

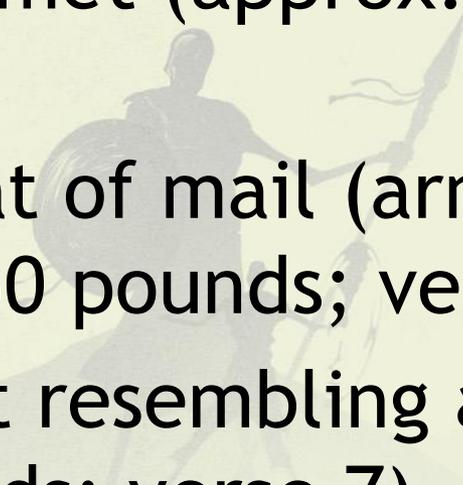


*Today's Message:*

*“Who are you Listening to?”  
I Samuel 17*



# Some Facts About Goliath of Gath

- Goliath was about 9 feet 9 inches tall.
  - Had a bronze helmet (approx. 30 pounds; verse 5)
  - Had a bronze coat of mail (armor) weighing 5,000 shekels (150 pounds; verse 5)
  - Had a spear shaft resembling a weaver's beam (approx. 15 pounds; verse 7)
  - The spear point weighed 600 shekels of iron (approx. 15 pounds; verse 7).
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# Verses 8 and 9 - Goliath's Challenge

Giants in our lives always bring a challenge!

What is your giant in life?

- Is it an addiction?
- Is it financial?
- Is it pertaining to your health?
- Is it the lack of direction?
- Is it an inferiority complex which says “you can't” all the time? Maybe it's just plain fear

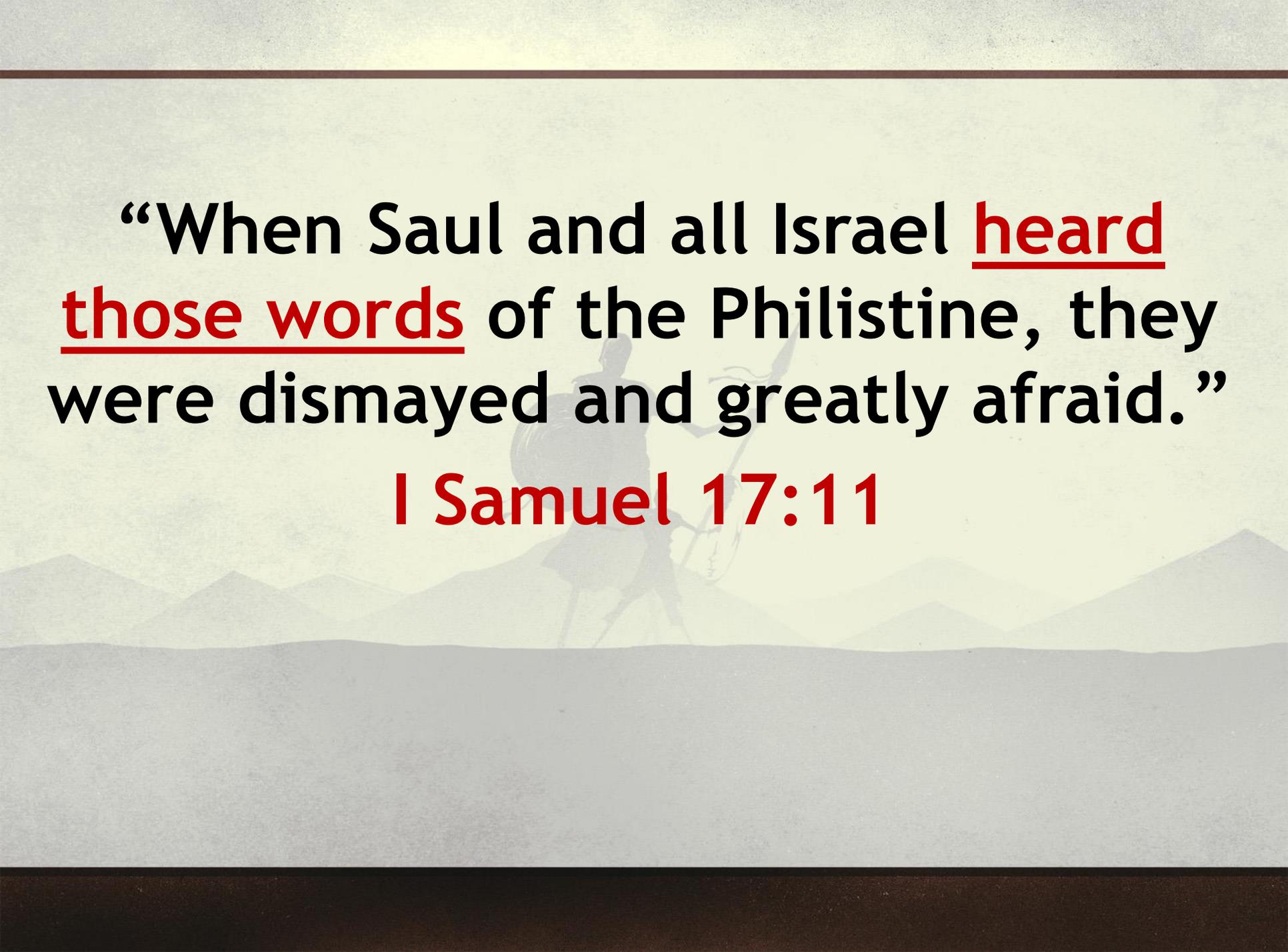
**“When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.”**

