

# Facing Goliath



Sunday June 19th

- David, though anointed to be the next king, was still Saul's servant. We all face Giants at times in our lives. Although not to the extent that David did when facing a Lion, a Bear and now Goliath. David's trust was in the Lord. So should our trust be in the Lord and not men or things.

- **1 Samuel 17:1-3 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Now the Philistines gathered their armies together to battle, and were gathered together at Sochoh, which *belongs* to Judah; they encamped between Sochoh and Azekah, in Ephes Dammim.

<sup>2</sup> And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and they encamped in the Valley of Elah, and drew up in battle array against the Philistines.

<sup>3</sup> The Philistines stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, with a valley between them.

- **1 Samuel 17:4-7 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup> And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, from Gath, whose height *was* six cubits and a span.

<sup>5</sup> *He had* a bronze helmet on his head, and he *was* armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat *was* five thousand shekels of bronze.

<sup>6</sup> And *he had* bronze armor on his legs and a bronze javelin between his shoulders.

<sup>7</sup> Now the staff of his spear *was* like a weaver's beam, and his iron spearhead *weighed* six hundred shekels; and a shield-bearer went before him.

- **1 Samuel 17:8-11 (NKJV)**

<sup>8</sup> Then he stood and cried out to the armies of Israel, and said to them, "Why have you come out to line up for battle? *Am* I not a Philistine, and you the servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me.

<sup>9</sup> If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us."

<sup>10</sup> And the Philistine said, "I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together."

<sup>11</sup> When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

- **1 Samuel 17:12-15 (NKJV)**

<sup>12</sup> Now David *was* the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehem Judah, whose name *was* Jesse, and who had eight sons. And the man was old, advanced *in years*, in the days of Saul.

<sup>13</sup> The three oldest sons of Jesse had gone to follow Saul to the battle. The names of his three sons who went to the battle *were* Eliab the firstborn, next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

<sup>14</sup> David *was* the youngest. And the three oldest followed Saul.

<sup>15</sup> But David occasionally went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

- **1 Samuel 17:16-19 (NKJV)**

<sup>16</sup> And the Philistine drew near and presented himself forty days, morning and evening.

<sup>17</sup> Then Jesse said to his son David, "Take now for your brothers an ephah of this dried *grain* and these ten loaves, and run to your brothers at the camp.

<sup>18</sup> And carry these ten cheeses to the captain of *their* thousand, and see how your brothers fare, and bring back news of them."

<sup>19</sup> Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel *were* in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

- **1 Samuel 17:20-23 (NKJV)**

<sup>20</sup> So David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, and took *the things* and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the camp as the army was going out to the fight and shouting for the battle.

<sup>21</sup> For Israel and the Philistines had drawn up in battle array, army against army.

<sup>22</sup> And David left his supplies in the hand of the supply keeper, ran to the army, and came and greeted his brothers.

<sup>23</sup> 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 Samuel 17:24-26 (NKJV)**

<sup>24</sup> And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were dreadfully afraid.

<sup>25</sup> 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."

<sup>26</sup> 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 Samuel 17:27-30 (NKJV)**

<sup>27</sup> And the people answered him in this manner, saying, "So shall it be done for the man who kills him."

<sup>28</sup> 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."

<sup>29</sup> And David said, "What have I done now? *Is there* not a cause?"

- **1 Samuel 17:30-33 (NKJV)**

<sup>30</sup> Then he turned from him toward another and said the same thing; and these people answered him as the first ones *did*.

<sup>31</sup> Now when the words which David spoke were heard, they reported *them* to Saul; and he sent for him.

<sup>32</sup> Then David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."

<sup>33</sup> 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 Samuel 17:34-37 (NKJV)**

<sup>34</sup> 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,

<sup>35</sup> 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.

<sup>36</sup> 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 Samuel 17:37-39 (NKJV)**

<sup>37</sup> 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!"

<sup>38</sup> 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.

