



Part 11 - “Pressing on After the Battle” | 1 Samuel 11:1-11 | Feb 8th, 2026

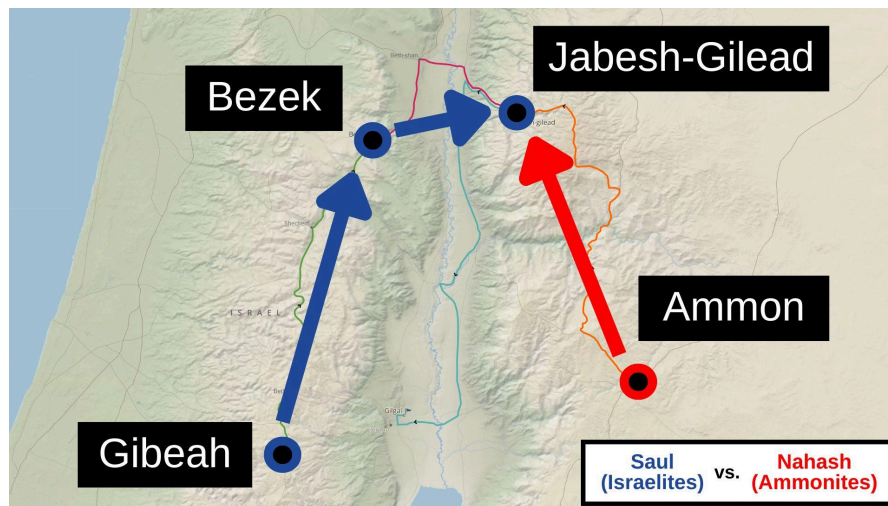
➡ **Quote:** “Even though we don't always understand the road or the process grief takes us on, it's vital that we submit to it for a time and let God do His work in us until He says otherwise.” (Daily Prayers for Grieving Hearts, by DaySpring, 2022)

- James 1:4 - “Let **perseverance** finish **its** work...”
- We’re not meant to be the **source** of our own perseverance—**Jesus** is

➡ **Consider this:** When push comes to shove, the way we respond to the pressures of life reveals who we really trust.

➡ 1 Samuel 11:1-11 Notes

- (v1) Ammonites — Israel’s neighbor to the east
- (v1) Nahash — the king of the Ammonites | wanted to humiliate Israel
 - (v2) “gouge out the right eye” — soldiers broken and disgraced to slavery
 - (v1-2) “Nahash” (Hebrew) means “snake” — same word in Genesis 3
 - We’re meant to see how evil this guy is! He’s not Satan, but there are very real forces of evil at work, and Nahash is a *willing* participant.



→ Where did Saul's sudden leadership skills and courage come from?

1 Sam 10 — Saul was silent and hiding

1 Sam 11 — Saul acted like a king

- (v6) Saul “burned with anger” (Hebrew) meaning “hot in the nose”
 - phrase also used for the LORD’s anger (ex: Exodus 4:14)
 - this is *not* an uncontrolled human kind of anger (James 1:19-20)
 - **this is a righteous anger** that comes from the LORD
 - watch BIC Life Podcast episode 46 for more on this
- (v7) “terror of the LORD” = an unavoidable response to God’s power
 - contrast with “fear of the LORD” = a willing love and allegiance

→ God empowered Saul and moved Israel to victory. 1 Samuel 11 urges us to ask: Now that the battle is over, what kind of people will they become?

James 1:4 - **Let perseverance finish its work** so that you may be *mature* and *complete, not lacking anything*.

- God’s work of perseverance in us continues long after the battle (James 1:4)
- Jesus has the power to make us whole again as we persevere with Him —pressing on in His strength (Philippians 3:12)

→ Going Deeper

- READ Psalm 23 and James 1:2-4. What truths stick out to you about perseverance in the aftermath of the valley?
- How is Jesus strengthening you with His perseverance in the aftermath?