**I Samuel 17:11**



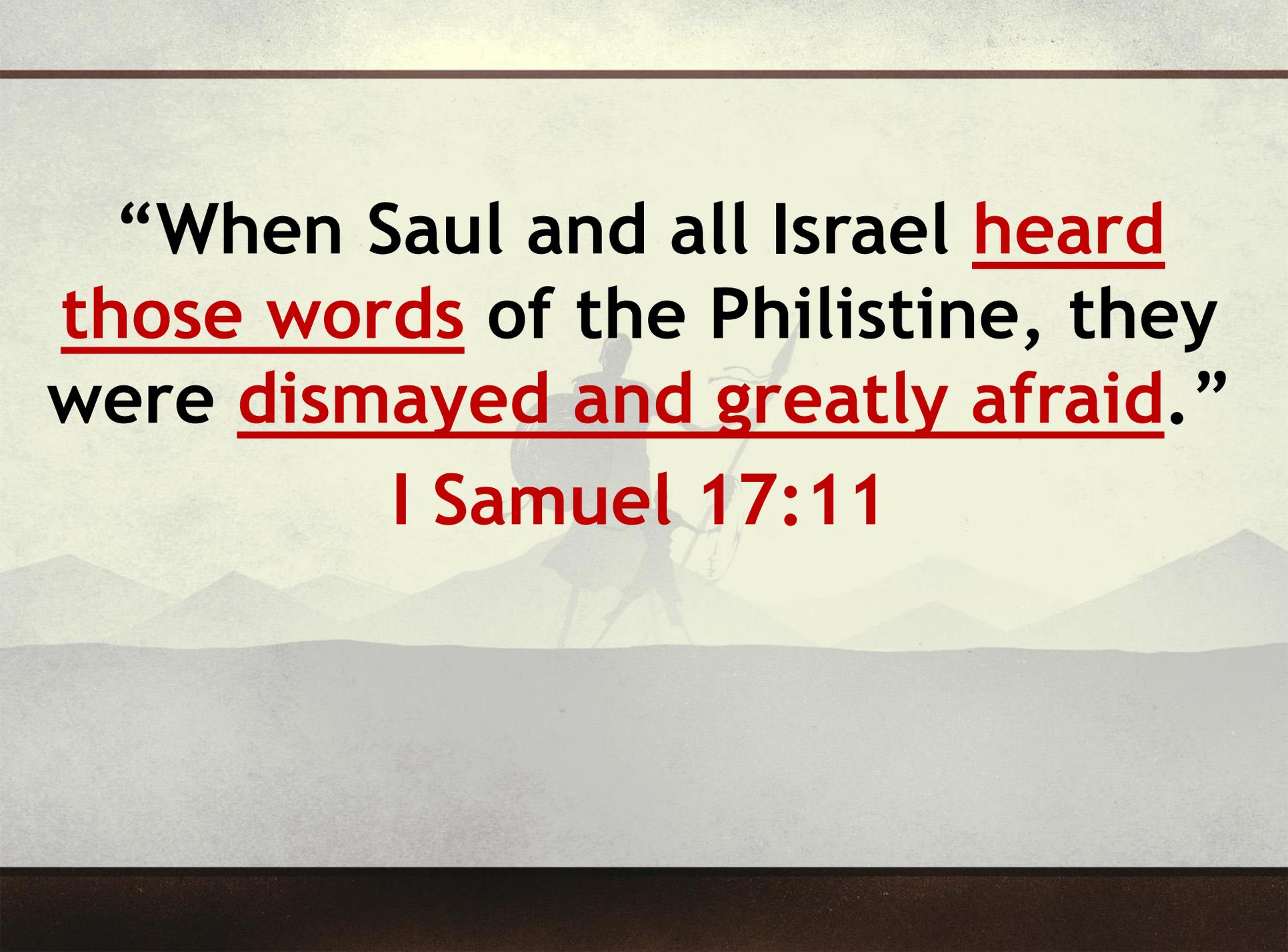
