

David and Goliath

Introduction

Tell Israel Story PHOTO 0

No story has captured the imagination of people over the centuries like David and Goliath. It has inspired artists, sculptors, musicians, poets, and humans of all backgrounds. Even if people don't know anything about Judaism or Christianity.....they know the story of David and Goliath. It is such an important story that I am going to read the entire story to you from 1 Samuel 17.

1 Samuel 17:1–58 (ESV) — 1 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 Ephesdammim. 2 And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered, and encamped in the Valley of Elah Photo 1, and drew up in line of battle against the Philistines.

3 And the Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side (Photo 2), and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with a valley between them (Photo 3). 4 And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. 5 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.

6 And he had bronze armor on his legs, and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. 7 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, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. 9 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." 10 And the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day. Give me a man, that we may fight together."

11 When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid. 12 Now David (Photo 4) 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. 13 The three oldest sons of Jesse had followed Saul to the battle. And the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

14 David was the youngest. The three eldest followed Saul, 15 but David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem. 16 For forty days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and evening. 17 And Jesse said to David his son, "Take for your brothers an ephah of this parched grain, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to your brothers. 18 Also take these ten cheeses to the commander of their thousand. See if your brothers are well, and bring some token from them."

19 Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. 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. 21 And Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army.

22 And David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage and ran to the ranks and went and greeted his brothers. 23 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. 24 All the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were much afraid. 25 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."

26 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?" 27 And the people answered him in the same way, "So shall it be done to the man who kills him."

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." 29 And David said, "What have I done now? Was it not but a word?"

30 And he turned away from him toward another, and spoke in the same way, and the people answered him again as before. 31 When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul, and he sent for him. 32 And David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."

33 And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth." 34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, 35 I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him.

36 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." 37 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!" 38 Then Saul clothed David with his armor. He put a helmet of bronze on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail, 39 and David strapped his sword over his armor. And he tried in vain to go, for he had not tested them. Then David said to Saul, "I cannot go with these, for I have not tested them." So David put them off.

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. 41 And the Philistine moved forward and came near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. 42 And

when the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was but a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance.

43 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. 44 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." 45 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.

46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, 47 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."

48 When the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. 49 And David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine on his forehead. Photo 5 The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the ground.

50 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. Photo 6 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.

52 And the men of Israel and Judah rose with a shout and pursued the Philistines as far as Gath and the gates of Ekron, so that the wounded Philistines fell on the way from Shaaraim as far as Gath and Ekron. 53 And the people of Israel came back from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their camp.

54 And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent. 55 As soon as Saul saw David go 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." 56 And the king said, "Inquire whose son the boy is."

57 And as soon as David returned from the striking down of the Philistine, Photo 7 Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. 58 And Saul said to him, "Whose son are you, young man?" And David answered, "I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."

That is the entire story of David and Goliath. But like all stories in the Old Testament..this one...too...points to the Messiah Jesus to come.

There is a valley between the People of Israel and their home Jerusalem Each army selects one representative to fight for each side. The fight will be to the death....the loser becomes the servant of the winner Story of Good and Evil

Goliath is a giant. He is profaning the Name of God. He seems big and unbeatable. He strikes fear in the hearts of God's Children Israel and their earthly king Saul. Goliath represented the seed of the serpent (i.e. the biblical devil). He needed a man to fight him. The men of Israel cowered in fear, wishing they could have the necessary strength and courage, but they helplessly looked to one another as the invincible giant made his boasts.

Foreshadowing.....David is like Jesus.....Goliath is like Satan.

Genesis 3:15 (NIV) — 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

We are told several things about Goliath....note that numbers are important in the Bible.

1 Samuel 17:4 (ESV) — 4 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 is six feet plus tall his spearhead weighed six hundred shekels of iron and there are six pieces of armour. The number 6 is the number of Satan and it is all over Goliath.

David on the other hand...Represents Good A Shepherd who loved God, loved God's people and would fight for God. A shepherd who sees the enemy for what he already is- defeated in the name of God. A shepherd who knows that God will fight for him. That he is what stands between them and their home. That he looks big and menacing to humans- but small and weak to God.

