

# 1 & 2 Samuel Series

## Lesson #066

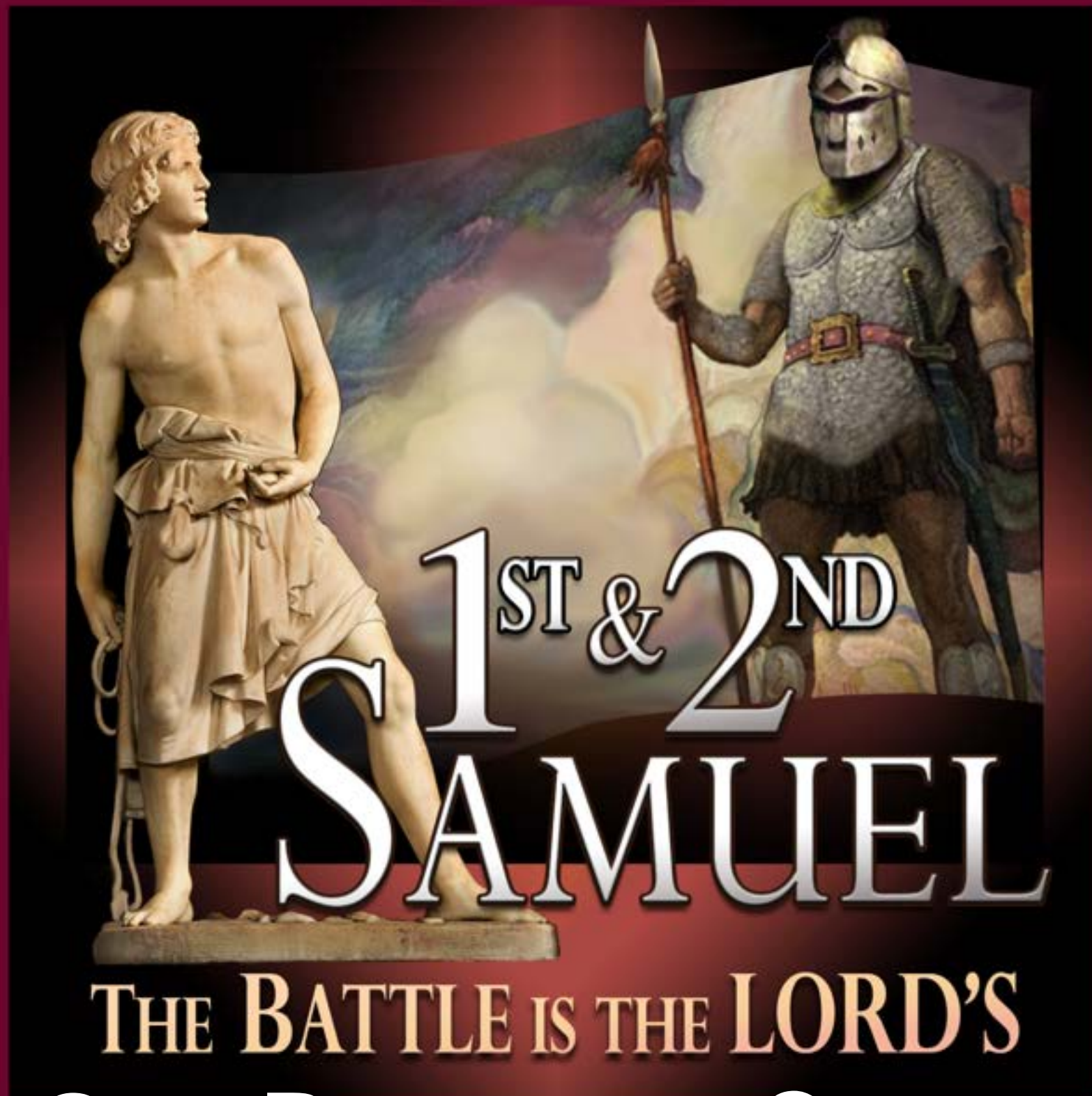
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Dean Bible Ministries

[www.deanbibleministries.org](http://www.deanbibleministries.org)

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**HOW GOD PRODUCES CHAMPIONS—  
PART 2**

**1 SAMUEL 17:12–39**



**I. God's Perfect Tests that provide perfect training are perfectly timed.**





Tel Qasile  
Joppa

Aphek

Shechem

Tirzah

Zaphon

Mahanaim

Succoth

Adam

Jogbehah

Shiloh

Bethel

Jericho

★ Rabbah (Amman)

