

David and Goliath

1 Samuel 17

Introduction

- A. The account of David and Goliath
- B. There are many profitable lessons to be learned from this story
 - 1. There are many giant-like obstacles in our lives that must be conquered
 - 2. If we trust in god, we can have victory in every conflict
 - 3. Young people, too, have a place in the kingdom of god
 - a. While youths usually look to the aged for encouragement, in this study it is youth that is giving encouragement
 - b. Youth, in possession of the spirit of Christ, can counsel and guide as well as any
- C. We shall study this chapter under the following headings:
 - 1. The champion - **verses 1-7**
 - 2. The challenge - **verses 8-11**
 - 3. The consent - **verses 12-40**
 - 4. The conflict - **verses 41-47**
 - 5. The conquest - **verses 48-58**

I. The Champion - **Verses 1-7**

- A. **Verses 1-3** give the place; **verses 4-7** describe the challenger
 - 1. His height was six cubits and a span (about 11 feet)
 - 2. The weight of his coat was five thousand Shekels of brass (160 pounds). A very strong man today does well to carry 100 pounds, but this man's coat weighed almost twice that much
 - 3. His spear's head alone weighted six hundred Shekels of iron (20 pounds)
- B. This man was a giant, to say the least. He was fully armed for war

II. The Challenge - **Verses 8-11**

- A. The giant wants Israel to find a man to fight with him
 - 1. He makes the proposition that whoever wins, the others will be servants to them
 - 2. He hurled defiance (mock and ridicule) against Israel
- B. It was only natural that the common soldier of Israel was afraid of this man
 - 1. Likewise, men today would be afraid to face such

III. The Consent - **Verses 12-40**

- A. During this time Jesse sent David to carry Supplies to his three older brothers who were soldiers in Saul's army - **Verses 12-22**
 - 1. While David was there, the giant came out and repeated his challenge

B. To David, Goliath had reproached the armies of the living God - **verse 26**

1. His faith prompted him to show concern about this matter

C. His elder brother thought he was full of pride and of an evil heart - **verse 28**

1. There is a lesson here. David did not let his brother's attitude discourage him

2. The strongest discouragement that one must face often comes from family

a. We can't let discouragements of family hinder us from serving God

b. Those who have discouraging unbelievers in their families must diligently strive to be faithful

c. Seek to save yourself first and follow by always setting a good example before the unbeliever

1 Peter 3:1-3 - Red

D. David volunteers to fight Goliath - **Verse 32**

1. At first Saul thought this was out of the question - **verse 33**

a. He said, more or less, to David, "you are just a boy; you can't fight against this man!"

b. If he would only wait a while, he would see what this boy could do

2. To assure Saul, David spoke of how he had received the Lord's help on two occasions

a. By the Lord's help he had slain both a lion and a bear and had rescued the lambs they had taken

3. This satisfied Saul. He probably could see his faith. Besides, he had no one else that would go

4. Saul clad David in his own armor

a. There is a hidden lesson here. Worldly Wisdom suggested that David should have such armor as the one he was about to meet, but notice what David said in verse 39

b. Saul's effort to arm David is similar to the efforts of today's worldly minded church members who adopt worldly ways in doing the Lord's work

1) We need the wisdom of David who said he would continue to use that which was tried and proven

2) We should not resort to the worldly ways of new organizations and man-made gimmicks, but continue to ask for the old paths

5. **Verse 40** - Thus, moved not by human wisdom or skill, but by faith, this young man went forth to meet a giant

a. His weapons seemed wholly unfit for the occasion; yet trusting in God he went forth to conquer

IV. The Conflict - **Verses 41-47**

A. As the champion came out to the fight, we see a marked contrast

1. We see a giant clad in heavy armor with a man bearing a shield before him, and a small, tender boy with no armor and bearing no weapons save his staff and sling

2. To human wisdom the giant must prevail and the boy utterly perish

B. The giant despised the youth of David - **Verse 42**

1. The young will be disdained and despised as they try to do right today
2. Young people can offset this by setting a good example

1 Timothy 4:12

“Let No Man Despise Thy Youth; But Be Thou An Example Of The Believers, In Word, In Conversation, In Charity, In Spirit, In Faith, In Purity”

C. **Verse 43** -- he felt that David was armed sufficiently for nothing more than killing or chasing away a dog

1. He said - **verse 44**
2. He needed only to wait a minute; he would see what this boy could do

D. David had a longer speech

1. **Verse 45a** - Upon these the philistine relied
2. **Verse 45b** - David trusted in god
 - a. He was expecting to slay the giant, not through his own physical strength, but through the help of God
 - b. God will likewise give us victory in every conflict in life if we sincerely trust in him with a David-like confidence
 - c. The saints of God can be victorious in all the endeavors of life

1 Corinthians 15:57

“But Thanks Be To God, Which Giveth Us The Victory Through Our Lord Jesus Christ”

Romans 8:37

“Nay, In All These Things We Are More Than Conquerors Through Him That Loved Us”

3. Notice David's humility
 - a. He was not concerned that all the world might know that he was a great soldier, but he was extremely concerned that all the earth might know that there was a God in Israel
 - b. Some like to tell of some great things they have done. However, all of us should be like David and say, "through the help of God, I was able to do this or that"
 - c. We should say, "god accomplished these things through me, his unworthy servant"

V. The Conquest - **Verses 48-58**

A. David hastened and ran toward the giant - **Verse 48**

1. He had great faith and courage. He was not afraid when the giant came toward him. He did not wait for the giant to come to him, but ran to meet him
2. This should be our attitude toward the enemies of truth today

B. The giant is killed - **Verses 49-51**

1. One small stone from David's sling brought the giant to the ground
2. With such great trust in God, David couldn't lose
3. David having no sword himself ran to the giant and took his sword and cut off his head

C. When the philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled - **Verse 52**

1. They weren't willing to abide by the proposition their champion had made for 40 days
2. When they saw a mere lad conquer their huge warrior, they realized their cause was hopeless

D. David, though not seeking it, began to build a reputation for himself - **Verses 55-58**

1. Through righteous living, we build a good name for ourselves

Conclusion

- A. David fought god's battles in god's way, to god's honor and glory
- B. If we put trust in the lord, he will give us victory in every conflict against sin and error