

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 17 TITLE: "David & Goliath"

Intro: David & Goliath. Most popular story in the Bible. Even Malcolm Gladwell in a TedX talk attempted to interpret. Not totally wrong, but definitely wrong on some details and interpretations. Football Team devotion. Youth Group talks. Movies. All make you David.

READ/PRAY: 1 Samuel 17

Thesis: Jesus is our Perfect Representative who conquers our Enemies"

I. Israelites

- A. **Army.** Hosts. Thousands. Not one steps up. Goes out.
- B. **Saul.** Where is big tall man of Israel? Strong. Experienced Warrior-King? *Ppl chose him!*
- C. **3 Older brothers.** Mentioned by name (Ch.16). Samuel thought it's them. Dad too.
- D. **16:7:** *"the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart."*
- E. **Eliab.** Oldest bro. Jealous? Maybe because David was the one who was anointed?

II. Goliath

- A. **Champion.** Warrior. Represent. Big. Strong. Confident. Life of war & battle. Experience.
- B. **Philistines.** War experts. Powerhouse. Bronze & Iron smiths. *Not stupid.* Know how win.
- C. **Armor.** This was not his disadvantage. This was his advantage. The point is he's strong.
- D. **Hater of God.** Blasphemer of God. Enemy of God. False worshiper.
- E. **Hater of God's People.** Persecutor of God's people. Enemy of God's people.
- F. **Fighting.** Out to kill, destroy, enslave God's people however he can. SIN.

III. David

- A. **Motive is God's Glory.** His **confidence** is God's gift and presence and faithfulness.
- B. **Battle Ground.** Valley of Elah. Between 2 mountains. Smart. Gameplan. Confident.
- C. **Sling.** This is a deadly weapon. But you have to be good. Know what you're doing. **Gun.**
- D. **David. Skilled.** Strong. Humble. Smart. Know how to win. Anointed by God. Faith in His promise. Courageous because God is with Him.
- E. **Saul.** Took some faith for Saul to trust him and let him go. Putting the whole nations destiny in His hands. Future. Fate in this Shepherd's Hands. The fate of God's people rests and depends on the success of this Shepherd Warrior as their representative.
- F. **David wins.** Defeats the enemy. Puts him to shame. Scatters the enemy.
- G. **We're not David. Jesus.** This is exactly what he does. Shamed them by dying on Cross
- H. **Weak/Afraid.** We're cowering Israelites. We're Saul. *Weak & Flaky. We've got Jesus.*
- I. **Jesus died to set us free!** Jesus died to win. Came in weakness. Won in weakness.
- J. **Revelation 5.** Who is able? Who is worthy? Nobody but Jesus. Only Jesus.
- K. **Jesus is our David.** He's the Shepherd-Warrior who wins the battle for us. He's the Savior-Representative who came in weakness to conquer the devil and sin. He's our Deliverer, Protector, Victor and King!

*ILLUSTRATION: Football Team. "#2!" Saved the day. The whole team won because of #2! Scored all their points. Rest of the team just riding on his shoulder. He made us look like fools. That's Jesus. For us. We're riding his coat tails. Following Him to victory. **Jesus Bandwagon!***

APPLICATION: This story isn't about winning football games. Getting out debt. Bad influences in my life. Bully's at school. Promotions. Politics. Petty. Pitiful. Small picture. *This is way bigger.*

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Our Enemies:

> **Sin.** *The flesh. Our sinful nature. We can't beat it without the Gospel of Jesus. Must be set free from sin. Power of sin. Holy Spirit. But also the exposing power of the gospel. Bringing it out into the open. Exposing it to vulnerability. Only then can Jesus begin to deal with it with his grace and forgiveness. And the Gospel has to power to free us from its guilt and shame.*

> **Devil.** *Too many haughty Christians thin they are strong enough to face the Devil. You can't. I can't. He's stronger than us. And yes. He is real. And he doesn't have his demons and evil spiritual forces in the world trying to get at us! I don't understand it, but you can't beat him. Jesus has to. Jesus did. You pray and plead for deliverance on the power of the blood of Jesus. Devil, you'd got no claim on me! I belong to Jesus. He's my savior, deliver and representative.*

CONCLUSION A:

So what can we say about when we face "giant" situations? We've got to give them to Jesus. **"Jesus. I can't do it. Too weak. Too scared. I need you to step in. Take over. Save. Help."**

- **This habitual sin.** *This secret sin. I'm scared to be found out. I can't beat it. I keep losing.*
- **My marriage is falling apart.** *It's all a public fraud. Behind the scenes, we can't stand each other. My difficult spouse. Their personal issues that I can't handle. I can't take it.*
- **Disrespectful and rebellious child.** *Out of control. I'm ready to give up or lose it in anger.*
- **Terrible person or situation at work.** *I'm supposed to fix it. I don't know how or what to do. People are depending on me. I'm afraid what will happen if I fail. I'm supposed to love them.*
- **My finances are a wreck.** *I've made terrible decision. I don't know how to keep up with bills. I don't know how to manage it. I don't feel like I make enough to cover everything. I'm scared. I've got a family to feed. Depending on me. Give it to you. Trust you to take care of us.*
- **This health situation.** *I am afraid and worried. What's the diagnosis? The diagnosis is bad. Terminal? I trust you whatever the outcome. Even death, because I know you conquered death. Death has lost its sting. The grave has no power over me.*
- **Hard Situations? "God won't put you in situations you can't handle/win"?** *Not true. God will allow you to be in situations that are too difficult for you, so you will turn to Him for help!*

CONCLUSION B: So What are we supposed to do? If it's not about me? Nothing?

- **First of all.** Yes. Believe. Trust Jesus as your Representative. Savior. Shepherd-Warrior. We conquer our enemies first by faith in the Gospel. Because we learn to face every situation.
- **Worship.** Give thanks. Follow Him. Trust Him & His purposes. Every situation. Seem to lose.
- **Gifts.** Know how God has gifted you. Strengthened. Skills. Interests. Desires. Use them for His glory. Be successful wherever and however you can, but do it for His glory & Kingdom.
- **Lead** others with courage to Jesus in Jesus. For God's glory and Kingdom. Win or lose.
- **Become more like Christ** (not just David), by faith and repentance. Believing the Gospel and relying on the power of the Holy Spirit to give you strength and power. Courageous faith.

CONCLUSION C: The Gospel is Good News. Load off our backs. You don't have to be David. Because you can't be like David. Jesus is and always will be.

- **The Gospel is only Good News for people who know they're weak failures.** *They need help. Whose lives feel like they could fall apart or are falling apart. Who feel incapable. **Sin.***
- **People who think they can handle life on their own.** *Without help. Who aren't overwhelmed or scared. Ashamed. Guilty. They don't need Jesus. Don't need Gospel. But people like that don't exist. They're just hiding behind a facade. We all need Jesus. We're all weak and scared.*
- **Tell somebody.** *Ask for help. Prayer. What church is for. Can't do it alone. Stop hiding. Believe.*