Goliath like Satan stands between God's children and home. There is a valley that separates us and just like Goliath tried to block their way by profaning God's name and putting fear into God's children There is a valley that separates us from God and Satan is profaning God's name and putting fear in us- God's children.

And just as David's victory was assured by his faith in God....Our victory is assured by our faith in Jesus. we see both men linked prophetically. God promised David that he would have a son who would have an everlasting Kingdom. (2 Samuel 7). This was a Messianic prophecy. Some of the people during Jesus' time who actually knew their Bible called Jesus "Thou Son of David, have mercy on us" when they saw Him, properly acknowledging Him as the prophesied Messiah who rule an eternal Kingdom

2 Samuel 7:12–16 (ESV) — 12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.

....16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.' ”

David and Jesus are clearly linked in Scripture. David is a well-known type of the Lord Jesus, especially in his role as King over Israel. In Jewish thought, the Messiah was known as the 'Son of David' and this is firmly established in the New Testament in various passages. In fact the last description of Jesus in the Bible is in Rev 22:16, where Jesus Himself declares that He is a descendant of David.

When the angel Gabriel came to announce to Mary that she would give birth to the Messiah, he informed her “He shall sit on the throne of His father David.” And of course by blood, Mary and Joseph were both descendants of David in the tribe of Judah. So David was a clear foreshadow of Jesus Christ.

Yes this is the battle of Good vs. Evil. Every story in the Bible points to Jesus This is perhaps most obvious in the story of David and Goliath. This story foreshadows the epic battle to come between Good and Evil, the Christ and the Anti-Christ, and Jesus and Satan.

When we study the story of David and Goliath our thoughts naturally turn to Jesus. I want to spent the next two weeks looking at the similarities between David and Jesus. In doing so I hope that we can learn about ourselves and this amazing God we serve.

Both David and Jesus were not only descendants of Abraham (as expected) but they both came from the Tribe of Judah. Both were born in Bethlehem known as the City of David. Bethlehem means "to bring forth bread"

John 7:42 (ESV) — 42 Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?"

Both were shepherds who would become Kings Yet neither were obvious choices or seemed to have King potential. They were both overlooked by those close to them.

David was the youngest of Jesse's sons and seemed like the last person who would be king. There was nothing about him physically- God said it was his heart Jesse, had eight sons and David was the youngest. Jesse clearly did not think David could have been the chosen king because when it was time to anoint his sons, he did not even bring David in the house! The world often has its own perception of what a “great leader is.”

HE DID not look like a king. Rather, to the prophet Samuel, he appeared to be nothing more than a young shepherd boy. Moreover, his hometown, Bethlehem, was not of great prominence. It was described as “too little to get to be among the thousands of Judah.” (Mic. 5:2)

Nevertheless, this apparently insignificant young man from a small town was about to be anointed by the prophet Samuel as the future king of Israel

Young David was not the first son that his father, Jesse, presented to Samuel to be anointed; neither was he the second or third. David, the last of eight boys born to Jesse, was not even present when

Samuel came to Jesse's household to anoint one of that faithful man's sons as the next king of the land. But David was Jehovah's choice, and that was what counted

We know that there was nothing about Jesus that would have drawn people....It was his heart that honored the Father. In fact their potential and destiny as God's choice had to be revealed by prophets.

Jesus, like David, was born in Bethlehem, some 1,100 years after David's time. In the eyes of many, Jesus too did not look like a king. That is, he was not the kind of king that many in Israel hoped for. Yet, like David, he was Jehovah's choice. He, like David, was beloved by Jehovah

Jesus too was not what people expected from the Savior of the world. He was born in a manger. His parents were not wealthy. He was meek and humble. He traveled with a group of men who were not a part of the religious leadership, but were local fishermen, laborers and a tax collector. Once Jesus started His miraculous ministry, the people expected that He would conquer the Roman empire that occupied Israel at that time and liberate His people.

Samuel the prophet revealing the future of David and Simeon revealing the future of Jesus.

