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Master Of Breakthroughs
- Baal - Perazim

SONGS OF DELIVERANCE
- Psalm 32:7 -

The teaching ministry of
John Kerr

- 1 Chr 14; 11 Sam 5:17-25

Master of Breakthroughs

- Key Verse: 1 Chr 14:11

- Baal Peranin -

"Then the fame of David went out unto all lands, and the Lord brought the fear of him on all nations."

- 1 Chronicles 14:17 (NKJV)

"Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God; that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."

- Peter 5:6,7 (NKJV)

David has just been anointed King of all of Israel. When the Philistines heard about it, they said, "Let's get him!" These are the same Philistines who told King Achish, "We don't trust this David to go with us to fight against Saul. He's the one who killed Goliath, and he's the next King of Israel."

So now that they've killed Saul, David **DID** become King. They decided, "Let's get him before he gets us!", and they launched an assault, down the Valley of Rephaim, straight toward Bethlehem, the City of David.

When David heard what they were doing, he inquired of the Lord, "Should I go up against them? Will you deliver them into my hand?" God said, "Go up, for I will deliver them into your hand."

David went up and defeated the Philistines, and he said, "The Lord has broken through my enemies before me like a breakthrough of water." So, he named the place Baal-Peranin.

I found three meanings for "Baal-Peranin":

1) Baal is Broken. I'm sure that refers to the Philistines worshipping the god, Baal.

2) Lord of Breaches. A breach is a hole in a wall or dam.

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3) Master of Breakthroughs. Referring to God breaking through his enemies, the Philistines.

Here's what I think: I think David used a play on words to throw the name of the Philistine God back in their face. "You call your god of stone, 'Baal'; meaning 'Master'. Your god is a rock, master of nothing; but my God is the Master of Breakthroughs!" Apparently, they realized Baal was useless against Jehovah; they left their wooden idols, and David burned them.

But some Philistines NEVER LEARN! They attacked the Valley of Rephaim again. So, David inquired of the Lord again, and God said, "Do not pursue them directly. Circle around them, and attack them opposite the balsam trees."

- 1 Chn 14:14 (HCSB) He told David to wait until he heard the sound of marching in the tops of the trees, then attack. God was going to go ahead of David and soften 'em up a bit!

* Can you imagine what the Philistines saw that day?! * Yeah; they were defeated.

"Then David's fame spread throughout the lands, and the Lord caused all the nations to be terrified of him." - 1 Chronicles 14:17 (HCSB)

If you are not now, you will face a situation where you will need a breakthrough. The enemy will attack you to try to end what God is doing in your life. You will

face a situation where you need God to act on your behalf in a way that only He can.

Let's learn from some observations about what David did: a breakthrough!

#1: Satan likes to attack when it's going good. - 1 Chn 14:11-14; 11 Sam 5:1-12

David is 37 years old. He has just succeeded at re-uniting a divided nation under his rule. He's popular, all the girls still sing about him...

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- READ: 11 Samuel 5:1-12

"Now when the Philistines heard..." - :17a

When everything is going our way, the enemy expects us to drop our guard.

"Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary, the devil, like a roaring lion walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world." - 1 Peter 5:8,9

10 months you plan a vacation for your family. Driving there you're in an accident. In a blinding moment that little princess you were taking to see Belle and Cinderella is on life support.

You need the Master of Breakthroughs!

#2: You have a spy in Satan's camp. - 1 Ch 14:8;
 11 Sam 5:17

David was closely following God's direction, here. He was a man, just like us, but that skinny, red-headed shepherd kid had a heart that got God's attention. But he'd just been careless about the ark of God, and it cost a man his life.

- READ: 1 Chronicles 13:5-14

So David was "sober" and "vigilant", and God did not let his enemies blind-side him.

• Do you even wish God would let you know ahead of time?...

"However, when He, the Spirit of Truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He

will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; AND He WILL TELL YOU THINGS TO COME."

- John 16:13 (NKJV) (emphasis mine)

When we are walking in the Spirit, He will tell us what is coming. He will warn us of battles we are about to face, and even the enemy's battle plan. And He will instruct us how to go forward.

"Holy Spirit, I humble myself under Your, mighty hand. I put all my cares up on You. Please instruct me, and teach me what way to go today." (Ps 32:8)

• Now, don't figure it out yourself, listen.

#3: Go to the stronghold! - 1 Sam 5:17b

"I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.'"

