

1 Samuel 17: The Bigger They Are...

Last week:

- **Samuel** is told to gain strength by the Spirit and continue his mission to find the next king
- God sees and judges the heart, **our motives**
- There are no coincidences with God
- David moving towards the throne (Saul Calling David)
- Alesio being here and getting saved was not a coincidence
- God **will complete** what He started.

1 Samuel 17

1Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle; and they were gathered at Socoh which **belongs to Judah**, and they camped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. 2Saul and the men of Israel were gathered and camped in the valley of Elah, and drew up in **battle array** to encounter the Philistines. 3The Philistines stood on the mountain on one side while Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with the **valley between them**. 4Then a champion came out from the armies of the Philistines named Goliath, from Gath, whose **height was six cubits and a span**. 5He had a bronze helmet on his head, and he was clothed with scale-armor which weighed five thousand shekels of bronze. He also had bronze greaves on his legs and a bronze javelin slung between his shoulders. 7The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and the head of his spear weighed six hundred shekels of iron; his shield-carrier also walked before him. 8He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel and said to them, "Why do you come out to draw up in battle array? Am I not the Philistine and you 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 become your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall become our servants and serve us." 10Again the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day; give me a man that we may fight together."

- **Belongs to Judah:** The enemy on **our territory, God's territory**
- **Goliath:** Over 9 feet, Armor 125 lbs, Spear point 15 lbs
- **Choose a man...**if he is able. Taunting not man, **but God**
- Israel and Israel's God is still being taunted and one day will be taunted by the whole world

Psalm 2:1 Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing? 2The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, 3"Let us tear their fetters apart And cast away their cords from us!" 4 **He who sits in the heavens laughs...**

- Our **God is not worried**
- Instead of faith, Israel had fear

11When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were **dismayed and greatly afraid**. 12Now **David** was the son of the Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah, whose name was Jesse, and he had eight sons. And Jesse was old in the days of Saul, advanced in years among men. 13The three older sons of Jesse had gone after Saul to the battle. And the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and the second to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. 14David was the youngest. Now the three oldest followed Saul, 15 but David went **back and forth** from Saul to tend his father's flock at Bethlehem. 16The Philistine came forward morning and evening for forty days and took his stand. 17Then Jesse said to David his son, "Take now for your brothers an ephah of this roasted grain and these ten loaves and run to the camp to your brothers. 18"Bring also these **ten cuts of cheese to the commander** of their thousand, and look into the welfare of your brothers, and bring back news of them. 19"For Saul and they and all the men of Israel are in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines."

- Dismayed and **afraid** : Not a great witness for God
- David means "**beloved of God**"
- **Back and forth**: David did not stay at the palace with Saul
- From **'delivery boy' to King**...humility (a glimpse of Jesus)

20So David arose **early in the morning** and left the flock with a keeper and **took the supplies and went as Jesse had commanded him**. And he came to the circle of the camp **while the army was going out** in battle array shouting the war cry. 21Israel and the Philistines drew up in battle array, army against army. 22Then **David left his baggage in the care of the baggage keeper, and ran to the battle line** and entered in order to greet his brothers. 23As he was talking with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine from Gath named Goliath, was coming up from the army of the Philistines, and he spoke these same words; and David heard them. 24When all the men of Israel saw the man, **they fled from him and were greatly afraid**.

- **Rose early:** Men and woman of God have no hesitation in obedience. **Abhors** procrastination.
- Excited to do God's will
- While the army was going out...every morning suiting up and shouting
- Israel was all talk...where is Saul?
- **David left his baggage and ran**

Philippians 3: 12 (Read) Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. 13Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: **forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward** to what lies ahead, 14I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 12:1 (Read) Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, **let us also lay aside** every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 **fixing our eyes on Jesus**, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- **Leave** your baggage
- **Lay aside** your sin (repent)
- **Fix your eyes** on Christ
- **Be excited** and run towards the battle

25The men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who is coming up? Surely he is coming up to defy Israel. And it will be that the king will enrich the **man who kills him with great riches** and will give him his daughter and make his father's house free in Israel." 26Then David spoke to the men who were standing by him, saying, "**What will 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 taunt the armies of the living God?" 27The people answered him in accord with this word, saying, "Thus it will be done for the man who kills him."

- Riches, no taxes and Saul's daughter
- **"What will be done...?"** or "Why is a reward needed to get you going?"

- Circumcised: **Set apart** to the true God
- Forsaking the useless flesh...living by the Spirit

Romans 2:28 For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. 29But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and **circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit**, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.

Galatians 5:16 But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you **will not** carry out the desire of the flesh.

- **Motives:** It's about the heart and trusting in the power of God
- **Uncircumcised:** Derogatory

28Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and **Eliab's anger burned against David** and he said, "**Why have you come** down? And with whom have you left those **few sheep** in the wilderness? **I know** your insolence and the wickedness of your heart; for **you have come down in order to see** the battle." 29But David said, "What have I done now? Was it not just a question?" 30Then he turned away from him to another and said the same thing; and the people answered the same thing as before.

