

A great example of how great men accept great challenges is recorded in 2 Samuel 23. David, in the midst of battle, was very thirsty. Reading in verse 15, 'And David longed, and said 'Oh, that one would give me to drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate (KJV)'. Now, the city of Bethlehem was a garrison of the Philistines at this time. But three of David's top soldiers broke through the Philistines' lines to get the water for David, at the risk of their lives and against tremendous odds just to satisfy their king's slightest wish. We see that these men were not commanded to perform this task, but they did it out of their devotion to their king. In the same way, we ought to be challenged by every wish of God, to give our all to satisfy them. We ought to try to understand what God really wants from us, and not just obey the letter of the law. As Barclay says, 'When a knight came to the court of King Arthur, he did not come to spend the rest of his days in knightly feasting and in knightly fellowship there. He came to the king saying: 'Send me out on a great task which I can do for chivalry and for you'. We should try to fulfill the slightest wish of God. We should not have the attitude, 'Well, God may condemn something, but as long as I won't go to hell for it, then I am going to do it. I don't care whether God likes it or not as long as I get to heaven.' Remember that the servant who only did his duty was condemned. We must put our whole heart into our service to God.