

With the myriad of challenges we are facing, and with what many believe is an historic election only weeks away, there is an oft overlooked phrase from a familiar Bible passage relevant for us today.

Many are familiar with the story of David and Goliath, and how young David overcame the giant. Besides trusting the Lord, David's success was due in part to keeping his eye on the main enemy, Goliath, and not being distracted by the smaller soldier standing in front of Goliath. That's right – David didn't face 1 soldier, he faced 2. 1 Samuel 17:7 tells us that Goliath had an "armor bearer" that walked in front of him, carrying his shield. Typically, the armor bearer also carried a short sword, to use on anyone that got too close to the giant. David himself had previously been an armor bearer for King Saul, and knew what the job entailed. He knew if he was going to be victorious, he couldn't get sidetracked with Goliath's armor bearer.

We are living in a time when many are hurting, the economy is faltering, many parts of society seem to be unraveling, and a major election is looming. Some are focusing all their attention on this or that politician, believing if they can be defeated or elected, our problems will be solved. I believe that no matter who wins the election, our pain has just begun. Our main enemies are not politicians, since they are merely armor bearers for the God (or god) they serve. The Bible plainly tells us that we are not wrestling flesh and blood, but principalities, powers, and wicked spiritual forces (Ephesians 6:12).

The Goliath facing America right now is the Enemy of our soul, which has become the enemy of our families, communities, and nation. As we look at the condition of much in America, it is evident that our Enemy has been gaining. The Bible says that he comes to steal, kill, and destroy, but Jesus came that we MIGHT live life abundantly (John 10:10). "Abundance" once accurately described life here in America. We were the greatest lenders, with the strongest currency, and the most opportunities for anyone in the world willing to come work. Today, many are facing long-term unemployment; cities and states are facing bankruptcy, and our nation is more indebted than any other in world history.

How MIGHT we live abundantly in America again? By defeating our Enemy, remembering that the armor bearer is a symptom, not the cause of our problems. We must get prayer back in our homes and churches before getting it back in our schools. Preachers must stand against sin in the pulpit, and voters must stand against it in their own lives and ballot box, before politicians will stand against it in the halls of government. We must re-evangelize America, and once again become a "Christian nation", basing our laws on His (as previously). We must love the Lord with all our heart, mind, and soul, and our neighbors as ourselves. Politicians and platforms will honor God's influence in America as long as "we the people" do.