<sup>39</sup> 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.

- **1 Samuel 17:40-43 (NKJV)**

<sup>40</sup> Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine.

<sup>41</sup> So the Philistine came, and began drawing near to David, and the man who bore the shield *went* before him.

<sup>42</sup> And when the Philistine looked about and saw David, he disdained him; for he was *only* a youth, ruddy and good-looking.

<sup>43</sup> So the Philistine said to David, "*Am* I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

- **1 Samuel 17:44-46 (NKJV)**

<sup>44</sup> And the Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!"

<sup>45</sup> Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

<sup>46</sup> This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

- **1 Samuel 17:47-49 (NKJV)**

<sup>47</sup> Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle *is* the LORD'S, and He will give you into our hands."

<sup>48</sup> So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hastened and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

<sup>49</sup> Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung *it* and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth.



- **1 Samuel 17:50-52 (NKJV)**

<sup>50</sup> So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. But *there was* no sword in the hand of David.

<sup>51</sup> Therefore David ran and stood over the Philistine, took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it. And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.

<sup>52</sup> Now the men of Israel and Judah arose and shouted, and pursued the Philistines as far as the entrance of the valley and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell along the road to Shaaraim, even as far as Gath and Ekron.

- **1 Samuel 17:53-58 (NKJV)**

<sup>53</sup> Then the children of Israel returned from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their tents.

<sup>54</sup> And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent.

<sup>55</sup> When Saul saw David going out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the commander of the army, "Abner, whose son *is* this youth?" And Abner said, "As your soul lives, O king, I do not know."

- **1 Samuel 17:53-58 (NKJV)**

<sup>56</sup> So the king said, "Inquire whose son this young man *is*."

<sup>57</sup> Then, as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand.

<sup>58</sup> And Saul said to him, "Whose son *are* you, young man?" So David answered, "*I am* the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."

# Who was Goliath?

- **A champion** by the name of **Goliath** came out of the Philistine camp daily for forty days, defying **the armies of Israel** to send him a worthy opponent. There were no volunteers. This giant was about nine feet nine inches tall and wore at least 175 pounds of armor. **His iron spearhead** alone weighed over fifteen pounds. The heavy weapons were no problem for Goliath, since he himself must have weighed somewhere between 600 and 750 pounds (possibly more, depending on his build). This gave him many times the strength of a normal man.

Believer's Bible Commentary

- 1 Samuel 17:4 He was from Gath. What do we know about Gath?
- A city of the Philistines -  
(1 Samuel 5:8) Therefore they sent and gathered to themselves all the lords of the Philistines, and said, "What shall we do with the ark of the God of Israel?" And they answered, "Let the ark of the God of Israel be carried away to Gath." So they carried the ark of the God of Israel away.  
(1 Samuel 6:17) These *are* the golden tumors which the Philistines returned *as* a trespass offering to the LORD: one for Ashdod, one for Gaza, one for Ashkelon, one for Gath, one for Ekron;

- Joshua 11:22 He was an Anakim. What do we know about the Anakim?
- **Joshua 11:21-22 (NKJV)**
  - <sup>21</sup> And at that time Joshua came and cut off the Anakim from the mountains: from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel; Joshua utterly destroyed them with their cities.
  - <sup>22</sup> None of the Anakim were left in the land of the children of Israel; they remained only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod.

- The Anakim were giants (Numbers 13:32-33) And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies *is* a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it *are* men of *great* stature. There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."

- Goliath taunted Israel saying, "Why have you come out to line up for battle? *Am* I not a Philistine, and you the servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us." And the Philistine said, "I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together." When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.



# David's mission

- David *was* the youngest son Jesse. Jesse was old, advanced *in years*, and had eight sons. Jesse's three oldest sons Eliab, Abinadab, and Shammah, had gone to follow Saul to the battle.
- David occasionally went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.
- Jesse sent David to take his brothers dried *grain* and ten loaves. He was to carry ten cheeses to their captain, see how his brothers were, and bring back news of them.

