

July 26th 2009: David 2: Overcoming Giants: 1 Sam 17:1-58

There are many stories from the Bible....that most people.... Instantly recognize David and.....is one of them.....**THINK how often**....hear about a David→
Be it a sporting.....business.....military scenario.....up against a Goliath

It's always the story...of some indiv or group...limited strength or resources...facing a
Yet despite all the odds being against.....they win the victory

IT's the little guy against the big guy The underdog against the favourite

- **Well let me tell you.....**

IN presenting the story of....in such a way.....they show just how completely they have
misunderstood the Biblical account

→**For** in the Bible.....**It wasn't David**....under-resourced & under-powered...**It was Goliath**

*(Let me illustrate it in this way.....A dozen of you have been stumbling
about.....desert*

You are thirsty beyond measure

*Suddenly...placed before youa jug—Goliath----But also a glass.....David
Which will give your group...greatest victory over your thirst?*

*It's a no brainer.....David will.....→Because backing up this glass is a hose
attached)*

On that field of battle.....we have Goliath....trusting completely in his own strength...
...and keeping his gods as his backup 1 Sam 17:4-7

A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. He was over nine feet tall. He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him.

Now his own strength was impressive

And he was just so aware of it.....Just so cocky.....**WHEN** David approached....what he said

He looked David over and saw that he was only a boy, ruddy and handsome, and he despised him. He said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. "Come here," he said, "and I'll give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!"

Note that he cursed....by his gods→the backup ...but he doesn't feel he really needs it !

- **Then we have David**

A young man of 16 and 17.....dressed for looking after sheep.....**not** for fighting giants
His only weapons... a wooden staff and a sling.....**The comparison** seems ridiculous
to everyone but David.....:..Listen to what he says in 45-47

"You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

- **David knew how unfair this battle was.....for **Goliath !!!****

With the force David had backing him up.....Goliath & the Philistines didn't stand a chance

I come against you.....said David.....In the name....authority.....and in the power..of the Lord Almighty...The Lord of the heavenly hosts.....THE God of the armies of Israel****

***(Just two Sats ago.....I officiated at the marriage
Best part for me.....When I say.....By the authority vested in me...I pronounce you)***

**David faced frightening figure.....confident of victory....because he knew
That all the awesome power of God.....went along with him
And v48 tells us that he ran towards the enemy**

This Goliath.....had for 40 days struck the fear of death.....into the heart of king Saul & all **They fled** when he appeared.....They hid themselves away.....
King Saul was in such a state.....that when he had heard about a young man..... who spoke confidently.....about defeating this giant.....**HE** immediately sent for him

This is utter desperation.....A clutching at straws::::**Did** Saul expect David??....buying time

Yet Saul and the rest....were also Israelites like David.....**They** shared the same God..... They worshipped in a similar way...**They** had heard the same promises...taught same stories **Why then had** they held back in fear.....whereas David went forth in confidence ???

Well firstly.....God had definitely called David to be the champion

But they showed no real support for David

When David started to speak about the Lord being with them.....they didn't affirm that

- **But especially** they seemed to have forgotten....if they ever really knew..... just how powerful their God was
& **how** to completely trust in Him.....whose power is such....will never let you down

Brother Yun.....Heavenly man.....believes that Christians in the West.....become fearful **Fearful** of speaking to others about Jesus
Fearful vocalizing our faith.....of standing up for Jesus when it means we stand alone

- **Because we have forgotten what its like**.....to trust completely in His strength
To believe in an absolute way....that we have all the power and authority of Almighty God

- **forgotten that** there is not a Goliath big enough.....to defeat anyone of us
If we have put our faith and trust.....in the living God

In that same book...Brother Yun speaks of a month....**Gospel month**
In which every believer.....expected to lead three people to the Lord

As I read that.....I thought that it would challenge us to just talk to three.....**let alone**
But what a start that would be.....**IT MAY SEEM TO YOU**....like a Goliath.....Impossibility

But why should it be.....for we have the power of Almighty God with us

And

If our hearts desire to do it.....then God will put the oport B4 us...as He did with David

HE was only at the battle field when.....because.....delivering provisions

But when his heart burned in him.....on account of what Goliath was saying

He had no hesitation about responding.....**Because** He knew the power...with him

Nothing as exciting...believer...who knows that the power...with them

That's what God will do for us too

The major thing about overcoming giants.....whether that's having the courage to talk

Or obeying the Lord call to stand up for Him.....**or meeting** a problem head on

Is to focus on the Lord's power.....and not the giant

In the end that's what David did.....and we are still talking about the result

...about 3,000 years later—**Praise the Lord**