Luke 2:33–35 (ESV) — 33 And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. 34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed 35 (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

Both, when they were revealed by God to their destiny, were empowered with the fullness of the Holy Spirit Jesus at His baptism, full of the Spirit already, saw the Spirit of God descend upon Him like a dove. He was empowered and led to the wilderness for temptation David when he was anointed by Samuel received the Holy Spirit's power for his mission too.

1 Samuel 16:11–13 (ESV) — 11 Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here."

12 And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him, for this is he." 13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

Also interesting is that David's Name means "Beloved". Look at what God says about Jesus at His baptism

Luke 3:21–22 (ESV) — 21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

So these two unassuming Shepherds were revealed by God and would become His choice for King. Both were Good Shepherds. Someone who faithfully and courageously tends, feeds, and guards his flock. As a youth, David was a shepherd, and he took very good care of his father's sheep. He was courageous when the flock was threatened and risked his life to protect the sheep from a lion and a bear

Unlike Jesus, who was perfect and did not sin, David had his faults and did make grave sins for which he repented mightily. However, his heart and love for God were great. Unlike most of the Kings of ancient Israel, King David never worshiped false Gods. King David was obedient and trusted in the Lord. King David prayed to God for guidance. He made it his purpose in life to achieve God's Will

The years David spent in fields and on hills tending sheep prepared him for the demanding duties and responsibilities of shepherding the nation of Israel. Jesus derives strength and guidance from Jehovah as he shepherds his "little flock" and the "other sheep." (Luke 12:32; John 10:16) Thus Jesus proves to be the Fine Shepherd. He knows his flock so well that he calls each sheep by name. He loves his sheep so much that while on earth he willingly gave of himself for their well-being

Jesus of course did everything perfectly. He was without sin and carried out the ultimate mission of God for humanity: redemption and a chance for those who believe in Him to escape hell. By giving His life on the cross, Jesus took on the sins of the world for all time and received God's wrath and by His shed blood there is forgiveness of sins. Jesus was the perfect sacrifice to satisfy God's judgment and now those who put their faith in Him can live eternally.

God rejected the people's choice of a king- Saul and selected his own. Similarly, God rejected the people's spiritual choice of their King- Satan and God sent His choice-Jesus Both filled with the Spirit would face temptation....Do you remember how long Jesus was tempted in the wilderness by Satan? (40 Days)

Do you want to guess how long Goliath stood in the valley tempting the people of Israel?

1 Samuel 17:16 (ESV) — 16 For forty days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and evening.

While the entire Philistine and Israelite armies had gone out to face each other, this was not going to be an ordinary battle! You see, in the end the victor would be determined by one representative on each side. In Goliath's own words, Israel had to choose a man and if he were able to kill Goliath then the Philistines would become Israel's servants.

I'm sure you can see the picture – Jesus Christ was our representative in the greatest spiritual battle that has ever taken place. If He won, then His victory would be our victory... but if He lost, then we would lose forever, becoming a servant of our enemy forever!

That Jesus was our representative in this battle is no secret in the New Testament as it spells out clearly how our victory rests upon Jesus' work. So that's the situation we find ourselves in. The

enemy loomed large and all of Israel was paralysed in fear, unable to move. Goliath was ready to meet the representative from Israel, and one was soon to be sent!

1 Samuel 17:17–18 (ESV) — 17 And Jesse said to David his son, “Take for your brothers an ephah of this parched grain, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to your brothers. 18 Also take these ten cheeses to the commander of their thousand. See if your brothers are well, and bring some token from them.”

From this passage we see the simple truth that David was sent by his father Jesse to go down into the battle to see how his brothers were. Likewise, when the appointed time had come, the Father sent Jesus down to the battle on earth to look after our welfare!

Note that David was sent by the Father with bread for nourishment during the battle....Jesus was sent by the Father as the bread of life for our spiritual nourishment during spiritual battles. .

David was not received well by his brothers.

1 Samuel 17:28–30 (ESV) — 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.” 29 And David said, “What have I done now? Was it not but a word?” 30 And he turned away from him toward another, and spoke in the same way, and the people answered him again as before.

