

**12/13/17**

**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

One of the great questions of the Bible is, “If God is for us, who can be against us?” The answer is, “No one and nothing!” But for a moment, let’s think of someone and something that could be against us.

How about Goliath, the Philistine soldier from 1 Samuel 17? The Bible described him as a nine-foot tall champion. His armor and weaponry likely weighed more than some of the Israelite soldiers themselves. Whenever he challenged Israel to fight, his voice struck terror into their hearts. No one dared fight him, until a young shepherd heard his challenge and asked, “Who is he to defy the armies of the living God?” And with a few smooth stones and a slingshot in his hand, David took on Goliath. If God was for him, who could be against him?

As you read or hear this today, you probably aren’t too concerned about the threat of a nine-foot tall Philistine. But do you have pressures before you that cause you to worry? Do you have challenges on the horizon that fill your heart with fear? Perhaps some of them appear over nine-feet tall and they make you feel so weak and helpless. Where will you find the strength to face them? God is for you! But how can you be so sure?

*To us a child is born, to us a son is given...And he will be called...Mighty God.*

*Isaiah 9:6*

You can be sure that God is for you because wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in Bethlehem’s manger is the “Mighty God” himself. God sent his own Son for you, because God is for you. And don’t be fooled by the size of God’s gift! This humble child comes with the might of God to do what no other human being could—to take away sin, to destroy death, and

to crush the work of the devil. This child still comes to you in God's Mighty Word with his sufficient grace and power for your moments of weakness.

The Mighty God is indeed for you, so who can be against you? No one and nothing!

***Prayer:*** *Guide me, O thou Great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand. Amen.  
(Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal – 331)*

(WELS E-Devotion, adapted)

...See you in church.

Keep looking up because the Lord is always looking down – Psalm 121

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