

## 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel Ch 17

David now is on the scene, and we're already becoming familiar with what an amazing young man of God this shepherd boy is, ( And when I say boy, I simply mean young man) David was at least old enough to be known as a man of valor and a man of war, so he was older than 12-13 by this time no doubt (though many paintings portray him as such.)

But we've seen where David has been anointed as king over Israel, Samuel visited his house, invited Jesse and the boys to the sacrifice, and after having looked all the boys over, realizing that they weren't the ones; he inquired if there were any more. And Jesse said, "Well the youngest is still out in the fields watching over the sheep." and Samuel said, "Bring him in here we're not even going to eat until he's before us." and So David came in and the Holy Spirit spoke to Samuel and said, this is the one arise and anoint him. And so David was anointed right there, even though Samuel didn't tell his family what the anointing was all about, but we have the insight through the word of God to know that David was the one whom God had chosen to be the king over Israel.

And though Saul has been *rejected* by God, he's not yet been *removed* from the throne, David is the anointed one, but Saul is still presently on the throne, now we're going to find that David's life is rich in type, and even in this very scenario we have laid out before us what's happening in this world today. Jesus Christ (the son of David) is the Anointed One, He's the God ordained and appointed King of this world; He is the One who is to inherit the throne and rule upon the earth. But even as David was anointed by God to be the king, but there was still some time before Saul would be removed from the throne, and his place of influence upon the kingdom. Even so Jesus (the Anointed One) is the appointed of God for the throne of this world, but the present "ruler of this world" as Jesus called him, Satan is upon the throne. And impressing his sphere of influence upon the world for a season, and then he'll be removed and the Kingdom of God will be established. Presently Satan is the ruler of this world, now you are *in* the world but not *of* the world and so Satan has no rule over you, but this world is under his domain. John tells us that, "*the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.*" 1 John 5:19 Paul, in 2 Cor 4:3-4 said that, "*If our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded.*" Referring of course to Satan, in Eph ch 2 he's referred to as the "Prince of the power of the air."

So Satan is upon this world's throne presently, but he's not the king, very soon he will be removed from the throne and it's rightful heir, Jesus Christ will take it, and He will rule and reign over all the earth in righteousness. Jesus said, "*The ruler of this world will be cast out.*" John 12:31 He will be removed from the throne and the One whom God has anointed to be in that place, Jesus Christ will take His rightful place in this world, now as to when this is going to happen exactly, I don't know, but I can tell you it won't be long. Jesus said, "*Surely I am coming quickly.*" Rev 22:20 and God help us to be ready for His appearing.

And there are many such parallels between David, God's anointed king, and the Son of David Jesus Christ God's anointed King that hopefully we'll see and point out as we go through them. But it's really no surprise that such is the case knowing that David was a man after God's own heart, so it stands to reason that we see many godly characteristics and types, and illustrations of Christ in him, now we'll see some very fallible and human characteristics in him as well. But over all we find David to be a tremendous man of God whom God will use in an awesome way to His own glory.

Vs1-4

So ch 16 closes with the Spirit of God departing from Saul, a demonic spirit troubling him and David being called in to Saul as a worship leader in order that the distressing spirit would depart from Saul as the praise and worship of God would fill the room.

Now apparently some time has past, exactly how much I couldn't say, but ch 17 opens with the Israelites poised for war against the Philistines, and the children of Israel were lined up on one hill, and the Philistines were lined up on an opposing hill and there was this valley in between them, and they're in the territory of Judah. And I can understand why they're both a bit leery to charge the other side because who ever enters the valley 1<sup>st</sup> becomes sitting ducks for the opposing side, the archers would just begin fire down into the valley, and then on top of that you have to begin to fight your way literally up hill. And so neither one of them want to retreat from their position, but then again neither one of them want to charge down into the valley, so they're sort of at this stalemate.

But the Philistines seem to have the edge here because rather than the whole army rushing down the valley, they decide to send out one man to challenge any one man of Israel for the whole shooting match. His name: Goliath, and it's easy to see why he's their champion, he's nearly 10' tall, now the Jews aren't known for their incredible stature, they're mostly a smaller people. And I don't know if you've ever even stood near a man who's over 6'6" but it's quite a rush, one day a man walked in the church here who was about 7'2" and not a lanky fellow and me being about 5'10" I measured somewhere between his belly button and his armpit maybe. And I'm here to tell you that when you stand near to someone who towers over you like that, it's quite disarming mentally. You feel incredible feeble in their presence (I was glad to hear that this man loved the Lord because if he didn't and there was problem I'm not sure all of our ushers combined could've handled this man). I would've been like a bunch of 1<sup>st</sup> graders climbing on an adult, but he was "only" 7'2", Goliath was at least 9'9" tall. And so the Philistines paraded him as their champion.

