

WHAT ARE THE MODERN-DAY GIANTS IN OUR LIVES?



WEEKLY
CHRISTIAN
FOCUS

LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF YOUNG (LATER KING) DAVID PART II

Do we know our future? Usually no one does, we just flow along the river (or road of life) that God has put us on. We don't know where the river is leading, **the best thing we can do is to stay close to the Lord, because He knows where our lives are going and all the blessings he has piled up for us along the way.**



God leads us along and as long as our hearts are right and love Him, it will be a tremendous life for Him. Not without fierce battles of course, at times, or tremendous challenges, and tests of our obedience to Him.

So here we are today looking at young David; just having started on God's road of life and having been anointed by the Prophet Samuel to be (in time) the new King of Israel. First, a reminder that this message and story is in no way a political message, rather, it is a spiritual message for us today to fight and win the Lord's battles in the Name of Jesus.

This actual chapter of 1 Samuel 17 is quite long, (58 verses), and there are so many lessons, so *I may comment briefly on some parts and go longer into others. We are using the Amplified Classic Bible for the most part, in this true story.*

1 Samuel 17 Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle and were assembled at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah in Ephes-dammim. *In the province or tribal area of Judah.*

2 Saul and the men of Israel were encamped in the Valley of Elah and drew up in battle array against the Philistines. *Not much has changed then after 3,000 years!*

3 And the Philistines stood on a mountain on one side and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, with the valley between them. [Valley of Elah - Google Search](#)

4 And a champion went out of the camp of the Philistines named Goliath of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span **[almost ten feet tall].**

5 And he had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of mail, and the coat weighed 5,000 shekels of bronze. **That would be about 55 kilos weight or 121 pounds**

6 He had bronze **shin** armour on his legs and a **bronze javelin** across his shoulders.

7 And the shaft of his **spear** was like a weaver's beam; his spear's head weighed 600 shekels of iron. And a shield bearer went before him. *Now believe it or not, there is a team of Christians in the United States who have created an exact replica, they think, of Goliath's spear! See link below and photo.*

8 Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves and let him come down to me.

9 **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.

10 And the Philistine said, **I defy the ranks of Israel this day;** give me a man, that we may fight together.

11 When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

Goliath was one incredibly intimidating giant, nearly ten feet tall, and carrying all that armour and weaponry! At that time, very sophisticated and advanced weaponry, and probably custom made and highly efficient to kill. As King Saul says later here 'he is a man of war, from his youth!' It was no wonder, in the natural, that all the Israelites were afraid of him, terrified. When they just considered in their minds the possibility of fighting him, they could only see their bodies being killed and carved up and fed to the birds.

So the destiny of ancient Israel all hinged now on whether they could find someone who was capable of defeating Goliath in personal combat one to one, man to man. The winner claimed the spoils and would gain the other's country and the losers would be slaves or servants of the other nation.

And ultimately, this is the way of the world and human history; 'To the Strongest!' **



How big was Goliath's Spear? —

[Goliath's Spear \(goliathsspear.com\)](http://goliathsspear.com)

Here is an exact replica of Goliath's spear in this photo above. Check out their web site. Don't miss all the amazing things on their site!

12 David was the son of an Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah named Jesse, who had eight sons. **[Jesse] in the days of Saul was old, advanced in years.**

13 [His] three eldest sons had followed Saul into battle. Their names were Eliab the firstborn; next, Abinadab; and third, Shammah.

14 David was the youngest. The three eldest followed Saul,

15 But David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

The writer is giving us the recap of the situation in this fresh chapter. Also, David seemed to be on constant errands for his dad during this battle period.

16 The Philistine (Goliath) came out morning and evening, presenting himself for forty days. **A long time really. Still no Israelite and not one of God's people taking up the challenge.**

17 And Jesse said to David his son, Take for your brothers an ephah of this parched grain and these ten loaves and carry them quickly to your brothers at the camp.

18 Also take these ten cheeses to the commander of their thousand. See how your brothers fare and bring some token from them.

Jesse had some wonderful traits I believe, otherwise God would not have chosen him to be in the historical lineage to the Messiah. Here we see his concern, diligence, and love, as well as understanding of his own aged part to play, and again he offers a gift, this time to the commander of his sons' thousand-soldier band.

19 Now Saul and the brothers and all the men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. **This is a bit vague, so I am leaving this verse.**

20 So **David rose up early next morning**, left the sheep with a keeper, took the provisions, **and went, as Jesse had commanded him.** And he came to the encampment as the host going forth to the battleground shouted the battle cry. **David doesn't mess around with his obedience to his dad!**

21 And Israel and the Philistines put the battle in array, army against army.

22 David left his packages in the care of the baggage keeper and **ran into the ranks** and came and greeted his brothers.

23 As they talked, behold, Goliath, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, came forth from the Philistine ranks and spoke the same words as before, and David heard him.