- Psalm 91:2 (KJV)

"Turn you to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope; even today do I declare that I will render double unto thee;" - Neh 9:12

We cannot fight the battle against Satan in our own strength. We have got to go to the stronghold! In the Psalm, David said that he found his strength "in the sanctuary";

"in the secret place". We find our strength by spending time in the secret place, alone with God. Understand, this was not the first time David had been to the

We find our strength in the secret place, alone with God. stronghold. It was his habit from the time he was a boy tending sheep. Do not wait until

the devil attacks you to run to God. Begin seeking Him, alone, now. Begin spending time listening to Him in the sanctuary - someplace where only you and God meet.

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#4: Inquire of the Lord! - 1 Ch 14:10, 14

Don't miss this!

The same thing happened twice. The Philistines attacked the Valley of Rephaim. Most of us would just assume we should do the same thing we did the first time.

David would have lost!

He inquired of the Lord both times and got two different answers. The second time, God said, "I'm going to march out before you to smite the host of the Philistines." If David had assumed, God would not have smitten the Philistines for him. When you don't seek God, you fight the enemy on your own.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."

When you don't
seek God,
you fight
on your own!

In all thy ways acknowledge
Him, and He shall direct thy
paths."

- Proverbs 3:5, 6

Every battle, go to God for direction. Every way that you go, be looking for Him, acknowledging Him for guidance. He knows the route to victory!

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith;" - Hebrews 11:2a

The plan that God has for you will be accomplished despite the enemy's worst intentions, if you are following Him.

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye."

- Psalm 32:8

all day, all the time, every decision, inquire of the Lord.

#5: The enemy is delivered into Your hand. — 1 Chr 14:10b;
11 Sam 5:19b

"And the Lord said unto David, 'Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand.'"

— 11 Samuel 5:19b

* DOUBTLESS! *

There is no other outcome for this battle, but deliverance!

"Behold, I give you authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you." — Luke 10:19

Jesus Himself gave you the authority to put Satan, and all of his attacks on you, under your feet.

Look at all the absolutes in that verse:

- "over ALL... the enemy"
- "NOTHING shall..."
- "... by ANY MEANS hurt you"

There is no way Satan can defeat you. Stand in the authority that Jesus' blood purchased for you!

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds;) — 11 Cor 10:3,4

"Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it." — Col 2:15

Colossians 2:15 is a reference that people of that time found familiar. When a Roman military leader

Master of Breakthroughs — Baal Peranim —

conquered an enemy, he would parade his victory in hopes of impressing his superiors and being promoted. He would bind the enemy king and military leaders in chains, and march them through the streets in humiliation. It was known as "triumphing over" the enemy.

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Jesus
"Triumphed
over"

our enemy
— Col 2:15

That's what Jesus did to our enemy. He
"led captivity captive; He enslaved slavery; He bound bondage!"

... and we received gifts!

"And He said to them, 'I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold I

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give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

— Luke 10:18,19 (NKJV)

You have been raised up in Christ, and seated with Him in a place of authority over Satan.

"and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,"

— Ephesians 2:6 (KJV)

Ephesians 1:20 says that Jesus was raised from the dead, and seated in heavenly places, far above all principalities and powers — of Satan. We are in that same place of authority; FAR ABOVE Satan's power, seated WITH Jesus.

The enemy is not flesh and blood, they only SERVE the enemy. (Ephesians 6:12). When we understand WHERE we stand, we already have the battle won for us.

"You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!"

Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord is with you."

- 11 Chronicles 20:17 (NKJV)

Jesus fought all of our battles already. Just follow Him through the time of trouble and let Him guide you to your breakthrough.

#6: It is that other army that fights for you. - 11 Sam 5:24

"And it shall be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry trees, then

you shall advance quickly. For then the Lord will go out before you to smite the camp of the Philistines."

- 11 Samuel 5:24 (NKJV)

* Now, whose army marches in the TOPS OF THE MULBERRY TREES?! *

When we let God go before us, we will advance quickly. God will quickly win battles we thought would take years.

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When we let God
go before us,
we will advance
quickly.

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Your battle is in the hands of God,
and fought by the host of Heaven.

Leave your conflict in the care of the
Master of Breakthroughs. Wherever
you are, make it an altar, and name
it "Baal-Peranin".

Master of Breakthroughs!

Mighty God,

I pray for each person reading these notes. I ask whatever is the battle they are facing, that you will be their Breakthrough. May they walk in the confidence that the battle is already won. May they have ears to hear you marching above their enemy.

Thank you, Father, for going ahead of us in our battles.
Thank you for victory in Jesus.

We pray in His name, amen.