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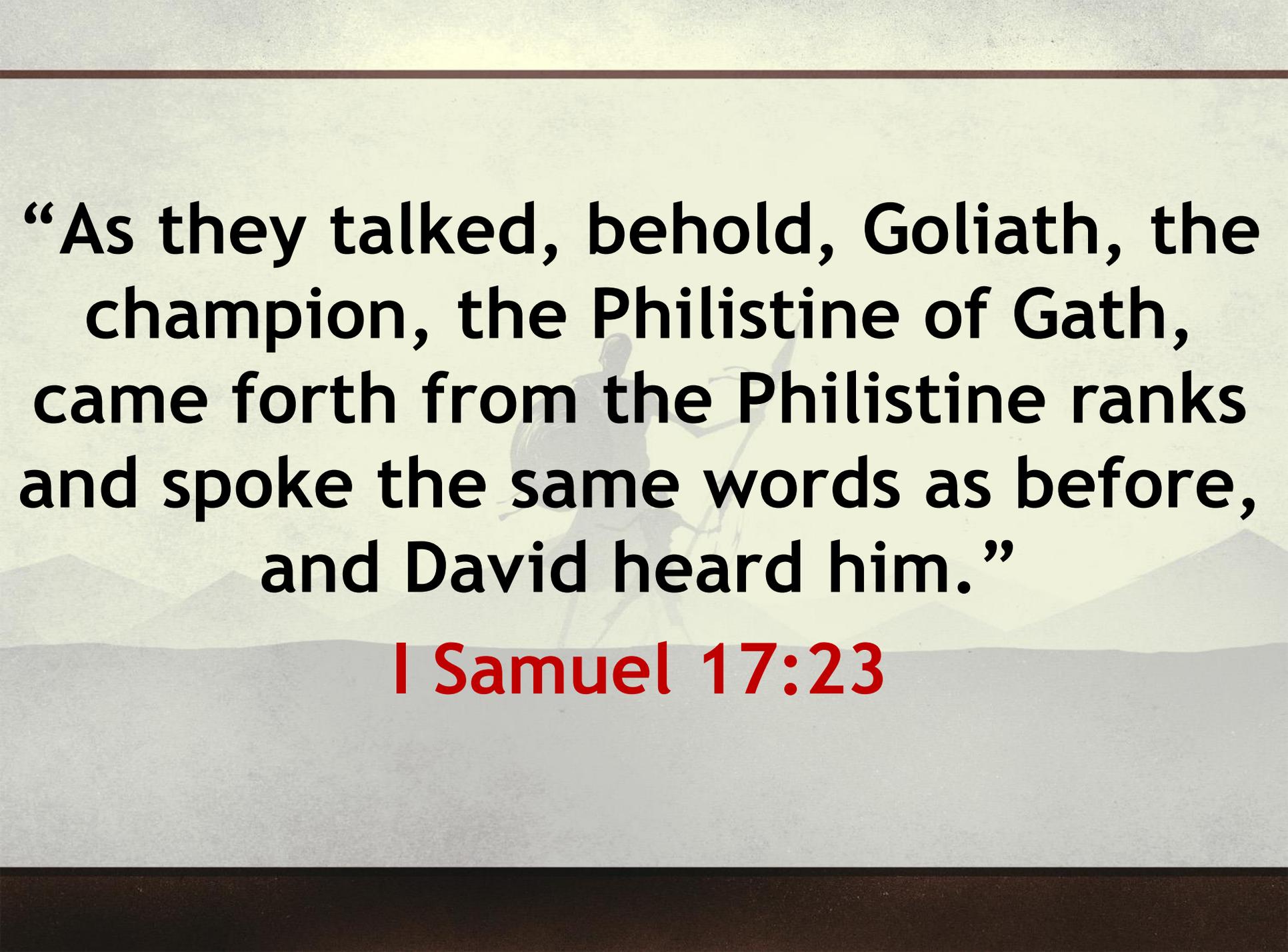
**I Samuel 17:11**