24 And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, terrified. (**MFP. See below and links**)

25 And the Israelites said, Have you seen this man who has come out? Surely he has come out to defy Israel; and the man who kills him the king will enrich with great riches, and will give him his daughter and make his father's house free [from taxes and service] in Israel. (.

God had the perfect time for David to come. We call them Divine meetings or appointments. These are meetings that change our lives sometimes. Being in the right place, God's Place at God's Time! You can't beat this type of arrangement. The soldiers mentioned to David about all the rewards Saul had promised to anyone who could overcome Goliath.

26 And David said to the men standing by him, 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?**

27 And the [men] told him, Thus shall it be done for the man who kills him.

28 Now Eliab his eldest brother heard what he said to the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David and he said, Why did you come here? With whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your presumption and evilness of heart; for you came down that you might see the battle.

29 And David said, What have I done now? Was it not a harmless question?

30 And David turned away from Eliab to another and he asked the same question, and again the men gave him the same answer. Sometimes your own family can't help but say discouraging and even hateful words, often out of jealousy, or even for reasons they don't even know themselves. Here was the eldest brother strongly criticising David.

31 When David's words were heard, they were repeated to Saul, and he sent for him.

32 David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of this Philistine; your servant will go out and fight with him.

David, even at such a young age, knew how to try to encourage people!

*David had this divine conviction inside his soul that he would fight and defeat Goliath. **Imagine, out of all the ten thousands of Israel, there was only one person able and willing, fearless, and with true understanding of the situation, to take on this Giant.** David saw this purely as to whether his adversary belonged to God or not; in this case, being uncircumcised, Goliath was way outside God's protection and His Covenant with His people at that time! **For David, it was a no-brainer.***

33 And Saul said to David, You

are not able to go to fight against this Philistine. You are only an adolescent, and he has been a warrior from his youth.

34 And David said to Saul, Your servant kept his father's sheep. And when there came a lion or again a bear and took a lamb out of the flock,

35 I went out after it and smote it and delivered the lamb out of its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard and smote it and killed it.

36 Your servant killed both the lion and the bear; **and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God!**

37 David said, The Lord Who delivered me out of the paw of the lion and out of the paw of the bear, He will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said to David, Go, and the Lord be with you!

David's godly conviction convinces King Saul. The Lord had already given him training and prepared him in looking after his father's sheep.

38 Then Saul clothed David with his armour; he put a bronze helmet on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail.

39 And David girded his sword over his armour. **Then he tried to go, but could not**, for he was not used to it. And David said to Saul, I cannot go with these, for I am not used to them. And David took them off.

Even though we often obey God, the system of the day often tries to keep moulding us back into the expected way to do things. This process never seems to end. The system and world cannot fathom God's ways; how could things possibly work out without their expertise? They are convinced of that, and they usually try to convince us of the same.

All this armour was just too much. All the weight of the expectations of the world and others. We want to please them

so many times, but we have to be free to follow God in the way God has been planning for us. If David had yielded to Saul's idea out of a desire to please his king, he would have failed, instead he....

40 Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones out of the brook and put



them in his shepherd's [lunch] bag [a whole kid's skin slung from his shoulder], in his pouch, and his sling was in his hand, and he drew near the Philistine.

41 The Philistine came on and drew near to David, the man who bore the shield going before him.

42 And when the Philistine looked around and saw David, **he scorned and despised him, for he was but an adolescent**, with a healthy reddish colour and a fair face.

43 And the Philistine said to David, Am I a dog, that you should come to me with sticks? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. Big mistake by Goliath. Never despise the youth.

44 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. The normal high level of intimidation. Have you experienced that?

45 Then said David to the Philistine, You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but



I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the

ranks of Israel, Whom you have defied.

46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will smite you and cut off your head. And I will give the corpses of the army of the Philistines this day 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.

47 And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands. What a beautiful and enormously powerful prophecy and message David was delivering to both Goliath and to himself also! When the time comes for real battle we have to shout and believe, and even prophesy.

48 When the Philistine came forward to meet David, **David ran quickly** toward the battle line to meet the Philistine.

49 David put his hand into his bag and took out a stone and slung it, and it struck the Philistine, sinking into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth. Possibly the only exposed part of his head and also quite vulnerable. It would be interesting to know the velocity and other scientific data of the force of this stone arriving in his forehead, and here it is possibly:

David selected 5 stones from a brook, but he only needed 1: In the hands of an expert, a heavy sling bullet or stone could reach speeds of up to 100 mph (160 km/h). velocity of Davids stone hitting Goliath - Google Search

50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck down the Philistine and slew him. But no sword was in David's hand. It was the stone from the sling that killed Goliath. He was already dead! Cutting off the head was the proof to all watching the Giant had lost!

51 **So he 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. When the Philistines saw that their mighty champion was dead,



they fled. He never needed a sword of his own. God provided one for him, straight from his enemy. The wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just! When the time comes God will provide. You just obey God the best you can and the rest is up to God.

52 And the men of Israel and Judah rose with a shout and pursued the Philistines as far as Gath and the gates of Ekron. So the wounded Philistines fell along the way from Shaaraim as far as Gath and Ekron.