- **Eliab:** First to be rejected by God. His anger burned
- Chapter 16 David was anointed "in front of his brothers"
- **Insults:** Not only tending sheep, but just a few sheep!
- I know...you have come to see us fail
- **Jealousy:** Anger, suspicion, questioning (with who did you leave the sheep?)
- **God knew** his heart...which is why he was not chosen
- David **did not** cause this...it was there already

31When the words which David spoke were heard, they told them to Saul, and he sent for him. 32 David said to Saul, "**Let no man's heart fail on account of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.**" 33Then Saul said to David, "**You are not able** to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for **you are but a youth** while he has been a warrior from his youth."

- Saul: Discourager, David: Encourager...are we?
- You are a youth...

2 Timothy 4:12 Let **no one look down** on your youthfulness, but

rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.

- You **don't** have to "sow your wild oats" and live with regret
- Mary was about 16, the apostles were teens, Josiah was one of the greatest kings and he began at eight years old!
- By the time he was 26 he had cleansed Israel of Idolatry!

2 Kings 23:4 Then the king [Josiah] commanded Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second order and the doorkeepers, to bring out of the temple of the LORD all the **vessels that were made for Baal**, for **Asherah**, and for all the host of heaven; and **he burned them** outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron, and carried their ashes to Bethel.

24: Moreover, Josiah **removed the mediums** and the **spiritists** and the teraphim and the **idols** and **all the abominations** that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem...

- That office is vacant today...**anyone?**
- Don't waste your **youth**
- David says wait...I have a resume

34But David said to Saul, "Your servant was **tending his father's sheep**. When a lion or a bear came and took a lamb from the flock, 35 I went out after him and attacked him, and rescued it from his mouth; and when he rose up against me, I seized him by his beard and struck him and killed him. 36"Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, since he has taunted the armies of the living God." 37And David said, "**The LORD who delivered me** from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, **He will deliver me** from the hand of this Philistine " And Saul said to David, "Go, and may the LORD be with you."

- The Lord who **delivered** me...He did it then
- The Lord **will deliver** me...He will do it again
- This is a **different situation**, but the **same God!**
- This is **David, a man after Gods own heart!**
- Saul had **nothing to say** after seeing such faith...but go!

38Then **Saul clothed David** with his garments and put a bronze helmet on his head, and he clothed him with armor. 39David girded his sword over his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. So David said to Saul, "**I cannot go with these**, for I have not

tested them." And David took them off. 40He took his stick in his hand and chose for himself **five smooth stones** from the brook, and put them in the shepherd's bag which he had, even in his pouch, and his sling was in his hand; and he approached the Philistine. 41Then the Philistine came on and approached David, with the shield-bearer in front of him. 42When the Philistine looked and saw David, **he disdained him; for he was but a youth, and ruddy, with a handsome appearance.**

- 5 stones: Four brothers?
- Looked/distained: Young red headed kid with a sling shot (Opie)

43The Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine **cursed David by his gods.** 44The Philistine also said to David, "**Come to me,** and I will give your flesh to the birds of the sky and the beasts of the field." 45Then David said 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 armies of Israel, whom you have taunted.** 46"This day the LORD will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down and remove your head from you. And I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, 47and that all this assembly may know that the LORD does not deliver by sword or by spear; for the battle is the LORD'S and He will give you into our hands."

Psalm 119:41 May your unfailing **love come to me,** O LORD, your salvation according to your promise; 42 **then I will answer** the one who taunts me, for I trust in your word.

- David knew God and God's love
- When we know God and His love, we can answer our enemies with boldness!
- Those were the last words Goliath would here on this side of eternity

48Then it happened when the Philistine rose and came and drew near to meet David, that **David ran quickly toward** the battle line to meet the Philistine. 49And David put his hand into his bag and took from it a stone and slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead. And the stone sank into his forehead, so that he fell on his face to the ground. 50Thus David **prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone,** and he struck the Philistine and killed him; but there was no

sword in David's hand. 51Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and 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 champion was dead, they fled.** 52The men of Israel and Judah arose and shouted and pursued the Philistines as far as the valley, and to the gates of Ekron And the slain Philistines lay along the way to Shaaraim, even to Gath and Ekron. 53The sons of Israel returned from chasing the Philistines and plundered their camps. 54Then David took the Philistine's **head and brought it to Jerusalem, but** he put his weapons in his tent.

- David ran toward the enemy: Again on the offensive

55Now when Saul saw David going out against the Philistine, he said to **Abner** the commander of the army, "Abner, **whose son is this young man?**" And Abner said, "By your life, O king, I do not know." 56The king said, "You inquire whose son the youth is." 57So when David returned from killing the Philistine, **Abner took him** and brought him before Saul with the Philistine's head in his hand. 58Saul said to him, "**Whose son are you, young man?**" And David answered, "**I am the son of your servant Jesse** the Bethlehemite."

- I am the son of your servant...humility even after victory
- Contrast with Saul's statue of himself
- Abner will be back on the scene

CONCLUSION: Right back at ya'

- Because **Saul had trusted himself** for victory, he could **never be sure** of victory
- Because David **knew his God** and God's love for David, victory was sure (perfect love casts out ALL fear)
- David **dropped his baggage** and **ran toward** the battle, excited about what the Lord would do
- David knew that **1+ God is a majority**...a victory
- The bigger our problems the more opportunity for God to get the Glory as we trust in Him!
- Let's **not run** but **hit our tough situations head on** and watch what God does!

1 Peter 5: 6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, 7casting all your

anxiety on Him, **because He cares for you.**