Gezer

Aijalon

★ Gibeah

Shittim

Heshbon

Ashdod

Ekron

Beth-shemesh

Jebus (Jerusalem)

Medeba

★ Gath

Bethlehem

Area around Jebus not controlled by Saul

Ekron

Lachish

Hebron

DEAD SEA

En-gedi

Dibon

Aroer

Gerar

Ziklag

Arnon River

Beer-sheba

Arad

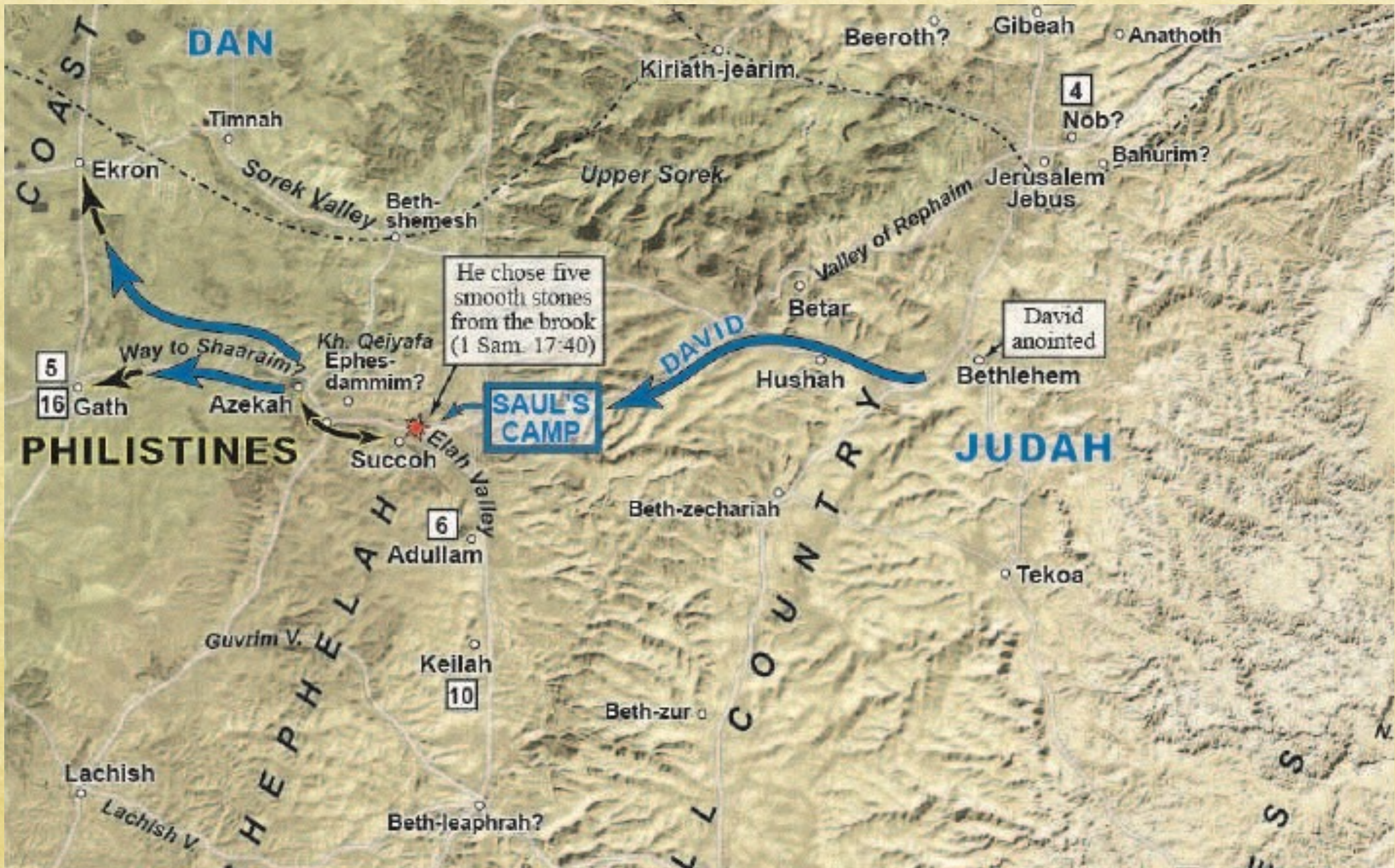
Masada

MOAB

Hormah

★ Kir-hareseth









Elah Valley

Azekah

to Beth Shemesh

Elah Valley

Ephes-dammim?