# David's reception

- David rose early and brought the food to his brothers, he heard the taunts of Goliath and saw the fear on the faces of the Israelites. He inquired what would be done for the man who killed Goliath. Eliab, his oldest brother, rebuked him, probably to hid his own fear, saying, "I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle."
- David replied, "What have I done now? *Is there* not a cause?"

# Saul's reaction

- Saul learned of David and had him brought to him. When he saw David, he had doubts about the lad's ability. David assured Saul , "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."
- David was relying on God for the battle. Saul gave him his own armor, but David discarded it because it was a hindrance to him. He went forth armed with five smooth stones, a sling, a staff, and the power of the living God!

- David is taken to King Saul and he addresses three issues.
- **A. The PANIC**  
 David tells them not to be afraid. David has great courage.  
Psalm 118:6—*The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?*  
Psalm 23:4—*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*  
David truly believes God's care for his life.... so should we. Is there a giant in your life? Trust the Lord.
- **B. His POSITION**  
 David refers to himself as the king's servant, yet, he has been anointed to be king. He has a servant attitude toward Saul.  
James 4:6, 10—*But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.*
- **C. The PHILISTINE**  
David promises to fight Goliath. This is what everyone has been waiting for forty days. Saul especially felt the pressure because he was the king and bigger than everyone else. The crisis revealed Saul's weakness and David's strength. Our trials do the same for us. They strengthen or weaken us. Trials reveal what we are made of, how strong our faith is, and how strong God is. Realize our dependence is to be on the Lord. David did this. The Lord will care for me. Treasures From the Scriptures

- Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!"
- When Saul saw David going out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the commander of the army, "Abner, whose son *is* this youth?" It seems Saul did not recognize David when he had already appointed him as his armor bearer. Perhaps he didn't remember David's family. Since he had promised "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."

# Facing the Giant

- When the Philistine looked about and saw David, he disdained him; for he was *only* a youth, ruddy and good-looking. Maybe around 20 years old.
- He was upset that Israel should insult him by sending out a mere child to fight him.
- Goliath's confidence was in his size and strength.
- David's confidence was in the Lord.

# The Victory

- He had complete faith that the Lord would give him the victory. He responded to the giant's curses with, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.
- One stone and the giant was dead, losing his head with his own sword. When the Philistines saw this, they fled, with Israel in hot pursuit.

# That all may know

- This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD'S, and He will give you into our hands."
- David's heart and interest wasn't in his own glory and praise but in God's.



# The Armor

- **Romans 13:12-14 (NKJV)**

<sup>12</sup> The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

<sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.

<sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts.

- **2 Corinthians 6:2-7 (NKJV)**

*<sup>2</sup> For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*

- Salvation came for Israel when the Lord used David to slay the giant.
- Salvation from our giants comes when we trust the power of the Lord and not our own strength. David's brothers trusted their armor and strength resulting in fear and failure.
- Salvation comes when a sinner trusts the work of the Lord Jesus.

- <sup>3</sup> We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed.
- Sometimes believers do offend others in what is said or done that is not honoring to the Lord.
- Paul tells us that we believers are to not be offensive to others in a way that would cause them to turn away from the Lord and not trust Him blaming us for the reason.
- David could have taken offence at his brother's rebuke and went home instead of fighting the giant.

- <sup>4</sup> But in all *things* we commend ourselves  
as ministers of God: in much patience, in  
tribulations, in needs, in distresses,  
<sup>5</sup> in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults,  
in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings;  
<sup>6</sup> by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering,  
by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere  
love,  
<sup>7</sup> by the word of truth, by the power of  
God, by the armor of righteousness on the  
right hand and on the left,

- **Ephesians 6:11-17 (NKJV)**

<sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

<sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

<sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

- <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,  
<sup>15</sup> and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;  
<sup>16</sup> above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.  
<sup>17</sup> And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;