A faint, stylized illustration in the background shows a warrior on horseback, possibly David, in a landscape with mountains and a horizon line. The warrior is holding a bow and arrow, and the horse is in profile. The scene is rendered in a light, monochromatic style that blends with the overall background.

“When Saul and all Israel heard  
those words of the Philistine, they  
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**“As they talked, behold, Goliath, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, came forth from the Philistine ranks and spoke the same words as before, and David heard him.”**

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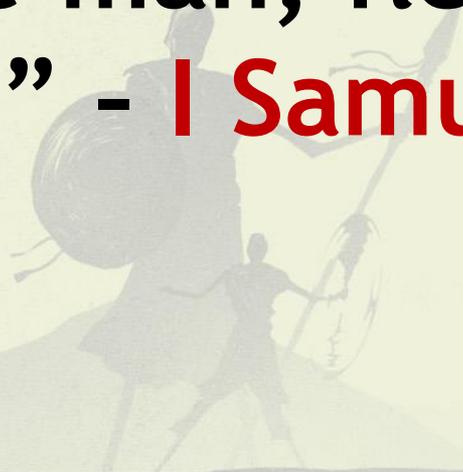
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**“And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, terrified.” - I Samuel 17:24**

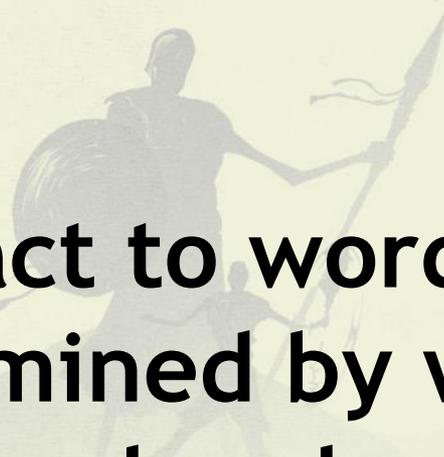


**“And David said to the men standing by him, What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?”**

**I Samuel 17:26**

# Who are you Listening to?

The way we react to words of doubt and defeat is determined by whether or not we have listened and received God's Word!

A faint, light-colored silhouette of a warrior is centered in the background. The warrior is wearing a helmet and carrying a large, round shield on their back. They are holding a spear with a flag or banner attached to its shaft. The warrior appears to be in a dynamic, forward-moving pose.

**“If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.’  
Then He said to them, “Take heed what you  
hear. With the same measure you use, it will  
be measured to you; and to you who hear,  
more will be given.**

**For whoever has, to him more will be given;  
but whoever does not have, even what he has  
will be taken away from him.”**

**Mark 4:23-25**

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**Mark 4:23-25**

The words “take heed” (NKJV) and “pay close attention” (NLT) mean; “keep an eye on”.

The Wuest New Testament says; “And He was saying to them, Keep ever a watchful eye on what you are hearing...”.

The background of the slide features a light green and yellow gradient. In the center, there is a faint silhouette of a man on a horse and another man walking with a staff, set against a backdrop of stylized mountain ranges. The overall aesthetic is that of a historical or biblical scene.