53 The Israelites returned from their pursuit of the Philistines and plundered their tents.

54 David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armour in his tent. Spoils of war.

55 When Saul saw David go out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the captain of the host, Abner, whose son is this youth? And Abner said, As your soul lives, O king, I cannot tell.

56 And the king said, Inquire whose son the **stripling** is.

57 When David returned from killing Goliath the Philistine, Abner brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand.

58 And Saul said to him, Whose son are you, young man? And David answered, I am the son of your servant Jesse of Bethlehem.

David still had the head of the Giant when he met King Saul and

Abner, the captain of the host.



He came from that wonderful lineage we mentioned in Part I of Boaz (and Ruth), Obed, Jesse and David! David was no snowflake. In those days it was kill or be killed. Everyone knew this as a fact of life.

Closing thoughts and lessons for us today.

• Are you going out to meet your enemies like David? **David ran against them. Everything David did, he always ran!** There are plenty of Goliaths still left in this world, in fact, they are increasing. You have to have full Godly conviction, that God is with you, and he will deliver you from the Giants of this day, **and not only deliver you from them but KILL THEM, amen? !**

• David's plan was to choose 5 smooth stones from the brook. He had had the training from God, and ability and knew in his mind already, exactly what his plan was going to be! Simple but effective. God had shown it to him in his mind first. **All he had to do now was do it.** 'Let's do this' as modern people love to say. It all depends on what the 'this' is that you are 'doing'! I expect the Philistines were all shouting the same things. **We live now in a world of great shouting and agitation.** We can easily be distracted by emotional

shouting and hysteria, all of which, if not Godly, will never win the battle.

• So David won the battle for God, because of God's inspiration and **His anointing on David which came through the prophet Samuel.**

• **There are two other thoughts about this that I would like to share;** one is mentioned often in sermons, and the other I have never heard shared before, which is;

We have to ask ourselves today, who are we in this story? Are we Goliath, who disdained the young, or are we Saul, are we Abner? Are we Eliab, David's oldest brother? Are we just one of the flotsam and jetsam of the ten thousands of Mass Formation Psychosis soldiers of the army of Saul who were unable to see in the Spirit? They would all have been eager to get back home to their wives, girlfriends or 'partners' and enjoy the latest soaps on TV, if they would have had any! Or are we Jesse, (which can't be bad), **Or are we David? We should prayerfully think this week about who we are and where we are in God's plan for our lives. If you are not David or Jesse, you should seek God desperately to make you one of them.** Stop everything you are doing this week, and ignore the agitations of this present evil world, and get desperate with God to change your life, because I promise you, if you are not ready, the days that are coming upon us soon, well, you will need to be a fighter in the Spirit! You will need to have conviction, wisdom, faith and power from God in your mind to make it through.

The final lesson which is often shared, is that no man should despise your youth! **One generation comes and then another generation arrives.** The

old die and the new come. This is God's permitted plan since the fall. David was the King of the New Era. All revolutions have primarily been started by the young, often with the guidance of the old if they are blessed enough to listen. But it is youth who have the energy, power and the fearlessness to be bold enough. They don't worry about the future, they don't worry about pensions, they don't worry about all the things we adults worry about! They are only concerned about the NOW! And believe it or not, that is the way God has made most of them, and most of us, when we were young!

Ecclesiastes 1:4

One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth abideth for ever.

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.

*The big lesson and heart-felt meaning for me, as I write this is; let's pray for our Christian youth, or even those youth who do not yet know Jesus. **Pray for them to stand up to the coming Anti-Christ world and be FEARLESS LIKE DAVID. If you only spent the rest of your old life praying earnestly for the youth of this world to know God and rise up and witness the truth of the Gospel then you would have been a success! And you can die in peace! Amen? God bless you. Let's do something this week with this message! Amen.***

**God bless you.
Love In Christ,,**

Jerry for the WCF TEAM.



[King David's palace uncovered in Elah Valley 18 Jul 2013 \(embassies.gov.il\)](#)

[David & Goliath: The Valley of Elah - YouTube](#)

[Sling \(weapon\) - Wikipedia](#)

[accurate sling throoing - Google Search](#)

[Superbook - A Giant Adventure - Season 1 Episode 6 - Full Episode \(Official HD Version\) - YouTube](#)

An excellent rendition of the story from Superbook, good for adults and children.

The sling had a flexible pocket with two straps attached, made taut by pulling it in a vertical circle several times to build up kinetic energy. Then the knotted strap was released, sending the stone toward the target. The sling could hurl a stone of 25 grams (about 1 oz.) at 100 kilometres per hour (62 mph) to hit something 200 meters (656 ft.) or more away.

****While Alexander the Great lay on his deathbed, he was surrounded by his most prominent generals, all waiting for him to declare a successor. One of them asked Alexander who it would be, and with his last gasp, he said "Hoti to kratisto" or "to the strongest."**

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