

# 1 Samuel 17:1-53 - God Sized Faith

## Life of David Series

### (David: After God's Own Heart)

**There are a lot of people today who are crippled by fear.**

A) Many Phobias – Nyc/to/Phobia – Fear of the dark - Acrophobia – Fear of Heights -

B) glossophobia – Fear of Public speaking #1

C) Atychi/phobia, Fear of failure – Those who never step out or try something new

D) Arach/no/phobia – Urach/no/Phobia – Fear of Spiders 1) {All the girls in my family- have this one – Dad giant spider in the Bathroom

Here are some Bizarre – Phobias

A) Ol/facto/phobia - fear of foul smells

B) Col/ro/ phobia: fear of clowns

C) Om/phalo/phobia: Fear of belly buttons.

1) It did not specify whether innies or outies are more terrifying, but we all know..

D) FOMO – Fear of missing out

1) try everything – reckless

E) And then Windbaga/phobia: which is the fear of long sermons

1) Just kidding. I made that one up.

Well in our text today we see where the Entire Army of Israel is crippled by Fear

A) Because there was a Giant man standing between them and everything that God had for them.

B) In our study today we are going to see some principles for Over Coming Giants

1) and stepping into the blessings God has for us.

C) We will also see a beautiful picture of Jesus – in this text – how His Victory over the World's greatest Giant

1) Is the key to overcoming the Giants in our lives as well.

V.1-3 Set the scene of this story -

Now the Philistines gathered their armies together to battle, and were gathered at Sochoh, which *belongs* to Judah; they encamped between Sochoh and Azekah, in Ephes Dammim. <sup>2</sup> And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and they encamped in the Valley of Elah, and drew up in battle array against the Philistines. <sup>3</sup> The Philistines stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, with a valley between them.

Two armies / 2 Hills – Valley in between

A) Israel – one hill / Philistines-n Public enemy #1 on the other

B) Note V. 1 - This is Territory belonged to Judah

1) Promised to Abe

2) Joshua told to Possess

C) But they were not possessing it – The enemy had a foothold in this territory that belonged to Israel

D) I wonder if that is a picture of anyone's life here today

– The Bible tells us Ephesians 1:3 that in Christ blessed with every spiritual blessing

A) But you are living short of experiencing some of those blessings – because the enemy has a foothold in your life

B) I pray today might bring a breakthrough for you in the battle

C) The Challenge facing Israel was a Giant -

<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. 9 foot 6

<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. 175lbs <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. Spear head weighs 25lbs (You gym guys) – This guy was throwing through the air in battle – the equivalent of a 25lb dumbbell.

Big dude – Strong dude – Scarry dude

Interesting that Giant Goliath name = Heep or obstacle

A) This Giant of a man was standing between Israel and the blessing that God had for them

<sup>8</sup> Then he stood and cried out to the armies of Israel, and said to them, “Why have you come out to line up for battle? *Am* I not a Philistine, and you the servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. <sup>9</sup> 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.” <sup>10</sup> And the Philistine said, “I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.” <sup>11</sup> When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

So everyday this Giant came down into the Valley issued a CHALLENGE – *send me a man.....*

A) Common battle Strategy – two men fight of the rest.

B) V.16 tells us he issued this Challenge every day for 40 days morning & evening – 80 times

C) Lessons Giants don’t go away – Giants try to intimidate

**One of Satan’s biggest strategies against believers is he seeks to intimidate us – and put fear into our hearts**

**A) Fear that keeps us from living the life of faith and stepping into all that God has for us.**

B) Note the response of the army of Israel in V.11 Dismayed = terror, alarm Panic, dread & Paranoia

C) And it also says they were Greatly afraid = Paralyzed by Fear

D) Are there Giants in your life – Huge obstacles that Stand between you and what the Lord has Promised you

1) Obstacles that leave you dismayed/ Paralyzed by fear ?

