

Evening Sermon March 18, 2018  
"David vs. Goliath" 1 Samuel 17

I. See in this passage, reasons for fear –

1. Israel's sin and the solemn warning of God –

A. The people had sinned in choosing a king

<sup>19</sup> And all the people said to Samuel, "Pray for your servants to the LORD your God, that we may not die; for we have added to all our sins the evil of asking a king for ourselves." ... <sup>25</sup> "But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king."

(1Samuel 12:19 & 25 NKJ)

B. Saul (their choice king) had sinned -

<sup>19</sup> "Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do evil in the sight of the LORD?" (1Samuel 15:19 NKJ)

C. Sin separates us from God and puts us in perilous situations –

<sup>15</sup> "But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you... <sup>25</sup> "The LORD will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them; and you shall become troublesome to all the kingdoms of the earth. <sup>26</sup> "Your carcasses shall be food for all the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and no one shall frighten them away. (Deuteronomy 28:15-26 NKJ)

D. It may have SEEMED they were in such a sin deserved situation here –

- Deuteronomy had said they would flee – Deuteronomy 28:25 ... and they were fleeing

<sup>24</sup> And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were dreadfully afraid. (1Samuel 17:24 NKJ)

- Deuteronomy 28:26 mentioned flesh being devoured by birds and beasts, Goliath used the same language as he approached David – <sup>44</sup> And the Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!" (1Samuel 17:44 NKJ)

2. Goliath was huge and well-armed –

A. Goliath's size –

<sup>4</sup> And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, from Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. (1Samuel 17:4 NKJ) He was 9'9"

B. He was well-armed –

<sup>5</sup> He had a bronze helmet on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. <sup>6</sup> And he had bronze armor on his legs and a bronze javelin between his shoulders. <sup>7</sup> Now the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his iron spearhead weighed six hundred shekels; and a shield-bearer went before him. (1Samuel 17:5-7 NKJ)

- The Philistines were experts in metallurgy and at the same time they denied Israel this science –

<sup>19</sup> Now there was no blacksmith to be found throughout all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, "Lest the Hebrews make swords or spears." (1Samuel 13:19 NKJ)

- Goliath's coat of bronze was 126 pounds

C. He was an experienced fighter –

<sup>33</sup> And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are a youth, and he a man of war from his youth." (1Samuel 17:33 NKJ)

D. He had a shield-bearer – 1 Samuel 17:7

3. Goliath's continued challenges without response –

<sup>10</sup> And the Philistine said, "I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together." (1Samuel 17:10 NKJ)

<sup>16</sup> And the Philistine drew near and presented himself forty days, morning and evening. (1Samuel 17:16 NKJ)

A. Especially notable is Saul's response, it was less than what the people had expected –

<sup>19</sup> Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, "No, but we will have a king over us, <sup>20</sup> that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." (1Samuel 8:19-20 NKJ)

*B. Saul was scared with the people –*

<sup>11</sup> When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid. (1Samuel 17:11 NKJ)

*C. He offered his daughter, riches, tax exemption; but had no takers before David, he was not going against Goliath himself*

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<sup>25</sup> So the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel; and it shall be *that* the man who kills him the king will enrich with great riches, will give him his daughter, and give his father's house exemption *from taxes* in Israel." (1Sa 17:25 NKJ)

*II. See reasons for FAITH –*

*1. God had already accomplished great victories for Israel:*

*A. In the further past –*

<sup>3</sup> The LORD *is* a man of war; The LORD *is* His name.

<sup>4</sup> Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has cast into the sea; His chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea. (Exodus 15:3-4 NKJ)

*B. Even in their recent history –*

<sup>12</sup> Then the men of the garrison called to Jonathan and his armorbearer, and said, "Come up to us, and we will show you something." Jonathan said to his armorbearer, "Come up after me, for the LORD has delivered them into the hand of Israel." (1Sa 14:12 NKJ)

<sup>23</sup> So the LORD saved Israel that day, and the battle shifted to Beth Aven (1Sa 14:23 NKJ)

*2. David had his own experiences of victories –*

<sup>32</sup> Then David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." <sup>33</sup> And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you *are* a youth, and he a man of war from his youth." <sup>34</sup> But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep his father's sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock, <sup>35</sup> I went out after it and struck it, and delivered *the lamb* from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught *it* by its beard, and struck and killed it. <sup>36</sup> "Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God." <sup>37</sup> Moreover David said, "The LORD, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver

me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!" (1Samuel 17:32-37 NKJ)