**“The disciples needed to consider carefully what Jesus was telling them. The degree to which they gave heed to what He said would be the degree to which they would profit from it. God would graciously bless attentive disciples with even greater benefit than the effort they expended in heeding His words. Their blessing would be disproportionately large.”**

**Dr. Thomas Constable**

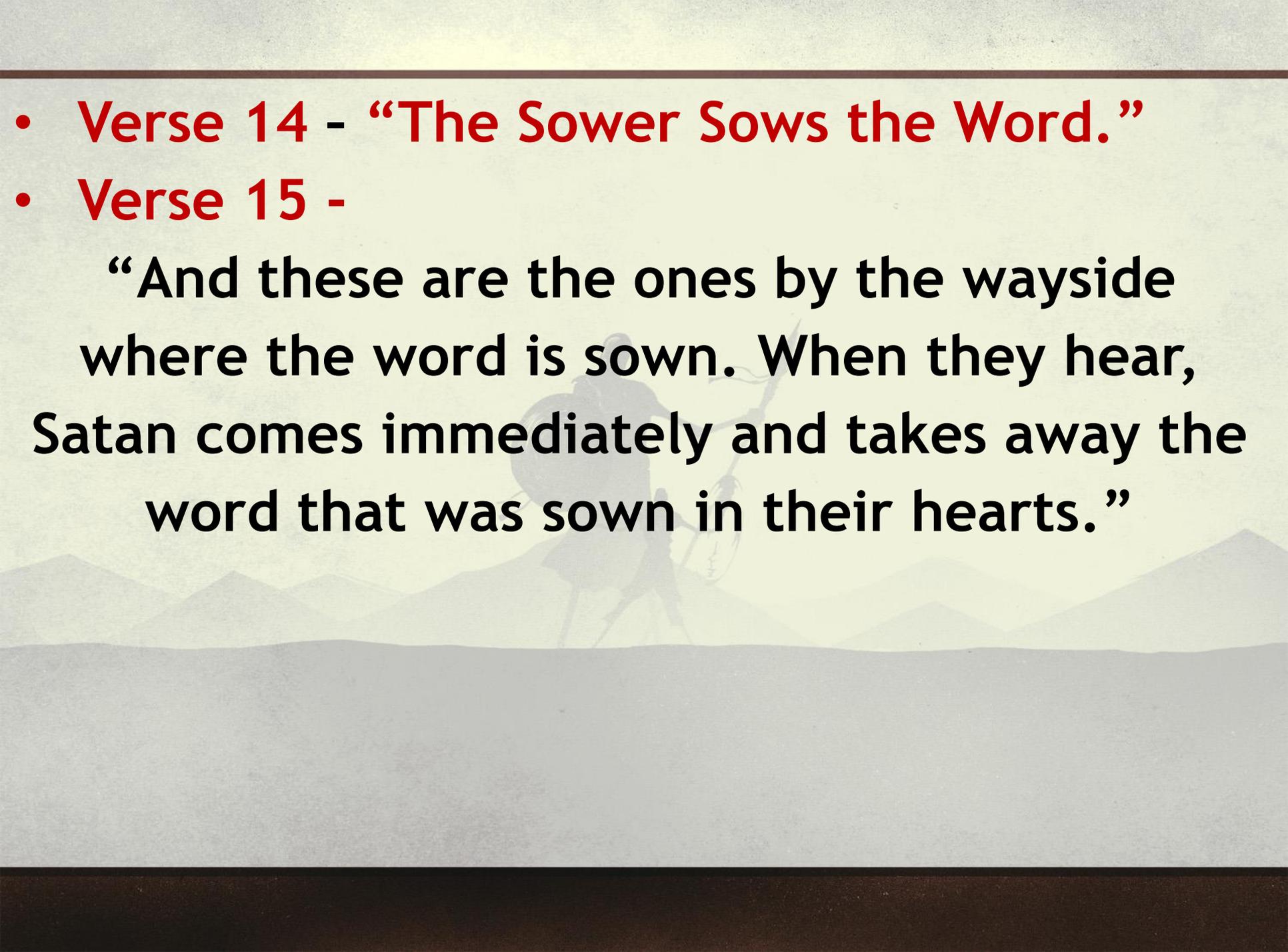
# The Parable of the Sower

**Mark 4:13-20**



- Verse 14 - **“The Sower Sows the Word.”**
- Verse 15 -

**“And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.”**



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## Verse 15 - The “Wayside” Ground.

Meaning of the word “Wayside” is “those alongside the road” or “a traveled way”.

