

## A Closer Walk With God

### **Introduction:**

A new beginning will require a fresh start. There might have been challenges in the previous year. Maybe you had a rough year during this past year! It could have been family problems, or sickness, or job difficulties, or emotional struggles. Maybe you were laid off from your job, or your children or grandchildren went away from the Lord. Maybe you lost a loved one during this past year, and there is an empty place in your heart this morning! Maybe your financial situation took a turn for the worst! I am sure that we could all say that there were some good days in these past years, and there were some trying, testing days as well.

The good news for you this morning is that you have a brand new start in life! This is the first Sunday of a brand new year, and there is always freshness in the air for new plans and goals around new years celebration.

### **Scripture: Isa.28:21**

*<sup>21</sup> For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act.*

### **The Type of warfare:**

The warfare was a type beyond the natural. It was a battle between deities and it took the hand of God to bring the victory. David burnt their gods after they defeated them. We also need the presence of the Lord which will guarantee our victory in 2022

### **Reasons why God is stepping in to fight for us:**

The adversary is intensifying his arsenals, building new strength and approaching with new strategies.

Our ignorance and weakness

**It is a spiritual battle.** Not by might, not by power, but by my spirit..  
Zech.4:6

*<sup>6</sup> Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.*

Teaching us to fully depend on Him. **Ps.23:1**

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

### **Here are some things we know about King David:**

David was from the tribe of Judah (1 Chronicles 5:2).

David was Ruth's and Boaz's great grandson (Ruth 4:13-22; 1 Chronicles 2:12-15).

David was the youngest of eight sons (1 Chronicles 2:13–14, 1 Samuel 16:10–11; 17:12–14).

David was from Bethlehem (Luke 2:4).

David was anointed King while Saul was on the throne (1 Samuel 16:13).

David was a shepherd (1 Samuel 16:11).

David was a musician (1 Samuel 10:1–6; 1 Samuel 16:14).

David was a great warrior (1 Samuel 18:5) and giant slayer (1 Samuel 17).

David was a man after God’s own heart (1 Samuel 13:14). David is the only person referred to this way in the Bible.

David wrote about half the Book of Psalms.

### **David committed adultery with Bathsheba**

When his armies were out waging war without him, David walked along the roof of his palace and saw a beautiful woman bathing. He sent someone to find out about her, and learned she was married to Uriah the Hittite—one of his best soldiers (2Sam.23:39).

### **David plotted to have Uriah killed**

David killed a lot of people in battle. He killed a lot of prisoners *after* battles. And he executed plenty of criminals. But one killing in particular “displeased the Lord” (2Sam.11:29). When David couldn’t get Uriah to sleep with his wife Bathsheba (and therefore conceal David’s adultery), he plotted to have Uriah killed in combat.

## **Qualities of David that attracted the presence of God for victory:**

### **1. A MAN WALKING IN HIS ANOINTING 2 Samuel 5:17**

*Now when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel,...*

Make sure you do what you do under the anointing of God upon your life when going against the enemy.

### **2. A MAN PROTECTED IN HIS STRONGHOLD 2 Samuel 5:17**

*Now when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David. And David heard of it and went down to the stronghold.*

Know how to stay in your stronghold. For the Believer, it is our place in Christ. Our lives are hid with Christ in God.

### **3. A MAN WHO ENQUIRES BEFORE HE CHARGES**

*19 So David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand?"*

The sin of presumption and haste has brought the failure of many well-meaning endeavours entered into by God's people, even His choice servants.

### **4. A MAN WHO HAS THE COURAGE TO OBEY GOD**

*And the LORD said to David, "Go up, for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand."*

*20 So David went to Baal Perazim, and David defeated them there; and*

*he said, "The LORD has broken through my enemies before me, like a breakthrough of water." Therefore he called the name of that place Baal Perazim.[a] 21 And they left their images there, and David and his men carried them away.*

## **Understanding Who our God is:**

### **The Lord a man of war: Ex.15:3**

*<sup>3</sup> The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name. Ex.15:3*

### **The Lord a Mighty Man: Isa.42:13**

*<sup>13</sup> The LORD shall go forth as a mighty man, he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: he shall cry, yea, roar; he shall prevail against his enemies.*

### **The Lord strong in battle: Ps.24:7-10**

*<sup>7</sup> Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.*

*<sup>8</sup> Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.*

*<sup>9</sup> Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.*

*<sup>10</sup> Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah. Ps.24:7-10*

## **Some Strange Acts and Works of God:**

### **The Lord cast stones against the enemy: Josh.10:0-11**

*<sup>10</sup> And the LORD discomfited them before Israel, and slew them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them along the way that goeth up to Bethhoron, and smote them to Azekah, and unto Makkedah.*

*<sup>11</sup> And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel, and were in the going down to Bethhoron, that the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died: they were more which died with hailstones than they whom the children of Israel slew with the sword.*

### **Trees fighting God's enemies: 2Sam.18:6-9**

*<sup>6</sup> So the people went out into the field against Israel: and the battle was in the wood of Ephraim;*

*<sup>7</sup> Where the people of Israel were slain before the servants of David, and there was there a great slaughter that day of twenty thousand men.*

*<sup>8</sup> For the battle was there scattered over the face of all the country: and the wood devoured more people that day than the sword devoured.*

*<sup>9</sup> And Absalom met the servants of David. And Absalom rode upon a mule, and the mule went under the thick boughs of a great oak, and his head caught hold of the oak, and he was taken up between the heaven and the earth; and the mule that was under him went away.*

### **God lays ambushment: 2Chro.20:21-24**

*<sup>21</sup> And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever.*

*<sup>22</sup> And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.*

*<sup>23</sup> For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another.*

*<sup>24</sup> And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped.*

### **Enoch walked with God: Gen.5:24**

*<sup>24</sup> And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.*

**Known for:** A faithful follower of God and one of only two men in the Bible who did not die.

**Hometown:** Ancient Fertile Crescent, although the exact location is not given in Scripture.

**Occupation:** Jude 14-15 states that Enoch was a preacher of righteousness and a prophet.

**Father:** Enoch's father was Jared (Genesis 5:18; cf. 1 Chronicles 1:3).

**Children:** Methuselah and unnamed sons and daughters.

**Great-grandson:** Noah

According to Genesis 5:23, Enoch's life-span was 365 years. Throughout those years, he walked in faith, and that made all the difference. No matter what happened, he trusted God. He obeyed God. God loved Enoch so much he spared him the experience of death.

**How do we walk with God:**

What is walking with God in a day-to-day life? It means He is our constant companion.

**The secret place, the place of prayer: Ps.91:1**

*He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.*

**We get to know Him by immersing ourselves in His Word. Deut.8:2-3;**

*<sup>2</sup> And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.*

*<sup>3</sup> And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.*

**Ps.119:105;**



<sup>105</sup> *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

**2Tim.2:15**

<sup>15</sup> *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

**He is the One we turn to for all instruction, comfort, and strength.**

**Ps.23**

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.*

<sup>2</sup> *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

<sup>3</sup> *He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

<sup>4</sup> *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

<sup>5</sup> *Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.*

<sup>6</sup> *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.*

**Our walk is by faith: Heb.10:38**

<sup>38</sup> *Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.*