

Repentance Tabernacle Church

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David and Goliath

Focus Verses: 1 Samuel 17:45-46 - ⁴⁵ Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. ⁴⁶ This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

Lesson Text: 1 Samuel 17:38-51

Truth About God: God fights our battles for us.

Truth For My Life: I will face my giants with confidence in my God.

During the days of Scripture, a king was often a nation's military leader and it was not uncommon for the ruler himself to be in the heart of the battlefield. The remarkable point is that Saul had not stridden out to accept Goliath's proposition. From a natural standpoint, Saul was most well suited. The Bible records of him, "from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people" (1 Samuel 9:2). Saul cowered along with all the others, thus paving the way for David to rise to his moment.

Goliath said, "Choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me. If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us" (1 Samuel 17:8-9). David expressed his willingness to fight, but Saul was immediately dismissive. "Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth" (1 Samuel 17:33). David assured Saul of his experience in conflict in other arenas and expressed his unwavering confidence in God's faithfulness to grant him victory.

David refuses Saul's personal armor to fight Goliath (1 Samuel 17:38-39). David understood that when one is confronting the enemy, that is not the time to try something he has never tried before. He used tested weapons, five smooth stones and sling in his hand (1 Samuel 17:40). David's prior experience prepared him for the fight (1 Samuel 17:34-37). When we testify of God's demonstrations of power at various points in our lives, we build both our confidence and that of those who hear us. David was not intimidated by Goliath threats (1 Samuel 17:45-46). The Lord gave Israel Victory and it became very contagious that day. *"And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled"* (1 Samuel 17:51). All of Israel celebrated when one man demonstrated unshakable confidence in God's power to deliver. His triumph became theirs.

We will have God-ordained moments when by our faith in God we can win great victories. Sometimes those moments can be rather frightening, but God has given us a sacred promise never to leave us (Hebrews 13:5). We can rest assured if God directs us to confront an enemy before us, He will give us a victory on which we can one day look back.

But the assurance is not found in natural abilities or human skills. In those realms we are most certainly the underdogs. <u>But in the realm of the Spirit in which we war, we have been made more than conquerors</u>. Just as Goliath was slain, so too will be every enemy that opposes our walk with God so long as we maintain our confidence in the one who has never failed.

No one saw the potential in David. Perhaps few (including you) see what you can be, but that does not mean God does not have profound plans for your life. And you can do it—not because you are great, but because God is; not because you are strong, but because you trust in the God who is; not because you have the ability, but because you walk in tandem with the one who can do all things. You need not be intimidated by the size of the giant across the battlefield from you if you will simply look up at the stature of the God who lives inside of you. <u>Heroes come in all shapes and sizes, and one of them looks just like you</u>.