- Hears the Word, but does not Understand it. (See Matthew 13:19).
- The Word only reaches the Surface.
- Refers primarily to the Unsaved but applies to others as well. (Luke 8:12)
- Satan comes immediately to steal the Word sown.

## Verses 16 and 17 - The “Stony” Ground.

- Hears the Word.
- Understands the Word.
- Gets Excited About the Word. (“...receive with gladness)
- Believes for A While - (Luke 8:13).
- The Word never takes Root. A Stony Heart is one that experiences an emotional response to God’s Word and has no depth.
- They are moved off of God’s Word due to being moved by the circumstances.
- They give up when the going gets tough!

## Verses 18 and 19 - The “Thorny” Ground.

- Hears the Word.
  - Three types of things enter in and “choke” the Word. The word “choke” means; “to strangle completely”; “to drown”; “to crowd out”; “to be drawn in different directions”.
- 1) “Cares of this World”; The word “cares” means; “to divide the mind”; “distractions”; “anxieties”; and “worries”.

2) **“Deceitfulness of Riches”**. We are deceived by riches when;

- We think money brings happiness.
- We think money brings fulfillment.
- We think money brings security.

3) **“Desires For Other Things”**. Luke’s account says; **“pleasures of life”**.  
**(Luke 8:14)**

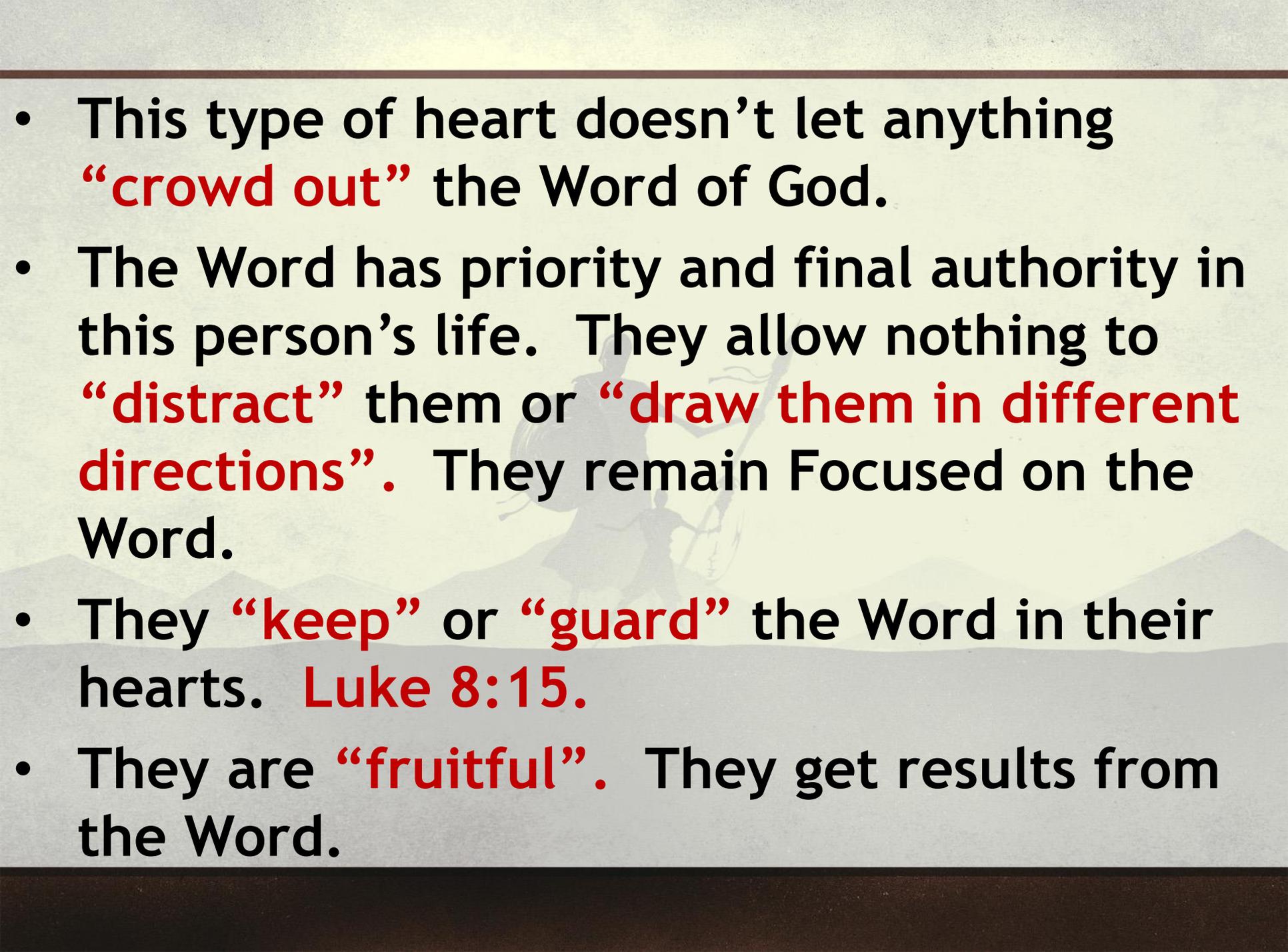
Though **“fruit”** begins to grow, it never comes to **“maturity”**. **(Luke 8:14)** They remain **“babies”** in the Kingdom of God.

