

THROUGH Eyes of FAITH ~ 1 Samuel 17:1-53

→ Scripture Reading 1 Samuel 17 selected verses

INTRODUCTION

→ Pictures of Sears/Willis Tower in Chicago (x3)

TRASH TALKING ~ 1 Samuel 17:1-16

[1] Now the Philistines gathered their forces for war and assembled at Socoh in Judah. They pitched camp at Ephes Dammim, between Socoh and Azekah. [2] Saul and the Israelites assembled and camped in the Valley of Elah and drew up their battle line to meet the Philistines. [3] The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them. [4] A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was over nine feet tall. [5] He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; [6] on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. [7] His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him. [8] Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the SERVANTS of SAUL? Choose a man and have him come down to me. [9] If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us." [10] Then the Philistine said, "This day I DEFY the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." [11] On hearing the Philistine's words, SAUL and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified.

[12] Now DAVID was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons, and in Saul's time he was old and well advanced in years. [13] Jesse's three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab; the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah. [14] David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul, [15] but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem. [16] For FORTY days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand.

RUNNING IN FEAR ~ 1 Samuel 17:17-31

[17] Now Jesse said to his son David, "Take this ephah of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread for your brothers and hurry to their camp. [18] ...See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them...[20] Early in the morning David left the flock with a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp AS the army was going out to its battle positions, SHOUTING the war cry. [21] Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other. ...[23] As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and SHOUTED HIS USUAL DEFIANCE, and David heard it. [24] When the Israelites saw the man, they all RAN from him in GREAT FEAR... [26]..."What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should DEFY the armies of the living God?" ...[28] When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, "Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the desert? I know how CONCEITED you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle... [31] What David said was overheard and reported to Saul, and Saul sent for him.

PREPARING FOR BATTLE ~ 1 Samuel 17:32-40

[33] Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a boy, and he has been a fighting man from his youth... [36] Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. [37] The LORD who DELIVERED me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine...[40] Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.

→ Sling Stones and Slinger

THE BATTLE IS THE LORD's ~ 1 Samuel 17:41-53

[41] Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David. [42] He looked David over and saw that he was only a boy, ruddy and handsome, and he despised him. [43] He said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?" And the Philistine CURSED David by his gods. [44] "Come here," he said, "and I'll give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!" [45] David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the NAME of the LORD ALMIGHTY, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have DEFIED.

Goliath came out to battle in his own name; David came to battle in the **NAME of the Lord of ALL the armies of heaven.** MacArthur

[46] This day the LORD will HAND YOU OVER to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will KNOW that there is a God in Israel. [47] All those gathered here will KNOW that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; FOR the BATTLE is the LORD's, and HE will give ALL of you into our hands."

KNOW - To understand, grasp, or be certain about WHO God **IS** WHAT God can **DO**

[48] As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David RAN quickly toward the battle line to meet him.

With no **ARMOR** or **FEAR weighing** him down - **TRUSTING God** and **God ALONE** David **RAN** to meet **Goliath**. MacArthur

What an incredible CONTRAST...

Saul - full of **FEAR** hid from Goliath for 40 days

David - full of **FAITH** fully **TRUSTING** God **RUNS** towards Goliath

[49] Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground. [50] So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; **WITHOUT** a **SWORD** in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

→Video slinger

[51] David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the scabbard. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword. When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran.

TAKE AWAY

2 Chronicles 20:12 (NIV) ...For we have no power to face this VAST ARMY that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you."

When we **CALL** out to God - Turn to God - Trust God - that **HONORS** Him as **GOD** CJK

Trust is **NOT** being **FEARLESS** - it is **CONFIDENCE** in a God who is **Worthy** of our Trust

TAKE AWAY - 2

David recognized that God's **HONOR** was at stake. Goliath had insulted God and His chosen covenant people. This battle and war was to set the record straight. Holman OT

David **KNEW** God - and that changed how he **VIEWED** the World