Even though David would prove to be Israel’s saviour, he certainly didn’t get much encouragement from his brothers did he? In fact, upon arriving at the battle, David’s oldest brother Eliab gave him a fair roasting, accusing David of having a wicked heart. So it was for Jesus. He was even rejected by those closest to him.

David....knew how big His God was....so Goliath's size didn't really matter to him.. . Notice David credits God for the victory before the battle even begins. David was so reliant on God that he refused King Saul’s armor as protection. Anyone opposing God will fail and be conquered. And the battle was over quickly. Goliath never lands a blow on David.

Similarly Jesus, who is God, will defeat the Antichrist and his armies very quickly as well. Jesus shows up and destroys the False Messiah as soon as he appears. There is no real “competition” between God and Satan. The Lord is the true God and infinitely more powerful than Satan, a created being. This will become utterly clear at Armageddon.

Also David's response to Saul when asked why he could defeat Goliath points to another battle yet to come

1 Samuel 17:34–35 (ESV) — 34 But David said to Saul, “Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, 35 I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him.

David knows God has defeated for him a lion and a bear. Look at the Beast Jesus will defeat.

Revelation 13:2 (ESV) — 2 And the beast that I saw was like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority.

Both David and Jesus have followers.... David has his mighty men and Jesus had His disciples It must be said - David's group was a pretty motley group! Yet he became their captain, their leader, and turned pretty ordinary men into awesome men of valour and deeds. David didn't need their ability, but he did need their commitment and availability.

Jesus has a habit of choosing ordinary men and women to extra-ordinary things. Not because they are gifted or strong in themselves, but because Jesus Himself is the one who will teach, lead and empower them for that which He calls them to do.

Following David meant associating themselves with one who wasn't popular. It meant trials, and hardship, yet once David came into his kingdom, it was all completely worth it! And so it is with us. How strange it can be to live in a world while following a different king! A King who is the rightful ruler, yet one who has not yet come to take possession of His kingdom. Yet we know, like David's men, the rightful king will one day come into His kingdom and on that day we shall be rewarded for our service.

Goliath was a Philistine

Philistine is translated "One who crawls through dust" Do you remember what God said to Satan in Genesis?

Genesis 3:14–15 (NIV84) — 14 So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.

David destroyed Goliath, the Philistine who crawls through the dust, with one stone and a blow to the head. Jesus was the cornerstone who would destroy Satan, the one who crawls through the dust, by crushing his head

Did you notice that David uses Goliath's own weapon to destroy him?

50 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. 51 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

Do you remember what David then did with Goliath's head?

54 And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent.

There were two trophies for David....Saul's head...and Saul's armor- particularly his sword

1 Sam 21: 8-9 Then David said to Ahimelech, "Then have you not here a spear or a sword at hand? For I have brought neither my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste.

9 And the priest said, "The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you struck down in the Valley of Elah, behold, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. If you will take that, take it, for there is none but that here." And David said, "There is none like that; give it to me."

Goliath's sword became a symbol of God's Faithfulness....How God took a weapon and made it a symbol of inspiration.

Odd isn't it? He took Goliath's head to Jerusalem....want to know what he did with it? According to rabbinical commentaries, all rabbis agree that Goliath's head was buried at a place of Skulls, which is Golgotha. So David used Goliath's weapon to cut off his head and then took it to Golgotha

Jesus on the same mountain....Golgotha....used Satan's weapon...the cross.....to crush his head....just like God promised in Genesis. Just like Goliath's sword.....Satan's weapon...the cross has become a symbol of inspiration and a reminder of God's faithfulness to keep His promises

Then in victory something very prophetic happens

The best news of all is that once David had won the battle, all of Israel participated in the victory. David's victory was their victory! So it is with Jesus and His victory on the cross. The victory He won is our victory when we believe in Him! Now it is also interesting that David was a young man when this event happened. Probably 13-17. He was however anointed as King of Israel.

