



Romans 12:2, *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*

1 Samuel 17:1-9, *Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle. And they were gathered at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered, and encamped in the Valley of Elah, and drew up in line of battle against the Philistines. And the Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with a valley between them. And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. And he had bronze armor on his legs, and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron. And his shield-bearer went before him. He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel... "Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us."*

✳ **Champion** | the man of the between; a man who steps out to fight between the battle lines in single combat

[THINK DIFFERENT] THINK ABOUT

1 Samuel 17:11-12, *When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid. Now David was the son of an Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah, named Jesse, who had eight sons. In the days of Saul the man was already old and advanced in years.*

1 Samuel 17:20, *And David rose early in the morning and left the sheep with a keeper and took the provisions and went, as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the encampment as the host was going out to the battle line, shouting the war cry.*

✳ **God can turn an ordinary day into something extraordinary**, if we will follow His lead and be willing to think differently; if we will think with faith!

1 Samuel 17:23, 25-26, *As he talked with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him... And the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel. And 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." And David said to the men who stood by him, "What shall 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 defy the armies of the living God?"*

✳ **David is driven by a passion for God and His reputation among the people.** As the story progresses, we see that David is willing to risk his life in order to bring glory to God.

✳ **David thinks differently:** Saul and the army are focused on Goliath, but David is focused on God.

✳ **Saul and the soldiers view Goliath with resignation** but David with indignation!

✳ **David knows that he serves a Living God**, and that impacts how David thinks about everything!

[THINK DIFFERENT] EXPECT

1 Samuel 17:28, *Now Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke to the men. And Eliab's anger was kindled 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 presumption and the evil of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle."*

1 Samuel 17:29, *And David said, "What have I done now? Was it not but a word?"*

- ✳ **Because Eliab's way of thinking is dysfunctional**, he thinks David's actions to be irresponsible and evil.
- ✳ **Expressions of bold faith often elicit the pushback** of those who do not share that faith.
- ✳ **Christians should not be surprised when they encounter opposition to following Jesus** with a bold faith. Jesus faced opposition, and He told us that we should expect the same. You shouldn't be concerned if you face opposition for following Jesus, you should be concerned if you don't.

[THINK DIFFERENT] **TRUST GOD**, _____

1 Samuel 17:31-32, *When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul, and he sent for him. And David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."*

1 Samuel 17:36-37, *"Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God." And David said, "The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!"*

- ✳ **David tells Saul that the same God who delivered him** from the lion and bear will deliver him from Goliath. David thought differently; he trusted God in all situations, not just some.
- ✳ **Looking back at God's work in his life enabled David to look forward in bold faith.** He expects the God who delivered him in the past to do the same in the future.

[THINK DIFFERENT] **GIVE** _____

1 Samuel 17:40, *Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch. His sling was in his hand, and he approached the Philistine.*

1 Samuel 17:43-45, *And the Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field." Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with 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 defied."*

- ✳ **David's response to Goliath is the theological center of the passage:** He acknowledges Goliath is equipped with the latest warfare tech, but David knows a Greater Power. David comes "in the name of the Lord of troops, the God of the battle lines of Israel" (lit).

1 Samuel 17:46-47, *"This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand...that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the LORD saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hand."*

- ✳ **David is so confident of the outcome that he proclaims, in advance**, that God will defeat Goliath through David's humble effort. David takes no credit for the victory.
- ✳ **"The battle is the Lord's"** | but David still had to put his faith into action and fight!
- ✳ **The Lord's victory over Goliath had 2 purposes:** 1) That the whole world may know there is a living God in Israel. 2) That all the people of Israel may know the Lord Himself saves them.

1 Samuel 17:48-51, *When the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. And David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine on his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the ground. So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. There was no sword in the hand of David. Then 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.*

- ✳ **All of us face giants in this life, who oppose us and want to do us harm.** The Gospel calls us to think differently about these things; not like the Israelites who were paralyzed with fear, but like David who trusted in God to deliver him. The Gospel calls us to think differently, not with fear, but with faith!

Romans 8:31-39, *If God is for us, who can be against us?...*