

David's Mighty Men

In today's world, particularly in some western nations, masculinity is being maligned to the point of calling maleness "toxic masculinity." To be sure there are men who are simply immature and treat others with childish inconsideration and even violence. That is *not* toxic masculinity, but rather immature behavior backed up by muscle.

True masculinity does indeed include physical strength, but *mature* masculinity includes the use of power to accomplish good ends, such as protection of the weak and excelling at quality leadership and fellowship. Mature masculinity can lead, follow good leadership, and bless any family or community which is blessed enough to possess such men.

God's word has a lot to say about mature men (see Proverbs, for instance, wherein Solomon addresses his sons to lead them into mature manhood). God's word also praises the soldiers who served to protect and defend His people.

- In the book of Joshua they are called, "...**mighty men of valor.**"
(Joshua 1:14; 8:3; 10:7)
- King David's soldiers were also called, "...**mighty men.**"
(2 Samuel 10:7; 16:6; 20:7, et al)
- Many other verses refer to God's mature, faithful, strong soldiers as, **mighty men of valor,** who fought to promote good, not evil, with the masculine strength given by God for mature men to use for the betterment of mankind.

Every nation in every age has had strong, mature, "mighty men" who use their God-given strength to help their families and communities stay safe. That is good and proper. Unfortunately, weak and ungodly societies are losing respect for God's plan for godly masculinity. If that cultural weakness continues, the societies affected by that ungodliness will suffer at the hands of evil society members (criminals, etc.) and eventually suffer at the hands of foreign enemies.

Praise God that we have had in America's history and still today, men who choose to serve our nation as "**mighty men of valor**" in our military services. In conflicts for the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli, in the air, on land and sea, from battlements of Yorktown in Virginia to the trenches of WWI and the theaters of WWII on to modern day conflicts in the far east and middle east, America has risen to the challengers that would steal our land.

This weekend, we honor our soldiers in the same way God's words honors the soldiers of old, and for the same reason: mighty men of valor have secured and continue to secure our freedoms with their blood, their commitment and their many sacrifices. Today, we thank all who have served our nation in any capacity for their commitment and their courage. May Veterans Day be, always and ever, a time in which we honor our veterans.

-Ray Wallace