

Preparation of an Army in the Cave: The Perez & Hezron Blessings

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1 Chronicles 27 appears to be a passage listing the army divisions with many patterns that can be observed. With a closer look we see there are at least two variations that are worthy of special mention.

In verse 2 a lineage is mentioned that links back to Perez. Perez is associated with breakthrough. He was a twin who was to be the second born but he overtook his brother and was born first and received the blessings associated with the firstborn. His name paints a picture of one overtaking. He is someone who broke through a barrier. His name links David's army to one who can overtake obstacles. Ruth was part of this line connected to Perez (Ruth 4:18). David was as well. Jesus was listed as a son of Perez (Matthew 1:3). Micah 2:12-13 describes the Messiah as one who opens the breach. If you are connected to Jesus Christ, then you are carrying a Perez anointing of breakthrough.

In Chronicles 4, Perez is listed among the clans of Judah but there is another name included in that list: Jabez (vs 9-10). He was known for his prayer asking God to bless him and enlarge his territory.

The line of Perez produced the largest number of scribes. They prepared and issued decrees in the name of the king. After the return from exile the scribes were the ones who carried out the word of God. From the Perez line came the city of Tekoa. It was here that the army was led out by people singing, "Give thanks to the LORD, for his love endures forever." This led the army to victory!

Hezron is another name in the lineage of Perez (Matthew 1:3). Hezron is directly connected to the eighth letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Eight is the number of new beginnings. The pictorial representation of this number is of a fence, a protective wall or hedge. It is the picture of a tender embrace. When a barrier is broken through, we may think that the enemy can get access, but God provides a Hezron anointing to build protection. When there is breakthrough there is also protection. If God gives a Perez anointing for breakthrough, He will also provide a Hezron anointing for protection. God will protect what has been brought through the breach.

Another notable variation is in 1 Chronicles 27:5-6. Benaiah is mentioned as a mighty man who could kill lions. Benaiah was appointed by David as his personal bodyguard. He walked the closest with David. If anyone wanted to attack David, they would have had to go through Benaiah. When Adonijah tried to take the throne, David was betrayed by everyone except three men. He had Zadok, the priest, who would pray. He had Nathan, the prophet, who would bring the word without compromise. He had Benaiah who would put his life on the line for him. If you have these three, God's plans will be put into action. The Benaiah anointing is to chase lions and turn the devil's table against him. It is also an anointing to protect the king. The people who

joined Benaiah were foreigners. David knew that there would be infighting if his personal bodyguards were within the camp. This Benaiah anointing brings foreigners and connects them to the purpose of God.

Towards the end of 1 Chronicles 27 (verses 32-33), we see people getting connected with David who were mentioned as counselors and companions. These were people with understanding and discernment. There was a counselor even for the king's sons. When God raises up an army for His purposes, there will be counselors even for the next generation. They will provide counsel along with relationship.