Here again is another awesome picture for us. The situation is this: David has been anointed by the Spirit and proclaimed to be King in Israel through God's prophet Samuel. Yet we do not see him reigning yet. In fact, He is a King in exile while another King (Saul) whom God has rejected still seems to have authority over the throne. Judgement has been pronounced upon King Saul because of his pride and disobedience, yet for the mean time he still reigns.

We live in a world where its ruler, Satan (called the God of this world, the prince of the power of the air), has been judged because of his pride and disobedience. And even though Jesus is the true King, like David was in this passage, as yet we do not see Jesus reigning upon this earth. He is a King in exile so to speak. His Kingdom shall be upon this earth, and he shall reign, but as yet we do not see the evidence of this. We wait by faith for we know what shall occur at the seventh and last trumpet of Revelation.

Because another King was ruling...Saul....David often found himself under attack and pursuit by the evil king. After David became unpopular, he spent time in obscurity as a fugitive, including time spent outside Israel, and then returned in glory to become king over Israel, taking the nation to heights hitherto unreachable. Similarly, the Lord Jesus is

now outside Israel, but he will return; he will rule Israel, making it the greatest nation on earth

There is also an interesting story that I will leave for you to read at home about David's second encounter with Goliath's family

In 2 Samuel 21....David is a much older man .He once again finds himself in battle with the Philistines and Saph who was one of the descendants of the giants. It is interesting that David and his men slayed 4 more giants....including Goliath's brother.

2 Samuel 21:20–22 (ESV) — 20 And there was again war at Gath, where there was a man of great stature, who had six fingers on each hand, and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number, and he also was descended from the giants. 21 And when he taunted Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimei, David's brother, struck him down. 22 These four were descended from the giants in Gath, and they fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants.

I think in some way...this resurgence of the Giants....marked again by 6's....foreshadows Satan's last efforts in Revelation.

Revelation 20:7–8 (ESV) — 7 And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison 8 and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth,

Revelation 20:9–10 (ESV) — 9 And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, 10 and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Thus the end of the ultimate story of Good vs. Evil. So where are you in this story?

What has been your Goliath? What stands between you and your journey home? How are you going to get across the valley that separates you from God? Has Satan puffed up your Goliath so that he looks really big? He looks unbeatable? You find yourself cowering in fear because you don't think you stand a chance against it.

Maybe your Goliath is alcohol.....maybe its anger....perhaps it is self-esteem.....or pride.....perhaps sexual addiction.....maybe it is a medical illness..... Maybe your Goliath is being single.....maybe its staying in a marriage.....perhaps fear of the future.....could be a financial situation.....maybe the struggle of infertility.....or perhaps parenting.....

Are you like the Israelites.....cowering in fear....looking for someone to win the battle for you? All the while....Satan....Like Goliath stands between you and where you need to be...profaning the power of your God and convincing you that he is unbeatable. The challenge facing you looks so big.....so hard.....so formidable.....

Can I encourage you to stop looking at Goliath.....and like David....look at how big your God is.

Maybe you need to drown out the voice of your Goliath with this truth.....

2 Timothy 1: 7 (ESV) 7 for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Or perhaps you have given up on Jesus.....allowed Goliath to win....and you are camped out on the other side with him.

You have rejected Jesus....and have placed your faith and trust in Satan. God tells us that you are either on the side of Jesus or your are His enemy....there is no middle ground....

There is a valley between Good and Evil.....In that valley stands Jesus and Satan.....And two armies watch from the hills on each side.....You are either on one side or the other.....You are either for Jesus.....or against Him.

Jesus said it this way..... Luke 11:23 (ESV)23 Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

Which side you are on....is the most important decision of your life. The Story of David and Goliath for many is a Childrens Story.....but for those who study God's Word....it is clear that this epic battle foreshadows the one to come.

Today....we are God's children....we are like the Israelites.....Engaging in a Spiritual Battle with the forces that oppose our King.....while Satan and his army torment us....profane our God....and keep us in fear from reaching all that God has promised us.

We are in a time....like they were....waiting for the Father to send His Son to fight one last battle The Story of David and Goliath is a Children's Story.....it is a story of God's Children.....us....and the promise of victory yet to come.....Let's Pray