## Verse 20 - The “Good” Ground.

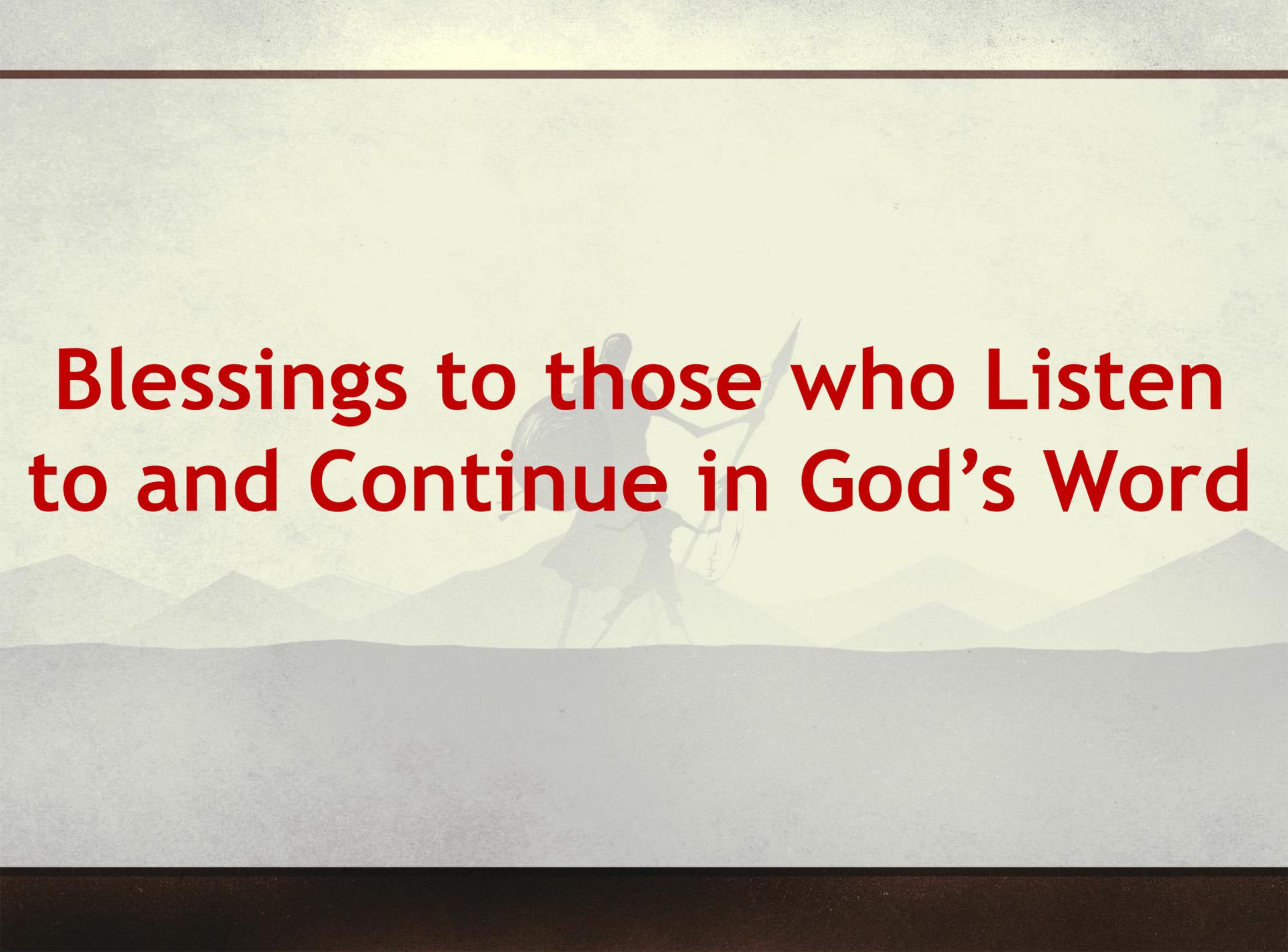
- Hears the Word.
- Understands the Word. (Revelation Knowledge)
- They “**receive**” the Word. (NKJV; “**accepts**”) This denotes being a “**doer**”.
- Finds great Joy in the Word. (As did “Stony Ground”.) - **Jeremiah 15:16.**
- The “**roots**” go down deep. (Unlike “Stony Ground”).