Vs5-7

Now there have been various estimates as to exactly how much his armor weighed but suffice it to say that it was over 200 lbs. His chain mail vest weighed between 125-175 lbs alone and the head of his spear weighed at the least 15 lbs and possibly up to 25 lbs not including the shaft that it was mounted on.

Now when I bowl, I can't use a 15 lb ball, I mean I can toss it down the alley, but it's really just too much for me to use if I want to break my average score of about 40. So if you want to think of this guys spearhead weighing about 20-25 lbs knowing that he would chuck this thing no telling how far in a battle, you can imagine what kind of a massive individual this was. 200 lbs of armor, 25-40 lb spear possibly (think of that the next time you find yourself in a gym the barbell to the bench press weighs 40lbs). That was basically this guys one handed spear, I mean he was a hulk, to carry this kind of stuff around and be fluent on the battle field with it, and on top of it all he had another man just to carry his shield.

#### Vs 8-11

So Goliath would come out each morning suited up and ready for battle and just mock them. And then he would say, let's just settle this thing one on one, just pick a man from among you and send him out and we'll take care of this matter. If he kills me, then the Philistines will serve you, but if I kill him then you will have to serve the Philistines. And so he's calling for a champion from Israel; now, this word champion speaks really of one who will stand out from among the men on the behalf of the men, so that the whole shooting match can be determined in one shot. And who ever wins this one battle will bring victory to everyone associated with him.

Now that's significant and I'm sure you can see why, (we'll come back to that later.) But even though God told Joshua some 400yrs earlier, "*Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.*" Josh 1:9 We find here in vs 11 that they were both afraid, and dismayed, even Saul ( And to a degree understandably so why?) Because Saul was head shoulders taller than all the children of Israel and so the logical choice for an opponent for Goliath would be Saul.

Now God had given them the rules of engagement, the law concerning war and had Saul been a godly man he would've reminded them of the word of the Lord and increased their faith. Let's look quickly at Duet ch 20 (vs 1-4).

And then it goes on to establish who qualifies for war and how they're to handle their enemies, but Saul should've encouraged and established the hearts of his followers. Instead (the Spirit of God having departed from him) we see that he's gripped by fear rather than walking by faith, and the rest of the men of war are following suit.

#### Vs12-18

Again you have to love David, he'd been anointed to be the king, called by Saul to come to the palace, and yet we find him just tending the sheep when he had time off. He was just faithful with the small things, he could've said, "I'm next in line to be king, I'm not going to take care of those stinking sheep!" But he didn't he just stayed right where he was, doing what he needed to do, and trusted that God was able to make him king or whatever, whenever God wanted, and so it was while he was busy about his day to day tasks that God presented him with an incredible opportunity.

Even as when he was tending the sheep God called him to be the king, as he's just taking care of his chores, little did he know that God was preparing a work for him that would begin to raise him up in the eyes of the people. Now if he'd been somewhere else, thinking he was to good, or to important to be at home taking care of small things, he'd have missed this all together, but God will often work extraordinary ways through ordinary means. Dad just says, hey take some food to your brothers and let me know how things are going.

#### Vs19-27

So David makes his way to the battle lines and hears what's going on, and he sees this giant of a man mocking the armies of the Living God (to David this isn't Israel against Philistia, it's the name of his God being drug through the mud and no one has the faith to allow God to vindicate Himself). And so he says, "What's going on here?" Seeing everyone terrified of this guy, and so they say, "Hey, if anyone kills this guy, he'll be set for life, treasures will be given him, a bride will be given to him, and he'll be free from the burdens of this world, no more taxes." and So David gets all excited and says, "What?" and He asks someone else, now I like that, David didn't believe it just because someone said it, he looked into it for himself, we're to look into matters, check our sources and be sure that what we're being told is the truth, but David finds out that this is exactly true and so his mouth starts watering for a chance to be the vessel through which God would show Himself approved.

#### Vs28

Isn't this typical, as if things aren't hard enough, when you believe God is leading you so often there's someone just waiting to discourage you, and often times it can be the people of your own home. But this is an important point to mark, David was rejected by his own. Joseph was rejected by his own as well, and in essence David is fighting a battle now before he gets to the battle, had he allowed his brother to discourage him this whole thing would've turned out different. But David trusted the Lord, and wasn't going to be discouraged by his family.