to Lachish

Azekah and Elah Valley aerial from south



# **FIVE Tests that produce Champion Believers:**

## **A. The Test of Preparation**



**1 Sam. 17:34, “But David said to Saul, ‘Your servant used to keep his father’s sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock,**

**1 Sam. 17:35, “ ‘I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard, and struck and killed it.**

**1 Sam. 17:36, “ ‘Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.’ ”**











## **What lack of preparation looks like.**

**1 Sam. 17:23, “Then as he talked with them, there was the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, coming up from the armies of the Philistines; and he spoke according to the same words. So David heard them.**

**1 Sam. 17:24, “And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were dreadfully afraid.”**



**1 Sam. 17:11, “When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.”**



# **FIVE Tests that produce Champion Believers:**

**B. The Test of Discernment,  
1 Sam. 17:25–27**



**1 Sam. 17:25, “So the men of Israel said, ‘Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel; and it shall be that the man who kills him the king will enrich with great riches, will give him his daughter, and give his father’s house exemption from taxes in Israel.’ ”**



**1 Sam. 17:26, “Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, ‘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?’ ”**

**1 Sam. 17:27, “And the people answered him in this manner, saying, ‘So shall it be done for the man who kills him.’ ”**



**Prov. 2:2, “So that you incline your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding;**

**Prov. 2:3, “Yes, if you cry out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding,**

**Prov. 2:4, “If you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures;”**



**Prov. 4:5, “Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth.Ā**

**Prov. 4:7, “Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.”**

**Prov. 23:23, “Buy the truth, and do not sell it, also wisdom and instruction and understanding.”**



**Prov. 9:10, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”**



**James 1:2, “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,**

**James 1:3, “knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.**

**James 1:4, “But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.”**



**1 Sam. 17:26, “Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, ‘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?’**

**1 Sam. 17:27, “And the people answered him in this manner, saying, ‘So shall it be done for the man who kills him.’ ”**



**Josh. 3:10, “And Joshua said, ‘By this you shall know that the living God is among you, and that He will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Hivites and the Perizzites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Jebusites:’ ”**



**1 Thess. 1:9, “For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,”**



**2 Kings 19:4, “ ‘It may be that the LORD your God will hear all the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to reproach the living God, and will rebuke the words which the LORD your God has heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.’ ”**

**2 Kings 19:16, “Incline Your ear, O LORD, and hear; open Your eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to reproach the living God.”**



**Jer. 23:36, “And the oracle of the LORD you shall mention no more. For every man’s word will be his oracle, for you have perverted the words of the living God, the LORD of hosts, our God.”**



**1 Sam. 17:28, “Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab’s anger was aroused against David, and he said, ‘Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle.’”**

**1 Sam. 17:29, “And David said, ‘What have I done now? Is there not a cause?’”**

**1 Sam. 17:30, “Then he turned from him toward another and said the same thing; and these people answered him as the first ones did.”**



**Prov. 15:1, “A soft answer turns away  
wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”**



# **FIVE Tests that produce Champion Believers:**

## **C. The Test of Humility, 1 Sam. 17:28–30**



**1 Sam. 17:28, “Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab’s anger was aroused against David, and he said, ‘Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle.’”**

**1 Sam. 17:29, “And David said, ‘What have I done now? Is there not a cause [word]?’”**

**1 Sam. 17:30, “Then he turned from him toward another and said the same thing; and these people answered him as the first ones did.”**



**1 Pet. 5:5, “Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.’”**

**1 Pet. 5:6, “Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,**

**1 Pet. 5:7, “casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”**



# **FIVE Tests that produce Champion Believers:**

## **D. The Test of Authority, 1 Sam. 17:31–37**



**1 Sam. 17:31**, “Now when the words which David spoke were heard, they reported them to Saul; and he sent for him.

**1 Sam. 17:32**, “Then David said to Saul, ‘Let no man’s heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.’

**1 Sam. 17:33**, “And Saul said to David, ‘You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.’ ”



**1 Sam. 17:34, “But David said to Saul, ‘Your servant used to keep his father’s sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock,**

**1 Sam. 17:35, “ ‘I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard, and struck and killed it.**

**1 Sam. 17:36, “ ‘Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God.’ ”**



**1 Sam. 17:37, “Moreover David said, ‘The LORD, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.’ And Saul said to David, ‘Go, and the LORD be with you!’ ”**



**1 Sam. 26:9, “But David said to Abishai, ‘Do not destroy him; for who can stretch out his hand against the LORD’s anointed, and be guiltless?’ ”**



