

RISK, RISKED, RISKING, RISKS, HAZARDED

Isaac was willing to **risk** harm to Rebekah in order to protect himself.

- **Genesis 26:9:** "And Abimelech called Isaac, and said, Behold, of a surety she is thy wife; and how saidst thou, She is my sister? And Isaac said unto him, Because I said, Lest I die for her."

Abimelech was upset that Isaac put the Philistines at **risk** of unknowingly committing a sin.

- **Genesis 26:10:** "And Abimelech said, What is this thou hast done unto us? one of the people might lightly have lien with thy wife, and thou shouldest have brought guiltiness upon us."

Deborah said that the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali **risked** their lives in the high places of the field. (They went with to war against Sisera and Jabin.)

- **Judges 5:18:** "Zebulun and Naphtali were a people that jeoparded their lives unto the death in the high places of the field."

Gideon **risked** his life for the people of Shechem. (In return, those people murdered his children.)

- **Judges 9:17-18:** "(For my father fought for you, and adventured his life far, and delivered you out of the hand

of Midian: And ye are risen up against my father's house this day, and have slain his sons, threescore and ten persons, upon one stone, and have made Abimelech, the son of his maidservant, king over the men of Shechem, because he is your brother;)"

When the men of Ephraim threatened to burn Jephthah alive, he told them that when he asked for their help they didn't help him, and he had to **risk** his own life to fight against the Ammonites. (The Ephraimites then ignored his words and tried to kill him.)

- **Judges 12:1-3:** "And the men of Ephraim gathered themselves together, and went northward, and said unto Jephthah, Wherefore passedst thou over to fight against the children of Ammon, and didst not call us to go with thee? we will burn thine house upon thee with fire. And Jephthah said unto them, I and my people were at great strife with the children of Ammon; and when I called you, ye delivered me not out of their hands. And when I saw that ye delivered me not, I put my life in my hands, and passed over against the children of Ammon, and the LORD delivered them into my hand: wherefore then are ye come up unto me this day, to fight against me?"

The Benjamites were willing to **risk** their lives to defend both rape and murder. (When the other tribes of Israel demanded that they turn over the men who raped a concubine to death, they decided to *defend* them instead.)

- **Judges 20:12-14:** "And the tribes of Israel sent men through all the tribe of Benjamin, saying, What wickedness is this that is done among you? Now therefore deliver us the men, the children of Belial, which

are in Gibeah, that we may put them to death, and put away evil from Israel. But the children of Benjamin would not hearken to the voice of their brethren the children of Israel. But the children of Benjamin gathered themselves together out of the cities unto Gibeah, to go out to battle against the children of Israel."

When Saul told Jonathan and all his servants to kill David, Jonathan said that David had **risked** his life when he killed Goliath.

- **1 Samuel 19:1, 4-5:** "And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David. ... And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works have been to thee-ward very good: For he did put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and the LORD wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause?"

The witch at Endor knew that Saul had forbidden witchcraft, and that practicing it could put her life at **risk**.

- **1 Samuel 28:9:** "And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?"

When David mourned over Absalom's death, it had a huge

negative impact on his supporters (who **risked** their life to save him from being killed by Absalom).

- **2 Samuel 19:1-4:** "And it was told Joab, Behold, the king weepeth and mourneth for Absalom. And the victory that day was turned into mourning unto all the people: for the people heard say that day how the king was grieved for his son. And the people gat them by stealth that day into the city, as people being ashamed steal away when they flee in battle. But the king covered his face, and the king cried with a loud voice, O my son Absalom, O Absalom, my son, my son!"

The three mighty men of David **risked** their lives to get him water from a Bethlehem well.

- **2 Samuel 23:15-17:** "And David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate! And the three mighty men brake through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: nevertheless he would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto the Lord. And he said, Be it far from me, O LORD, that I should do this: is not this the blood of the men that went in jeopardy of their lives? therefore he would not drink it. These things did these three mighty men."
- **1 Chronicles 11:17-19:** "And David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, that is at the gate! And the three brake through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, that was by the gate, and took it, and brought it to David: but David would not drink of it, but poured it out to the Lord. And said, My God forbid it

me, that I should do this thing: shall I drink the blood of these men that have put their lives in jeopardy? for with the jeopardy of their lives they brought it. Therefore he would not drink it. These things did these three mightiest."

