

II Samuel 5:17-20

¹⁷ When the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to seek out David; and when David heard of it, he went down to the stronghold. ¹⁸ Now the Philistines came and spread themselves out in the valley of Rephaim. ¹⁹ Then David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Wilt Thou give them into my hand?" And the LORD said to David, "Go up, for I will certainly give the Philistines into your hand." ²⁰ So David came to Baal-perazim, and defeated them there; and he said, "The LORD has broken through my enemies before me like the breakthrough of waters." Therefore he named that place Baal-perazim.

Earlier in 2 Samuel, David had been anointed as King over Judea; but, Abner, commander of Saul's army, made Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, King over Israel. Almost seven and a half years later though, Ish-bosheth was murdered. Then the men of Israel came to David at Hebron and anointed him king over their nation. It was not until David was king over both Judah and Israel that the Philistines sought to destroy him; because prior to both kingdoms being reunited, Israel and Judah were warring amongst each other. So, now as the two kingdoms were one again, their threat to their surrounding enemies had grown exponentially. As I consider this story, I am reminded of how when we are blessed or promoted, our enemies rise against us. You can always tell whether a person is a true friend or foe, by the way they respond to your blessings, promotions and successes! Many might smile to your face, but it generally doesn't take very long before their true heart is exposed in the matter. Look with me at King David's initial response to the threat from the Philistines. David seeks the counsel of God. What is your first response, when your enemies rise against you? Do you take matters into your own hands? Do you seek legal counsel before you do anything else? Do you talk to friends, family, or close counselors for direction? Or, do you seek God for His mind on the matter? Once King David knew the counsel of God, he then was able to confidently go up and not only face his enemy, but destroy them. It is also paramount to see, that David gives all of the glory in his victory to God! So much so, that King David names the place Baal-perazim; which means, "Master of the breakthrough".

Friend, are you facing enemies, struggles, hardships, and great odds everywhere you look? Is the situation in your life impossible for you to fix or get victory in? Do things look hopeless and impossible for you or your loved ones? Then perhaps you like David, need the "Master of the breakthrough" in your situation and life. The more impossible the situation, the more you will be able to recognize that any success or victory that comes, will be by the Divine Hand of God. What you must understand is that, "Your personal battle, is part of God's war". Satan can't hurt God, so he goes after God's children. This Great War is no longer waged in heaven, but here on planet earth. Satan's mission statement is simple, it is to kill, rob, and destroy from every one of us. Yet, our only true source of provision and protection is from the Living God! I understand that many people are hurting and in tremendous need today, perhaps more now, than ever before. The question is, "Where do you place your trust"? Is it your money, government, intellect; or is it the "Master of the breakthrough"?