E) Not moving forward – not going anywhere

**I want us to take note of six principles that we see in the life of David**

A) that can help us in Overcoming the Giants in our lives

**B) Six principles that can help us move forward in experiencing all that God has for us in Christ**

**C) Taking notes Principle #1 Be Faithful in the Moment**

<sup>12</sup> Now David *was* the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehem Judah, whose name *was* Jesse, and who had eight sons. And the man was old, advanced *in years*, in the days of Saul. <sup>13</sup> The three oldest sons of Jesse had gone to follow Saul to the battle. The names of his three sons who went to the battle *were* Eliab the *firstborn*, next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. <sup>14</sup> David *was* the youngest. And the three oldest followed Saul. <sup>15</sup> But David occasionally went and returned from Saul to feed his father’s sheep at Bethlehem. <sup>16</sup> And the Philistine drew near and presented himself forty days, morning and evening. 40 day challenge

<sup>17</sup> Then Jesse said to his son David, “Take now for your brothers an ephah of this dried *grain* and these ten loaves, and run to your brothers at the camp. <sup>18</sup> And carry these ten cheeses to the captain of *their* thousand, and see how your brothers fare, and bring back news of them.”

<sup>19</sup> Now Saul and they (David’s bros) and all the men of Israel *were* in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

<sup>20</sup> So David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, and took *the things* and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the camp as the army was going out to the fight and shouting for the battle. <sup>21</sup> For Israel and the Philistines had drawn up in battle array, army against army. <sup>22</sup> And David left his supplies in the hand of the supply keeper, ran to the army, and came and greeted his brothers

Here we see David – Already anointed – Still tending sheep – Lowest servants Job

A) He is Not saying – *I am better than that* – I deserve more – something else

B) Listen - Job doesn’t define you – You define your Job

C) David who is about 15-16 years old at this time is faithfully serving in the Moment –

1) Because of that – he ends up in a position to do something great

D) What if he blew off his dad's request – I'm not bringing this stuff to my Brothers { sends a servant

Well David would have missed out on being at the right place at the right time

A) David was faithful in the Moment – in the little things – opened door for Great thing

B) A lot of times I meet people who want to do something great for God –

1) Waiting for that something great to come along/ open door

C) But God is waiting for them to be faithful in the moment – what is right in front of them -in “ little thing”

1) Family devotions / Push a Broom

2) Children's ministry.

3) Parking lot

D) God says the one who is faithful with little will be exalted with Much

1) David is a good example of that

### **So The First key to overcoming giants is being faithful in the moment**

A) Being faithful in what God has right in front of you right now

B) Being faithful with what God has put into your hands today.

C) See Great opportunities come from being faithful in the normal everyday opportunities

### **#2 See the situation from God's Perspective**

A) So David goes to check in on his brothers

<sup>23</sup> Then as he talked with them, there was the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, coming up from the armies of the Philistines; and he spoke according to the same words. / So David heard them. <sup>24</sup> And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were dreadfully afraid. <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.”

King Saul is so desperate for someone to do something that he puts forth an impressive incentive package

A) No Taxes – great riches – and his daughter as a bride

<sup>26</sup> Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, “What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? (Here we see David's perspective) For who *is* this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?”

<sup>27</sup> And the people answered him in this manner, saying, “So shall it be done for the man who kills him.”

B) When David comes on the scene & hears Goliath his perception is completely different from everyone else's

C) Everyone else was Pre- occupied with the Greatness of Goliath – So Big !!!!!

D) But because David was pre-occupied with the greatness of God – saw Goliath for what he was an uncircumcised Philistine, defying the armies of the living God?”

David was offended HOW DARE HE DO THAT !!!!

A) Now if you were with us on Wednesday night – Sean M. taught from Psalm 19 – David wrote out in the field with the sheep-

B) Just prior to being sent on this errand by his dad

Psalm 19 The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork.<sup>2</sup> Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge. <sup>3</sup> There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard. <sup>4</sup> Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world.

**C) Psalm 19 is all about the Greatness of God!  
How Big and majestic God is**

**The Army of Israel had a horizontal perspective** – they were looking at the situation from a horizontal view –

A) That was perplexing - Goliath was Huge and Scary – Intimidating – no one dared to face him

B) David had a Vertical perspective – He wasn't focused on a Big Giant – he was focused on his Ginormous God

C) He saw Goliath in perspective to that – God is greater – Bigger

1) Goliath is no match for our God.

This scene reminds me of Numbers 14 – Twelve spies to spy out the land of Canaan.

A) Report – Land flowing with Milk and Honey – Incredible place

B) Problems Giants in the land – too big for us. – Too big to hit

C) Caleb – No guys – they are our Bread –

D) they are the very thing that God wants us to Nourish our faith – build up our faith

1) NOT TO BIG TO HIT – TOO BIG TO MISS

E) ONE WITH GOD IS A MAJORITY!!!!

