

A 2019 Strategy for Victory!

ESV 1 Chronicles 14:8 When the Philistines heard that David had been anointed king over all Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David. But David heard of it and went out against them.

9 Now the Philistines had come and made a raid in the Valley of Rephaim.

10 And David inquired of God, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you give them into my hand?" And the LORD said to him, "Go up, and I will give them into your hand."

11 And he went up to Baal-perazim, and David struck them down there. And David said, "God has broken through my enemies by my hand, like a bursting flood." Therefore the name of that place is called Baal-perazim.

12 And they left their gods there, and David gave command, and they were burned.

13 And the Philistines yet again made a raid in the valley.

14 And when David again inquired of God, God said to him, "You shall not go up after them; go around and come against them opposite the balsam trees.

15 And when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then go out to battle, for God has gone out before you to strike down the army of the Philistines."

16 And David did as God commanded him, and they struck down the Philistine army from Gibeon to Gezer.

17 And the fame of David went out into all lands, and the LORD brought the fear of him upon all nations.

This same account is recorded in 2 Samuel chapter 5 with a few extra details!

The Bible says as soon as The Philistines heard David was **anointed king** over Israel—they united together and came against him.

The Philistines went searching for David! (an anointed man of God)

Philistines have been Israel's arch-enemy for generations neither Samson, the prophet Samuel or king Saul could defeat them, not until David comes along are, they defeated.

I wonder how many of us understand when God anoints us enemies unite.

The Bible says **ALL The Philistines came after David, all of them!**

Tell your neighbor the anointing on your life has attracted your enemies!

But when David heard about it, he went down to the hold! (2 Sam 5:17)

David didn't panic, he went into a **stronghold!** **Where he gets his strategies!**

❖ **A stronghold** is a mountain fortress, strong tower or well-fortified city where people go for protection and kings go to strategize for an attack.

Women, children, the weak and elderly hide in strongholds, kings and generals strategize for battle in strongholds.

David is **now** king of **all** Israel, he is now everything prophesied about him and everything God said about him.

A king is a **sovereign** meaning they can do as they please because their word can never be challenged.

Yet David **humbled himself!** **He surrendered his will to God's Will!**

- He remembered who anointed him and made him king!
- He remembered who fought for him and gave him the victory in the past!

So, David does what he had always done, went into his **stronghold!**

The **secret place of worship, prayer and obedience!** **David was a man of prayer!**

It's funny, David never lost a battle to The Philistines **because he always sought The Lord;** but he failed when he followed his own mind.

But when he brought the Ark back, he didn't seek The Lord!

^{KJV} *1 Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing.*

*2 Sam 5:19 "And **David enquired of the LORD**, (David asked God what he should do) saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines? wilt thou deliver them into mine hand? And the LORD said unto David, Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into thine hand." (Before David could go up he first went down in humble prayer)*
*20 And David came to Baal-perazim, and David defeated them there. And he said, "The LORD has **broken through** my enemies before me like a breaking flood." Therefore the name of that place is called Baal-perazim.*

Prayer is humbling ourselves before God, seeking His will for our lives!

When Paul says "*pray without ceasing*" he also means **obey without ceasing!**

Prideful people don't pray because they want to do their will, humble people pray

After prayer God gave David a **strategy** of how to get the victory!

It didn't matter how David felt about his enemies, what matters is what God wanted to do about his enemies!

So David sought The LORD!

*2 Sam 20 And David came to Baal-perazim, and David defeated them there. And he said, "The LORD has **broken through** my enemies before me like a breaking flood." Therefore the name of that place is called Baal-perazim.*

Baal-perazim means "**The LORD Breaks Through**" or **The LORD Overwhelms our enemies!**

God wanted to give David a **breakthrough!**

God wants to give you a BREAKTHROUGH, all you gotta do is seek Him!

All we have to do is humble ourselves before God!

- This was the first battle David has with The Philistines as king of Israel!

Two verses down we read how **in less than a year** after their defeat, The Philistines come right back at the same place to fight Israel again.

David doesn't assume he can easily win the second time using the same strategy!

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15 And when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the balsam trees, then go out to battle, for God has gone out before you to strike down the army of the Philistines."

16 And David did as God commanded him, and they struck down the Philistine army from Gibeon to Gezer.

17 And the fame of David went out into all lands, and the LORD brought the fear of him upon all nations.

The Bible says... "**David again inquired of God**"

❖ Same enemy, same place different STRATEGY!

Why was David **victorious** every time he faced The Philistines?

Because David stays in **The Secret Place** of **worship, prayer & obedience!**

If David had not continued worshipping, praying and obeying he would have used the wrong strategy!

- **Strategy** literally means “*the art of a general*” it’s planning the moment of troops during battle to assure victory!

God wants to plan our moment and the moments of those who follow us!

The troops don’t plan their own moment, generals do!

Psalm 91:1 He that dwelleth (we’re going to stay in the place of worship, prayer and obedience in 2019) in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

3 Surely he shall rescue you from hunters' traps and from deadly plagues.

- **I declare every trap the enemy has set for the people of God will not work!**
- **I declare no plague, pestilence or outbreak will touch you, your family, ministry or business in 2019.**

Because we live in **the secret place of The Most High!**

Because our lives are hid with Christ in God!

What do we do in the stronghold? We **Worship**, we **Pray**, and we **Obey!**

2 Samuel 5:23 David asked the LORD, and he answered, "Don't attack now, but circle around behind them, and come at them in front of the balsam trees.

God gave David a **new strategy for defeating his enemy!** The first battle David attacked head on, for this battle God said sneak up behind them, exactly opposite!

❖ **Same enemy, same location different STRATEGY!**

Just because we fought a certain way last time doesn’t mean God will use the same strategy the second time.

I came to tell you the attacks against your life came because God anointed you!

Because your enemies know you have the **anointing to defeat them!**

This is why they attacked David quickly, to cause him to make a hasty decision!

Tell your neighbor trouble is no problem because God has anointed you!

Trouble comes to distract us from **worship, prayer and obedience!**

Notice, David heard about their plans and went out to meet them!

May your enemies' plans be revealed before they happen in 2019!

May you never get ambushed this year!

May trouble have a hard time sneaking up on you this year!

May no enemy take you by surprise in 2019!

May you be quipped and be ready for every battle in 2019!

2018 was a **defensive year** for many of God's people!

2018 found you fighting to maintain your place and position in this world!

Some of you were fighting to keep it together, fighting for your life!

But in 2019 you're going on **the offensive**, because you're going into prayer!

We're going to The Secret Place in 2019 get the strategy and attack the enemy!

❖ **It's a year of Forceful Advance! 2019 is a Year of Victory!**

The key to David's victory was he first sought The LORD!

David knew how to go into The Secret Place and get his Strategy from The LORD!

We're praying about everything in 2019! Even if we've seen it before!

We're not going to **assume** anything and we're **not going to panic!**

We're not going to take God or our enemies for granted in 2019!

We're going to WORSHIP, PRAY and OBEY in 2019!

The Bible says after David won the first battle the Philistines abandoned their gods and ran away!

After the second battle David makes plans to bring The Ark of The Covenant (The

Our victory over your enemies in 2019 will cause sinners to abandon their false gods and turn to the living God!

Our victories in 2019 are going to cause The Glory of God to increase in the earth!