

~MUTH-LABBEN (60)
(Muth-lab'ben)

- **An expression included in the superscription of one of David's psalms ([Psalms Chapter 9](#)), traditionally said to mean, concerning the death of the son.**
- **Some commentators suggest that it indicated to the musical director the name or perhaps the opening words of a familiar song that furnished the melody to be used in singing this psalm.**
- **One possibility of the words meaning is advanced by the [Targum](#), in which the superscription of ([Psalms Chapter 9](#)) reads; On the death of the man who came forth from between the camps, alluding to a champion.**
- **The apparent reference here is to Goliath, the Philistine champion whom David defeated in battle between the Israelite and Philistine encampments.**
- **In turn David said to the Philistine; You are coming to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I am coming to you with the name of Yehowah of armies, the God of the battle lines of Israel, whom you have taunted. ([1 Samuel 17:45](#))**
- **This day Yehowah will surrender you into my hand, and I shall certainly strike you down and remove your head off you, and I shall certainly give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines this day to the fowls of the heavens and to the wild beasts of the earth, and people of all the earth will know that there exists a God belonging to Israel. ([1 Samuel 17:46](#))**
- **And all this congregation will know that neither with sword nor with spear does Yehowah save, because to Yehowah belongs the battle, and he must give you men into our hand. ([1 Samuel 17:47](#))**
- **And it occurred that the Philistine rose and kept coming and drawing nearer to meet David, and David began hurrying and running toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. ([1 Samuel 17:48](#))**

- **Then David thrust his hand into his bag and took a stone from there and slung it, so that he struck the Philistine in his forehead and the stone sank into his forehead, and he went falling upon his face to the earth. (1 Samuel 17:49)**
- **So David, with a sling and a stone, proved stronger than the Philistine and struck the Philistine down and put him to death, and there was no sword in David's hand. (1 Samuel 17:50)**
- **And David continued running and got to stand over the Philistine. Then he took his sword and pulled it out of its sheath and definitely put him to death when he cut his head off with it. And the Philistines got to see that their mighty one had died, and they took to flight. (1 Samuel 17:51)**