



"I come to you in the name of the LORD Almighty" (1 Samuel 17:45)

1. God Impassioned People Fight For God's Honor

Goliath, a Philistine champion from Gath, came out of the Philistine ranks to face the forces of Israel. He was over nine feet tall! He wore a bronze helmet, and his bronze coat of mail weighed 125 pounds... he carried a bronze javelin on his shoulder... and an iron spearhead that weighed 15 pounds—His armor bearer walked ahead of him carrying a shield.

Goliath stood and shouted a taunt across to the Israelites. "... Choose one man to come down here and fight me! If he kills me, then we will be your slaves. But if I kill him, you will be our slaves! ...When Saul and the Israelites heard this, they were terrified and deeply shaken. For forty days, every morning and evening, the Philistine champion strutted in front of the Israelite army.

Now David was the son of a man named Jesse...David was the youngest son. David's three oldest brothers stayed with Saul's army, but David went back and forth so he could help his father with the sheep in Bethlehem.

...David arrived at the camp just as the Israelite army was leaving for the battlefield with shouts and battle cries... Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, came out from the Philistine ranks. Then David heard him shout his usual taunt to the army of Israel. As soon as the Israelite army saw him, they began to run away in fright.

... David asked the soldiers standing nearby, "What will a man get for killing this Philistine and ending his defiance of Israel? Who is this pagan Philistine anyway, that he is allowed to defy the armies of the living God?" (1 Samuel 17:4-26)

They refuse to delay or run away

2. God Impassioned People Prevail Over problem people

People who disappoint us

"When the Israelite army saw Goliath, they began to run away in fright." (1 Samuel 17:24 NLT)

People who discredit us

"When David's oldest brother, Eliab, heard David talking to the men, he was angry. "What are you doing around here anyway?" he demanded. "What about those few sheep you're supposed to be taking care of? I know about your pride & dishonesty!" (1 Samuel 17:28-29)

People who doubt us

"Don't worry about this Philistine," David told Saul. "I'll go fight him!" "Don't be ridiculous!" Saul replied. "There is no way you can go against this Philistine. You are only a boy, and he has been in the army since his youth!" (17:31-33)

3. God Impassioned People Prepare For Battle

Training

But David persisted. "I have been taking care of my father's sheep and goats," he said. "When a lion or a bear comes to steal a lamb from the flock, I go after it... I catch it by the jaw and club it to death. I have done this to both lions and bears, and I'll do it to this pagan Philistine, too, for he has defied the armies of the living God! The LORD who rescued me from the claws of the lion and the bear will rescue me from this Philistine!"

Saul finally consented. "All right, go ahead," he said. "And may the LORD be with you!" (1 Samuel 17:34-37)

Tools

Then Saul gave David his own armor ...David put it on...to see what it was like, for he had never worn such things before.

"I can't go in these," he protested to Saul. "I'm not used to them." So David took them off again. He picked up five smooth stones from a stream and put them into his shepherd's bag. Then, armed only with his shepherd's staff and sling, he started across the valley to fight the Philistine. (1 Samuel 17:38-40)

Trust

"David replied to the Philistine, "You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven's Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. Today the LORD will conquer you, and I will kill you and cut off your head...and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel! And everyone assembled here will know that the LORD rescues his people, but not with sword and spear. This is the LORD's battle, and he will give you to us!"

(1 Samuel 17:45-47)

Tactics

"Come over here, and I'll give your flesh to the birds and wild animals!" Goliath yelled. As Goliath moved closer to attack, David quickly ran out to meet him. Reaching into his shepherd's bag and taking out a stone, he hurled it with his sling and hit the Philistine in the forehead. The stone sank in, and Goliath stumbled and fell face down on the ground.

So David triumphed over the Philistine with only a sling and a stone, for he had no sword. Then David ran over and pulled Goliath's sword from its sheath. David used it to kill him and cut off his head. (1 Samuel 17:44,48-50)

4. God Impassioned People lead others to victory

"So David triumphed over the Philistine giant with only a stone and sling... he ran over and...cut off his head. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they turned and ran. The men of Israel and Judah shouted and chased the Philistines" (1 Samuel 17:48-52)