

1 Chronicles 12 gives a list of mighty men/warriors who helped David become King. Looking at various men/tribes/attributes 1 Chronicles 12:34-38 And of Naphtali a thousand captains, and with them with shield and spear thirty and seven thousand. ³⁵And of the Danites expert in war twenty and eight thousand and six hundred. ³⁶And of Asher, such as went forth to battle, expert in war, forty thousand. ³⁷And on the other side of Jordan, of the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and of the half tribe of Manasseh, with all manner of instruments of war for the battle, an hundred and twenty thousand.³⁸All these men of war, that could keep rank, came with a perfect heart to Hebron, to make David king over all Israel: and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king.

I. ACCEPTING LEADERSHIP

A. An important principle in life: Life requires leadership

1. When no one is in charge – providing direction: Chaos is the result!
 - a. *Judges 17:6* In those days there was no king in Israel, but every man did that which was right in his own eyes.
2. God has designed life with the principle of leadership: **V34** And of Naphtali a thousand captains...
 - a. One who directs troops: Where/when/how
 - b. OT Judge: To pronounce sentence/govern/rule
 - c. Pastor: Shepherd

B. Leadership has requirements

1. **Leaders must care:** It is not a position/ego – it is doing what's best for others b/c you care
 - a. OT priests carried the stones of the tribes over their heart: *You have to care!*
2. **Leaders must take responsibility:** This is the scary part – you become responsible for others
 - a. *People will expect things from you*
 - b. *People will blame you*
3. **Leaders must work:** Leadership involves extra work – beyond others

C. Leadership must be accepted

1. You don't ask for leadership – it comes to you: By the will of God
 - a. *Paul, and Apostle by the will of God*
 - b. *Psa 78 God lifts one up...*
2. For some – they run from leadership, or refuse to accept the responsibility
 - a. *Marriage/children/job/ministry/Pastoring*
3. Leadership must be accepted: Saul originally hid from it
 - a. *Me: I was afraid – said yes.*
 - b. *Chosen for Prescott – said yes.*
4. You can't refuse to lead in one area – but move on to another area

II. ACCEPTING YOUR PLACE

A. Our text lists numbers of different people – in numbers of different roles

1. We cannot all do the same thing! Some lead – and some follow
 - a. *V34 ...and with them with shield and spear thirty and seven thousand.*
2. Those who resent differences in place/purpose - struggle in life
 1. They are distracted: Peter – what's it to you? 2. They are resentful: Envy – mad at others place
3. The first key of usefulness is to find your place:
 - a. What is it God is calling you to do? b. Or where can you serve and be a blessing?

1. V37 And on the other side of Jordan, of the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and of the half tribe of Manasseh, with all manner of instruments of war for the battle
4. The second key of usefulness is to be the best you can be – in your place
 - a. *Our text: expert in war/ expert in war/with all manner of instruments of war*
 1. Best worker/supervisor/manager 2. Best husband/father 3. Best band/drama member...
 - b. *Ecc 9:10 Whatever work you do, do your best...*

III. HEARTS THAT MAKE IMPACT

A. Our text reminds us that the work of God is actually about the heart: *Not talent/program/politics*

1. *V38 All these men of war, that could keep rank, came with a perfect heart to Hebron*
 - a. Not sinless/flawless – but complete: *Wholly committed to God's will and their purpose*
 1. God can use flawed people – if they will give their all to God/His will
2. Whole-heartedness is all about finding what God wants – and aiming your whole life at it
 - a. *Time/talent/effort/passion*
 - b. *1 Corinthians 16:15* (ye know the house of Stephanos that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,)

B. Look at the results

1. It pleases God (He recorded it)
2. It helps someone else enter their destiny
3. It helps other people (David helped the entire nation)
4. You inspire others
 - a. *V38 ...and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king.*