

1 Samuel 17 - That the Whole World Would Know

We too must face battles

- 1Sa 17:1-58 NIV Now the Philistines **gathered their forces for war** and assembled at Sokoh in Judah. They pitched camp at Ephes Dammim, between Sokoh 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.

Our enemy “seems” unbeatable - He’s a champion, he’s big and he’s strong

- (4) A **champion** named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. **His height was six cubits and a span. (9’9”)** (5) He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; **(125 lbs)** (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.**(15 lbs)** His shield bearer went ahead of him.

Our enemy intimidates - he wants to make us his servants

- (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 armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other."

He wants to make us ineffective in the battle...to strip us of dignity, strength, courage

- **Goliath means** - A primitive root; to *denude* (especially in a disgraceful sense); by implication to *exile* (captives being usually *stripped*); figuratively to *reveal*:
- **Defy means** - to pull off, that is, (by implication) to *expose* (as by *stripping*);

How did the soldiers respond to “HEARING” Goliath?

- (11) On **HEARING** the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were **dismayed and terrified**.

God In His Sovereignty Puts Us in the Right Place At the Right Time - DAVID HEARD IT

- (20) **Early in the morning David left the flock in the care of 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. (22) David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and asked his brothers how they were. (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.**

David didn't shrink back - What was different about him? --- 2 Things

FIRST: What he did EVERYday prepared him for the battle TODAY

His care for the sheep, translated into the shepherd's heart for the people of God

- (20) Early in the morning David left the flock in the care of a shepherd
 - (32) David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine

What his brother considered as a menial unimportant job prepared David for one of the greatest moments in the history of Israel

- (28) And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the wilderness?

His protection of the sheep - raised his courage

- (34) But David said to Saul, "**Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep**. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, (35) I went after it, struck it and **rescued the sheep from its mouth**. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. (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**."

He went into battle with the Shepherd's tools

- (38) Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. (39) David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them. "**I cannot go in these,**" he said to Saul, "**because I am not used to them.**" **So he took them off.** (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. (41) Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David.

SECOND: He had a relationship with God

He had a relationship with the LORD - He was offended at Goliath's intimidation

- (26) David asked the men standing near him, "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?**" (27) They repeated to him what they had been saying and told him, "This is what will be done for the man who kills him."
 - **Goliath said he was defying the armies of Israel**
 - **David said he was defying the armies of the LIVING GOD**

His relationship with the LORD overcame the resistance and opinions of others stop him

- (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 wilderness?** I know how **conceited** you are and how **wicked** your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle." (29) "Now what have I done?" said David. "Can't I even speak?" **[KJV - Is there not a cause?]** (30) **He then turned away to someone else and brought up the same matter**, and the men answered him as before.

- They questioned his **motives** (why have you come),
- They put him down, not **qualified** (few sheep)
- They attacked his **character** (conceited-and a wicked heart) -

His relationship with the LORD - provided a history and confidence to believe for TODAY

- (37) **The LORD who rescued** me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear **will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.**" Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you."

His Relationship with the LORD enabled him to keep God's perspective

- (42) He looked David over and saw that he was little more than a boy, glowing with health 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 and the wild animals!**"(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. (46) This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. **This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals**, and

The key of the story

- (46) "**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."

Run toward your battles - David did not run in fear into his TENT - He ran TOWARD the battle

- (48) As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, **David ran quickly toward the battle line** to meet him. (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.

Put an end to the enemy - David ran to the fallen CHAMPION and HERO - the Philistines ran

- (51) David **ran** and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the sheath. 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.**

God's work in you will spur others in the victory of God

- (52) Then the men of Israel and Judah surged forward with a shout and pursued the Philistines to the entrance of Gath and to the gates of Ekron. Their dead were strewn along the Shaaraim road to Gath and Ekron. (53) When the Israelites returned from **chasing** the Philistines, they plundered their camp.

Trophies - reminders of what the LORD has done...it is not by sword or spear the lord saves

- (54) David took the Philistine's head and brought it to Jerusalem; he put the Philistine's weapons in his own tent.