#### Vs29-33

With encouragers and friends like these who needs enemies, David is willing to step out and be apart of the solution to the problem here and all he's getting is criticism. How often people see all kinds of problems but they're not willing to be apart of the solution, but they're quick to criticize those who are doing anything. But God has no problem using young people to do His work, as a matter of fact we find it over and over again in the scriptures, be it David, or Daniel, or Jeremiah, Mary brought the Messiah into the world when she was just a young teenager. God likes to choose the weak things of this world, to put to shame the things which are mighty and that's what we see here.

#### Vs34-36

David was a good shepherd, willing to give his life for the sheep, and because he was willing to defend his fathers flock privately, God is raising him up to defend the sheep of *His* hand publicly.

David just sees Goliath (or Golly as his friends call him) as another animal attacking God's flock, and if God can deliver a lion and a bear into his hands, then this man is no different. You see David was prepared; God had strengthened his faith in private, and now God's going to display his power through David in public.

Vs37

I want you to notice how David is careful to give all the glory to the Lord all the way through this thing.

Vs 38-39

Now this is another reason that I believe that David was just a bit older than what many believe him to be at this time. Because even though Saul is slipping into madness, he's not a total idiot, and so if David was 13, Saul being head and shoulders taller than every other man, he's not going to try and fit his armor on this young boy. If he didn't think it would even come close to fitting him, he'd have tried to find someone else's. But the point here is that what works for someone else may not work for you. We often see someone do something successfully in the ministry or whatever and so we think that if we do what they do, the way they did it, we'll get the same results, in effect we try on their armor. But it just doesn't work that way, we have to be who God's called us to be, so David took the king's armor off, wasn't accustomed to fighting in all that cumbersome gear, but believe me when I say he went out there suited up in the armor of God. The helmet of salvation was upon him, the breastplate of righteousness and the belt of truth holding everything together. He had the sword of the Spirit (the Word of God) at his side, and he was very effective in wielding the weapons of God's warfare.

Vs40-45

So David says in effect, "You trust in the arm of the flesh, but I don't come to you with the conventional weapons of warfare, but in the name of the Lord of Hosts." 2 Cor 10:4-5 says that, "*The weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God.*" So David wasn't leaning on his own understanding here, but rather he acknowledged the Lord, and let Him direct his paths.

Vs46-47

Underline that vs in your bible. The Lord doesn't save with sword and with a spear, victory in your life, the war that rages for your soul is won, "*Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit, Says the LORD of hosts.*" Zech 4:6

Vs48

Now my running would've been in the opposite direction, but David's faith is just incredible here.

Vs49-51

They all said, “Bye golly” and coined a phrase that’s still used to this day, and took off. But hey wait a minute, I thought you were supposed to be our servants now, (Vs 9) the enemy never keeps his end of the bargain remember that, he’s a liar and a thief.

Vs57

Now this is kind of grizzly here, David just sporting this head around like a trophy, and no doubt it was a big head, veins dangling from it and the whole bit. You might say David knew how to get a head in life and he wasn’t about to let go. But this was no doubt a reminder to him of the faithfulness of God.

Vs58

Now the over all moral to this true story that’s been preserved for us here in the scriptures is obvious, the way we confront, and overcome impossible odds in our lives, those giants that taunt us and intimidate us, is by faith. By trusting in the living God, “*And this is the victory that has overcome the world -- our faith.*” 1 John 5:4 Paul said, “*Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*” Rom 8:37 But I want to take just a couple of minutes of your time to show you some of these parallels that we see in David’s life, and the Son of David Jesus Christ Because you remember that when Jesus was walking down the Emmaus road opening up the scriptures to those disciples that He revealed to them how in the volume of the book it was written of Him and pointing to Him. Well, how do these things point to or illustrate Christ?

Well in reality, this whole scenario pictures our champion (J.C.) stepping out on our behalf in order to defeat that giant of an enemy, whom we refer to as Satan on our behalf. And even as Goliath was in land that he ought not have been, the place of Praise, the land of Judah, (Judah meaning praise) he was in the land God had given to His people. Even so Satan is in this world stomping around, strutting his stuff, seeking to intimidate the people of God. And as to where the name David means “Beloved” even so Jesus Christ the “Beloved” of God (Eph 1:6) would step in on our behalf, not afraid of this foe of ours but in confidence would step in on our behalf to defeat him.

