundred mighty men of valor were found in the people of Becher. All the sons of Jedial were heads of their fathers' houses; there were seventeen thousand two hundred mighty men of valor fit to go out for war and battle.

The children of Asher numbered 26,000 mighty men of valor. Jedial counted 17,200 men of war and men of valor. Mighty men of valor were found in the sons of Ulam who were archers, 150 in all. David's army grew while he was at Ziklag, while still a fugitive from Saul. Mighty men, helpers in the war, armed with bows, joined David at the stronghold in the wilderness, mighty men of valor, men trained for battle, who could handle shield and spear, whose faces were like the faces of lions, and were as swift as gazelles on the mountains.

David had some great warriors in his camp who were his mighty men. Jashobeam killed three hundred one at a time with a spear. Eleazor defended a field of barley against the Philistines. Jashobeam and Eleazor were two of the three mighty men that broke through the camp of the Philistines to get some water for David (who refused to drink the water because of the risk they took to get the water). Abishai, Joab's brother, killed three hundred with a spear. Benaiah killed two lion-like heroes of Moab and also had gone down and killed a lion in the midst of a pit on a snowy day. This great warrior killed an Egyptian more than seven feet tall. Benaiah fought the giant with a staff, wrested the spear like a weaver's beam away from the Egyptian, and killed him with his own spear. Many more mighty men were numbered among David, including the husband of Bathsheba, Uriah the Hittite, whom David had killed to cover up his adulterous relationship.

Israel had a lot of men of valor, mighty warriors who did incredible things. Their job was to defeat all enemies that came against the people of God. In the physical war against those who opposed Israel, the mighty men of valor changed the course of battles and history. Those wars have ceased, but the war against the forces of evil has not. The church is in desperate need of men who are willing to stand in the gap to be mighty men of valor.

In every army, there are the regular troops trained to fight battles and secure victories. Their work in defeating an enemy is crucial. There is also a need for specially trained soldiers who are the mighty men of valor. In the kingdom of God, the church needs men willing to take up leadership and, with the word of God as the sword of the Spirit, become mighty men of valor in the army of Christ. King Jesus needs men who will go beyond the normal, excel beyond the standard, stand taller in the face of the enemy, and lead the people of God to victory.

Not everyone can be a leader in the church, but everyone can do their best to become men of valor in the church. Unmarried men have an important role to play in fighting the good fight. The church must train and equip young men to learn the skills of valor to defeat sin, defend the truth, and destroy the bastions of sin. Mighty men of valor are needed among the husbands who have taken on the divine responsibility to lead a family. It takes great courage to wear the mantle of being a husband. The church needs men who will stand with courage as mighty men of God. When children come into the home, the work of the man of God increases tenfold (more like a thousand).

As the leader of the home to guide the wife and children, it will take the resources of the Divine to instill courage and faith in the heart of each man to be a mighty man of God.

David had his mighty men. Jesus needs His mighty men. The church needs men who will step up and be counted as a mighty man for the Lord. Much work remains. Leadership is needed to shore up the crumbling world the church lives in to fight against the wiles of the devil. Congregations are closing doors because of a lack of leadership. There is a divine call for mighty men to take up the armor of God and, like the prophet Isaiah, declare, “Here am I. Send me.” Are you ready to become a man of valor – a mighty man for the Lord?

By Kent Heaton