

# 1 Samuel 17:49-58

## *Mistaking Goliath*

### 1. 17:44- - A Man Who Fights

- a. One of most popular/greatest stories in all the Bible. Heard by all, studied by few.
- b. It takes 48 verses to get to what everyone already knows, and 9 verses after.
- c. 43-44 - *"I will give thy flesh..."* - Goliath's curse on David, also in the law Deu 28:26
- d. 46 - *"the host of the Philistines"* - David's curse on the whole host - Deu 28:7
- e. *"all the earth may know..."* - The purpose of the law for Israel - Deu 28:10, 4:6-8
- f. *"this assembly shall know..."* - The salvation of God not by sword/spear - Mt 26:47
- g. 48 - *"David...ran toward the army..."* - He ran alone with the Spirit of the LORD.

### 2. 49-50 - Who Killed Goliath

- a. 49 - *"stone sunk into his forehead..."* - slings are ancient, light, cheap, fast, deadly.
- b. 50 - *"slew him...no sword in the hand"* - He died by the stone, not sword - Ps 44:6-8
- c. 2 Samuel 21:19 in the ESV, NASB, LSB mistakenly says Elhanan killed Goliath.
- d. Fools say the Bible has a mistake because two people killed Goliath or David didn't.
- e. 1 Chr 20:5 explains it as *"the brother of Goliath"* -KJ italics provide a Bible w/o error

### 3. Mistakes in Teaching David vs. Goliath

- a. Popularly, a story about fearlessness, courage, faith, the underdog, giants.
  - i. Biblically, a prime example of proof texting (taking out of context)
- b. *"David had big dreams/reached for the stars/stepped out in faith"*
  - i. David wasn't pursuing his heart, but God's. He knew/loved the law of God.
- c. *"Weak/small people can do great things."* - David was young, but nowhere says weak.
  - i. God can/does use the weak to confound the mighty - 1 Co 1:27-29, Eph 6:10
  - ii. But you have different weapons/armor - 2 Cor 10:3-5, Eph 6:11-17
- d. *"Anything is possible! You can do anything! Faith more powerful than fear! Just believe!"*
  - i. All things are possible with God ... Mark 9:23, 10:27, 14:36
  - ii. God can do anything; but not you. Confidence (faith) must be in God's will.
  - iii. Faith's power is in its object, not your will/belief/ambition - Phi 4:13, 2Ti 1:7
  - iv. David trusted God's covenant power, we the power of the gospel - Rom 1:16
- e. *"God has power to slay your giants/move mountains. Slay the giants in your life!"*
  - i. Beware spiritualization (e.g. Tony Robbins; motivational w/o true context)
  - ii. The "giants" are usually obstacles to your plans, fears, sins, bad situation.
  - iii. Goliath was not a result of David's sins/fears/unfulfilled plans.
  - iv. Goliath is not only about something "bigger", but defiance of God's will.
  - v. Many brethren, ignorant of his will, defy God to fulfill their perfect plan.
- f. *"David had the Spirit's anointing. So do we!"* - The anointings/callings are different.
  - i. David was to be king. You, a body member of Christ - 1 Cor 3:16, Rom 12:5
  - ii. The Spirit calls us all always according to his purpose - Rom 8:26

- g. *"David like every true believer!"* – Careful, David is a type of Christ in ch. 17.
  - i. The fearful did not fight, but David fought for them, saved their hearts v32
  - ii. A man after God's own heart does "all my will" Acts 13:22, Psa 37
  - iii. David pictures believers today by his sin/grace – Jer 17:9, Ps 32:2, 51:17
- h. *"God fights for the underdog!"* – This story not a defense of all underdogs.
  - i. The dog that day was Israel, today the Church, not America, not always you.
  - ii. Salvation is to all men, all sinners, but many do not see themselves as lowly.
  - iii. God fights for righteousness, humble sinners, those that receive his grace.

#### 4. 17:51-54 – David Restores Israel's Faith

- a. A stone not cut with hands into the head of the enemy. Dan 2:34, Gen 3:15
- b. 51-52 - The Philistines fled, the men of Israel had their faith renewed by a stone.
- c. Peter trusted that stone, so did the remnant – 1 Pet 2:6-9
- d. 1 Sam 4:5 Israel shouted without faith, but now they shout for the LORD's victory.
- e. 53 - *"spoiled their tents"* – The riches of the Gentiles become theirs (per prophecy)
- f. 54 - *"brought it to Jerusalem"* – Pointing to the future city of David/Zion (kingdom)

#### 5. 17:55-58 – The House of Jesse

- a. 55 - *"whose son is this youth"* – He knew David, but not his house (for reward)
- b. 56-57 - Goliath: *"give me a man to fight"* – David is the man that fights for the LORD.
- c. 58 - *"I am the son of thy servant Jesse"* - A new house that blessing comes. Isa 11:1,10, Matt 1:1, Rev 22:16