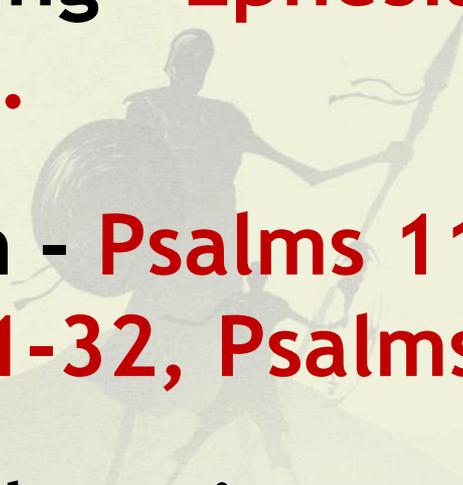
- They are not afraid of persecutions or tribulation. They become immovable. **Psalm 112:1-8**. They are persevering and enduring.
- They refuse to be **“offended”** or **“stumble”**. (4:17).



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- This type of heart doesn't let anything **“crowd out”** the Word of God.
  - The Word has priority and final authority in this person's life. They allow nothing to **“distract”** them or **“draw them in different directions”**. They remain Focused on the Word.
  - They **“keep”** or **“guard”** the Word in their hearts. **Luke 8:15.**
  - They are **“fruitful”**. They get results from the Word.

**Blessings to those who Listen  
to and Continue in God's Word**

The background of the slide features a silhouette of a person on a horse, holding a spear and a shield, positioned in the center. The scene is set against a backdrop of layered mountain ranges. The sky is a bright, pale yellow, suggesting a sunrise or sunset, with a dark horizontal band at the top and bottom of the image.

- Answered prayer - **John 15:7, Proverbs 28:9.**
  - Spirit-Filled living - **Ephesians 5:18-19, Colossians 3:16.**
  - Victory over sin - **Psalms 119:9-11, 1 John 2:14, John 8:31-32, Psalms 37:31.**
  - The Word is a cleansing agent - **Ephesians 5:25-27, John 15:3.**
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- A faint, light-colored silhouette of a warrior is centered in the background. The warrior is wearing a helmet and carrying a large, round shield on his left arm. He holds a spear in his right hand, pointing it upwards. The background also features a stylized, layered mountain range in shades of gray and blue.

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- The Word defeats the enemy - **Matthew 4:3-11, Ephesians 6:17, Hebrews 4:12, 2 Corinthians 10:4-5.**
  - The Word causes spiritual growth - **Romans 10:17, 1 Peter 2:2.**
  - The Word produces fruit in our lives - **Psalms 1:2-3.**
  - The Word brings success to life - **Joshua 1:8, Psalms 1:2-3, James 1:25.**

- The Word can bring Healing and Health to your body - **Psalm 107:20; Proverbs 4:20-23.**
- The Word brings comfort and hope - **Romans 15:4, Hebrews 6:17-20.**
- The Word gives guidance and direction **Psalms 119:105.**
- The Word brings joy into our life and situation - **Jeremiah 15:16.**

***“Who are you Listening to?”***









