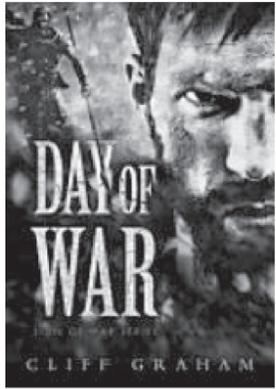


Series offers adults an excellent Christian reading adventure

By Pam Mettler

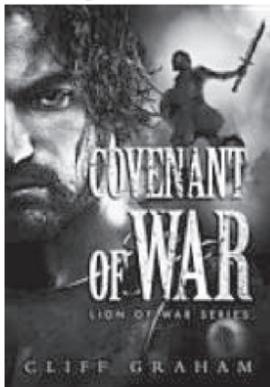
Day of War is the first novel Christian author Cliff Graham has written in the new Lion of War series, published by Zondervan. Readers will be drawn into



the days leading up to the establishment of David's kingdom. Central to the novel are David's Mighty Men, who battle with the sword and shield to help lay claim to prized lands throughout the ancient kingdoms of Israel and Judah. We meet a rag-tag central character named Benaiah, who is longing for a new start in his life.

He joins up with a group of soldiers loyal to the powerful warlord David. Opposing him are the emerging forces of King Saul, a ruthless tyrant keyed into not only defeating David, but the large and boastful Philistines. As his men's loyalty is questioned by David, we read of those in his army who only seek wealth and the fineries of the trading routes. As all forces converge — over bloody battlefields to the high mountain regions of the Hebrew tribes — we experience the tremendous toll taken toward bringing David to the throne. And we see how Hebrew kinsmen are pitted against each other in the process.

The second book of the series, *Covenant of War*, opens in the year 993 BC. We pick up in the days of the ongoing civil war and meet, once again, the elite warriors of King David. This disgruntled army of mercenaries and outcasts that are banded together as David's Mighty Men display numerous battle skills as they march



against the Philistines. Who will be the first to claim the Elah Valley? Why is David waiting for agreement on how the new nation will be governed? The fast-paced action of this book showcases the strength of central characters David, Benaiah, Keth, Gareb, Josheb, Shammah and Eleazar and their well-honed battle skills against Israel's arch enemy — the mobilized Philistine army. The journey takes us from peaceful valleys, to barley fields, through forest thickets, and the caves of Adullam to the bustling streets of Hebron. The legendary deeds of the Mighty Men are recorded in 2 Samuel 23 and I Chronicles 11.

Readers will be challenged with the book's sometimes gritty theme of destruction, as they consider the reasoning behind the Philistines' wanting to destruct Hebrew tribes once and for all. Plus, discussion groups would benefit from considering how life would be today if the Philistines hadn't invaded. Also, the book offers readers great conversational debates around the relationship between King David and his Mighty Men of Israel. One is encouraged to consider if there are any parallels between today's military leaders and our present day "men and women of war."

Both books in the Lion of War series are quick reads, offering well-rounded characters, challenging plot lines and searing action. They offer those interested in the life and times of King David a well-planned, action-packed reading adventure. •

Prevent a fire hazard, lower your electric bill and double the life of your dryer

(Courtesy, North Ottawa County Council on Aging)

The gentleman who fixes appliances pulled out a lint filter. It was clean. He told us he wanted to show us something. He ran hot water over it and it just sat on top of the mesh filter. He said that dryer sheets leave a film over the mesh, potentially burning out the heating unit, which can start a house fire. The same ingredient that gives them that waxy feel when you pull them out of the box builds up on your clothes and the lint screen. He said the best way to keep your dryer working for a very long time (and lower your electric bill) is to take the filter out, wash it with hot soapy water and scrub it with an old toothbrush at least every six months. •

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OIL CHANGE HEADQUARTERS

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Poker Run

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\$15 INCLUDES DINNER

Pig Roast

4PM / \$8 ADULTS / \$5 KIDS
(5-12)

Auction

6PM

Music Mania

50/50s ALL DAY

Horse Shoe

Tournament 5PM

**Raffles,
Auctions & Kids
Activities**



Brook was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes when she was young. All proceeds from this benefit will go towards purchasing a service dog for her.

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