But we read in 1 Peter 5:8 that, “*Your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.*” and What do we read in vs 8-10? Goliath walking about, roaring to the people of God, “Send me a man, someone who you believe represents you well, send me your champion that we might go one on one, I want to take him on.” “Give me your best” and notice vs 8 “*Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me.*” and I Like those words, “Let him *come down* to me.” Because there would be a man chosen, the son of man, the greater than David, the son of David who would come down, leaving His home in heaven in order that He might do battle with Goliath. That He might take on our adversary one on one and to the champion would go all the spoils. The family that would divide the spoils would all be based on the victor of the battle.

We also take note in vs 12 that Jesse had 8 sons and vs 14 tells us David was the youngest making him the 8<sup>th</sup>. For those of you who are into biblical numerics you know that the # 8 is the # of new beginnings. What does the bible say? 2 Cor 5:17 *“If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”* Jesus Christ is our perpetual new beginning, we’re brand new in Christ, we may’ve messed up yesterday, or earlier today, but thank God that in Christ all things are made new. He’s our new beginning.

We also see in vs 16 that the enemy presented himself for 40 days morning and evening. Now 40 is the biblical # of testing the # of judgment, it rained 40 days and nights on the earth during the flood. Moses was receiving the Law on Mt Sinai for 40 days; Jesus was tempted in the wilderness for 40 days prior to His earthly ministry beginning.

Vs17, Both David and Jesus were sent by their Father’s to the forefront of the battleground in order to see how their brethren were doing and to help them out in their hour of need. And as to where David was a shepherd, Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd who would lay down His life for the sheep. David came from Bethlehem, “The house of Bread” to give his brothers bread. Jesus said, “I am the bread of Life come down from Heaven.” and He allowed His body to be broken for us, His brothers, and His sisters.

In Vs 25-27 we see where David sought a treasure, he’s told that whoever slays the giant will be made a rich man, will be granted a bride, and will have his family set free in Israel, (that’s the OKJV rendering). Jesus said, *“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”* Matt 13:44 and As you know the field is the world, the man is Jesus Christ who gave all the He had that He might purchase the world, not because He needs another planet, but because of the treasure in it, what’s that? You, you’re the treasure He sought, you are His bride, by the work that He’s done, you’ve been made the bride of Christ, and we have been set free from the bondage of sin and death. Jesus said that you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free, and the one whom the Son sets free shall be free indeed.

Vs28 He was rejected by his own, rejected by his brothers, ridiculed and despised, Jesus Christ despised and rejected of man, but that didn’t stop David, because in vs 29 he knew that there was a need, a cause worth fighting for. And again though Jesus was despised and rejected by man, He didn’t let that detour Him from the fight because He knew there was a cause, a reason for Him to come, to liberate us, and do for us what we could never do for ourselves in fighting for us and gaining us the victory. Now David’s bro’s will accept him when he becomes king, and the Jews will one day see Jesus for who He is, and they will accept Him as their King as well.

The experience with the lion and the bear would strengthen David for the ultimate fight that would liberate the nation. And the experience with Jesus in the wilderness, fighting off the temptation of the roaring lion seeking to devour Him would strengthen Him for the time of the ultimate battle, not in the valley of Elah, but upon the hill called Calvary where He would defeat our giant of a foe, Satan himself. You see sometimes we feel hard pressed on every side, but today's stresses are for tomorrow's successes, that's what we see here. It was no small thing in David's life when that lion attacked his sheep and he had to face that lion head on. But it would prepare him for what God had for him in the future, and the same is true for you, today's stresses are preparing you for tomorrow's successes.

David laid aside the king's armor, the splendor of the king, (Vs 39) read Phil ch 2, Jesus laid aside His glory, making Himself of no reputation, becoming like you and me and defeating the enemy on the very grounds upon which *we* stand, in all ways tempted as we are tempted but without sin, He laid aside His splendor and became a man, fully God, but fully man.

David was a man of great faith, it's one thing to have great faith privately, but David proclaimed his faith publicly. (Vs 46-47) I think that one speaks for itself, Jesus Christ was a man of great faith, "Destroy this temple" Jesus said in reference to His body, "And in 3 days I'll raise it back up." He proclaimed and demonstrated His faith publicly.

And finally, David singularly destroyed Israel's enemy and secured the victory for all. And Jesus alone destroyed the enemy, crushed Satan's head and delivered the victory, enriching all who follow him. It's not about what we do; it's about what He alone has done on the cross.