

Equipped for Every Battle!

ESV 1 Samuel 13:19-22 Now there was no blacksmith to be found throughout all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, "Lest the Hebrews make themselves swords or spears."

20 But every one of the Israelites went down to the Philistines to sharpen his plowshare, his mattock, his axe, or his sickle,

21 and the charge was two-thirds of a shekel for the plowshares and for the mattocks, and a third of a shekel for sharpening the axes and for setting the goads.

22 So on the day of battle, not one sword or spear could be found among all the troops who were with Saul and Jonathan. But Saul and his son Jonathan had them.

At this point in time Israel lacked the **technology/equipment** they needed to be successful in defeating their enemy!

- **Equipment is supplying the necessary things to accomplish a task!**

They had to pay them to sharpen their tools so they could provide for their families.

In short, the enemy controlled their economy and economy is what drives and supports the military!

Years ago, military equipment weapons, ammunition, vehicles etc. were made from heavy durable materials e.g. iron and stainless steel.

WWII helmets were made of stainless steel, today's helmets are made from Kevlar and Twaron (Turon).

During the first world wars men needed to be very fit because the clothing, weapons and ammo were very heavy.

Today the clothing, weapons and equipment is extremely light weight and strong, men still need to be fit, but it's more important for soldiers to be **mentally strong** because the technology that goes with fighting today.

One reason the world is so tempting is because it uses advanced technology to draw people in and win them over!

Always releasing new songs, new shows and new clothes!

The world went from radio, to television, to the world wide web to evangelize (send out its message to the world).

As we continue learning and exercising our gifts, we must also upgrade the way our gifts are dispensed and displayed to the world we're trying to reach!

The Father has equipped the church with **ministry gifts**, (Rom 12)!

Jesus has equipped the church with **Doma gifts** (Eph 4)!

The Holy Spirit has equipped us with **spiritual gifts** (1 Cor 12)!

In my short lifetime the world has gone from Reel-to-reel, to 8 track, to cassette, to CD and now mp3 and digital files.

The god of this world is constantly equipping his soldiers **advancing and upgrading** their weapons!

We must not allow The Body of Christ to become stagnate!

If Jesus were ministering today, do you think He would use the internet?

If the apostle Paul were alive today, do you think he'd communicate to his churches using Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and email?

1 Sam 13:22 under Saul's leadership Israel's soldiers had no advance technology, were ill-equipped and without weapons.

It wasn't until David became king that Israel got new technology!

Before David's reign was over all soldiers had swords! (2 Sam 24:9)

There was a song that said *Saul has lain thousands, but David ten thousands* (1 Sam 18:7).

Because of the anointing on David's life he had the wisdom to use the technology available to defeat his enemies and establish The kingdom.

Though David defeated Goliath without a sword, he didn't expect God's army to continue fighting with slings!

David wrote this song:

ESV Psalm 18:37 I pursued my enemies and overtook them, and did not turn back till they were consumed.

38 I thrust them through, so that they were not able to rise; they fell under my feet.

39 For **you equipped me with strength for the battle**; you made those who rise against me sink under me.

ESV Hebrews 13:20 Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,

21 equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.