It seems that in ancient times, people slept with their newborn infants (which put them at terrible **risk** of harm).

- **1 Kings 3:19:** "And this woman's child died in the night; because she overlaid it."

The servants of the king of Israel told him that they had nothing to lose in sending someone to see if the Syrians had left Samaria and abandoned the siege, since the people were about to die of starvation. If they were killed by the Syrians then they were going to die anyway, so it was worth the **risk**.

- **2 Kings 7:13:** "And one of his servants answered and said, Let some take, I pray thee, five of the horses that remain, which are left in the city, (behold, they are as all the multitude of Israel that are left in it: behold, I say, they are even as all the multitude of the Israelites that are consumed;) and let us send and see."

Mordecai didn't hesitate to **risk** Esther's life to stop Haman's plan to kill the Jews. He willingly put her life on the line, and actually *threatened* her to force her to do something that might get her killed. (There's no indication that *anyone* sought the Lord or prayed about the situation before Mordecai pushed Esther into going to see the king uninvited. Instead Mordecai told Esther that if she didn't do exactly what he told her to do then God would kill her.)

- **Esther 4:13-14:** "Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

It seems Job believed that by speaking up and saying something about his suffering, instead of remaining silent about it, he was putting himself at **risk**.

- **Job 13:14:** "Wherefore do I take my flesh in my teeth, and put my life in mine hand?"

The immoral woman tried to make the young man think that committing adultery with her would be a wonderful and safe experience. She wanted him to believe that it was all pleasure and no **risk** (when in reality it was a terrible sin that would cost him his life).

- **Proverbs 7:20-23:** "He hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed. With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him. He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks; Till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life."

Drinking wine can be dangerous. There's a certain amount of **risk** associated with alcoholic beverages.

- **Proverbs 20:1:** "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."

We need to move forward with sowing our seed and reaping the harvest that's before us, in spite of the **risks**.

- **Ecclesiastes 11:4, 6:** "He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap. ... In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good."

In the millennium, small children will be able to lead animals that are dangerous in today's world without any **risk** at all.

- **Isaiah 11:6:** "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them."

After Nebuchadnezzar waged war against Jerusalem and destroyed it, the Jews who remained in the land had to **risk** their lives to find food in the wilderness. Their lives were put in peril (seemingly by dangerous wild animals).

- **Lamentations 5:9:** "We gat our bread with the peril of our lives because of the sword of the wilderness."

If Nebuchadnezzar's servants displeased him, they **risked** being executed.

- **Daniel 1:10:** "And the prince of the eunuchs said unto

Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king."

Jesus taught that if a person didn't come to an agreement with their adversary quickly, they **risked** being cast into prison until they paid everything they owe. (Likewise, those who delay repenting of their sins and believing in Jesus risk running out of time and being cast into Hell forever.)

- **Matthew 5:25-26:** "Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing."

Jesus warned his disciples of a time in the future when people's lives would be put at **risk** by their own family (for the sake of their faith in the gospel).

- **Mark 13:12:** "Now the brother shall betray the brother to death, and the father the son; and children shall rise up against their parents, and shall cause them to be put to death."

Blind people are at **risk** of falling into the ditch, because they can't see it and avoid it. (Likewise, those who follow false teachers who are spiritually blind risk ending up in very bad places.)

- **Luke 6:39:** "And he spake a parable unto them, Can the

blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch?"

Thomas was willing to **risk** His life for Jesus. (In this particular case, though, Thomas wasn't in any actual danger.)

- **John 11:16:** "Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellowdisciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him."

Paul and Barnabas both **risked** their lives for the sake of Jesus.

- **Acts 15:25-26:** "It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Priscilla and Aquila **risked** their lives for Paul.

- **Romans 16:3-4:** "Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus: Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles."

Paul said that he would rather work full-time and financially support himself than **risk** hindering the gospel of Christ.

- **1 Corinthians 9:12:** "If others be partakers of this power over you, are not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ."

The fact that John didn't name the church he was writing to raises the possibility that the church was facing severe persecution and John didn't want to **risk** naming them.

- **2 John 1:1:** "The elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth; and not I only, but also all they that have known the truth;"