**Rom. 13:1, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and these *authorities* that exist are appointed by God.”**



# **FIVE Tests that produce Champion Believers:**

**E. The Test of Human Good,  
1 Sam. 17:38–39**

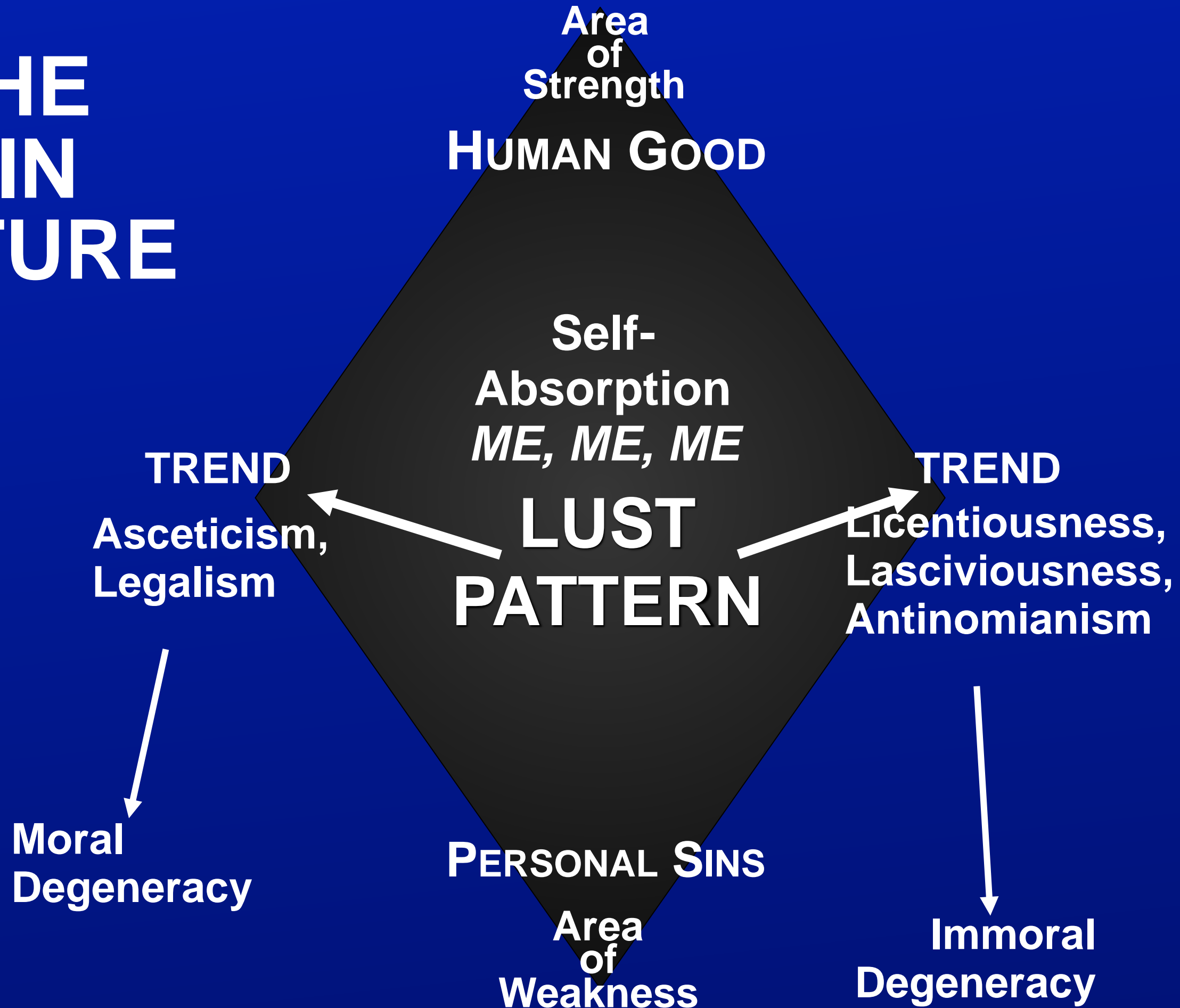


**1 Sam. 17:38, “So Saul clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail.**

**1 Sam. 17:39, “David fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul, ‘I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested them.’ So David took them off.”**



# THE SIN NATURE





**Zech. 4:6, “So he answered and said to me:  
‘This is the word of the LORD to  
Zerubbabel: “Not by might nor by power,  
but by My Spirit,” says the LORD of hosts.’ ”**