*Do we have lion and bear experiences that prepare us for the GIANT Philistine experiences of life?*

*3. Note David was God's choice –*

*A. Height or might did not matter –*

<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him. For *the LORD does not see as man sees*; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." (1Sa 16:7 NKJ)

*David's height did not matter, nor did Goliath's 9'9" ...*

<sup>6</sup> So he answered and said to me: "This *is* the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts. (Zechariah 4:6 NKJ)

*B. Weapons did not matter –*

<sup>43</sup> So the Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. <sup>44</sup> And the Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!" <sup>45</sup> Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, 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. <sup>46</sup> "This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. <sup>47</sup> "Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle *is* the LORD'S, and He will give you into our hands." (1Samuel 17:42-47 NKJ)

• Nor do they NOW -

<sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, <sup>5</sup> casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, (2 Corinthians 10:4-5 NKJ)

*David had a sling and a stone –*

<sup>49</sup> Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung *it* and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth. (1Sa 17:48-49 NKJ)

*We have a stone / Christ that crushes kingdoms –*

<sup>34</sup> "You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. (Daniel 2:34 NKJ)

<sup>44</sup> "And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. <sup>45</sup> "Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold-- the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure." (Daniel 2:44-45 NKJ)

*III. See David (like Christ) as an unrecognized king –*

*1. His brothers did not recognize him (as king) –*

<sup>28</sup> Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab's anger was aroused against David, and he said, "Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle." <sup>29</sup> And David said, "What have I done now? *Is there not a cause?*" (1Samuel 17:28-29 NKJ)

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? <sup>2</sup> For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, *There is no beauty that we should desire Him.* (Isaiah 53:1-2 NKJ)

*2. Saul does not recognize him (at all) –*

<sup>55</sup> When Saul saw David going out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the commander of the army, "Abner, whose son *is* this youth?" And Abner said, "As your soul lives, O king, I do not know." <sup>56</sup> So the king said, "Inquire whose son this young man *is*." <sup>57</sup> Then, as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. <sup>58</sup> And Saul said to him, "Whose son *are* you, young man?" So David answered, "*I am* the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite." (1Samuel 17:55-1 NKJ)

*If chapter 16 was chronologically before 17, you would expect Saul might know David?*

<sup>17</sup> So Saul said to his servants, "Provide me now a man who can play well, and bring *him* to me." <sup>18</sup> Then one of the servants answered and said, "Look, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, *who is* skillful in playing, a mighty man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a handsome person; and the LORD *is* with him." <sup>19</sup> Therefore Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, "Send me your son David, who *is* with the sheep."

<sup>20</sup> And Jesse took a donkey *loaded with* bread, a skin of wine, and a young goat, and sent *them* by his son David to Saul. <sup>21</sup> So David came to Saul and stood before him. And he loved him greatly, and he became his armorbearer. <sup>22</sup> Then Saul sent to Jesse, saying, "Please let David stand before me, for he has found favor in my sight." <sup>23</sup> And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play *it* with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him. (1Sa 16:17-23 NKJ)

*Yet, like David drove away a demon with music, so the Son of David drove out demons by the finger of God, yet He Jesus was not recognized –*

<sup>14</sup> And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute. So it was, when the demon had gone out, that the mute spoke; and the multitudes marveled. <sup>15</sup> But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons." <sup>16</sup> Others, testing *Him*, sought from Him a sign from heaven. (Luke 11:14-16 NKJ)

*Yet we must recognize and honor Him –*

Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? <sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed, *saying*, <sup>3</sup> "Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us." <sup>4</sup> He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision. <sup>5</sup> Then He shall speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure: <sup>6</sup> "Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion." <sup>7</sup> "I will declare the decree: The LORD has said to Me, 'You *are* My Son, Today I have begotten You.' <sup>8</sup> Ask of Me, and I will give *You* the nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. <sup>9</sup> You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.'" <sup>10</sup> Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. <sup>11</sup> Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling. <sup>12</sup> Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish *in* the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed *are* all those who put their trust in Him. (Psalm 2:1-12 NKJ)

"who by the mouth of Your servant David have said: 'Why did the nations rage, And the people plot vain things?' <sup>26</sup> The kings of the earth took their stand, And

the rulers were gathered together Against the LORD and against His Christ.'<sup>27</sup>  
"For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together "to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done."<sup>29</sup> "Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, (Acts 4:25-29 NKJ)

"God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: `You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.' (Acts 13:33 NKJ)

<sup>14</sup> "These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are* with Him *are* called, chosen, and faithful." (Revelation 17:14 NKJ)

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