That is David's perspective: Goliath is no match for his God!

<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."

A) David's older brother is always looking down on him – belittling him – who has your few sheep – a dig - (not even a big herd)

B) You are nothing but a little insignificant shepherd boy – you don't belong here – this is men's stuff –

1) Warrior stuff

C) Not a place for Arrogant and ignorant little boys

<sup>29</sup> And David said, "What have I done now? (Always on my case) *Is there* not a cause?" <sup>30</sup> Then he turned

from him toward another and said the same thing; and these people answered him as the first ones *did*.

### #3 Don't Give into Discouragers

A) David is not going to let his brother pull him down or pull him away from what God was stirring his heart to do.

B) So the first form of discouragement comes from his brother – who is doubting his motives and his heart

C) The second form of discouragement is going to come from King Saul who doubts his ability and his experience

<sup>31</sup> Now when the words which David spoke were heard, they reported *them* to Saul; and he sent for him. <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." 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."

In the eyes of King Saul – the odds were insurmountable

A) King Saul no doubt is someone that David would have respected and looked up to

B) Saul says this is a bad idea: You are just a kid – a youth

1) and Goliath has been a killing machine since his youth

C) The NATURAL MAN – looks at things only in the Physical –

1) he sees things only in size & numbers /yrs of experience

D) But God isn't so much concerned w/ any of those things –

**There is a spiritual dimension we would do well to Remember – If God is in it –**

**A) If God is behind it – We are Destined for success**

B) I was reminded of this last week being in Italy

C)I was on the very First team from CC that went into Eastern Europe in 1989 after the fall of Communism.

D)People asked What are you going to do there? – Not sure just going to see what God might want to do.

1)A Potential Wave of Gospel opportunity was forming – and we just went to see the possibilities.

But Some people thought it was a Dumb venture. The Natural man sees the obstacles

A)Focuses on the Road blocks – all the reasons why that will not work

B)Faith sees the Possibilities -

C)And at the end of 21 days – Two churches were planted

1)that started a Wave that spread through Eastern Europe – Western Europe

Several years later Craig Quam would go out from this Church to pioneer the work of God in Italy

A)29 years later the CC are reaping the Fruit of his step of faith

B)God is in the Business of using – that which the world deems small & insignificant

C)Because – When all is said & done there is no doubt that the work was a work of God !!!!!

D)God loves to do extraordinary things with Ordinary people

E)David wasn't going to let others discourage him in this moment of Faith

#### **#4 Rely on God's Past Faithfulness**

A)David responds to the Naysayers by looking back to God's past faithfulness in his life

<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."

B)The key verse is v.37 – because it shows that David's confidence wasn't in himself – but in the Lord

<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."

C)Saul couldn't argue w/ that kind of faith !!! V.37b And Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!"

David had seen the Lord do some great things in his life, but they only made him hunger for more

A)David had a PAST FAITH – But he also wanted to have a PRESENT FAITH!

B)Our past victories are not meant to cause us to lean back and get comfortable –

1)but they are meant to LAUNCH us forward in faith

C)David was ready to Launch out into a situation that looked – ridiculous to those who were only focused on the natural – visible –

Pause: Maybe you are thinking right now What if I don't have any Lion's or bear or big Victories in my Past

A)Listen God's faithfulness in David's life and Gideon's life – Joshua's life

B)In Peter and Paul's life – the other ordinary people that God has done extraordinary things

1)with throughout the history of the church

**C)Their lives are meant to inspire us and motivate us – it can be done!!!**

D)God is the same yesterday today and Forever!

E)So Saul agrees to let David go out and face Goliath 1 But then Saul does something really common.

<sup>38</sup> So Saul clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail. <sup>39</sup> David fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested *them*. And David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested *them*." So David took them off.

#### **#5 Don't Go Out in Someone Else's Armor**

A)Because David's Confidence was in the Lord he wasn't about the Wear Saul's armor

B)NO Formula's – We love formula's –

**C)But here is what Formula's do – we put our confidence in the formula that God gave to someone else.**

We don't need to pray – we will just do what someone else did – or what we did last time that worked.

A)In our trips to Europe – Just do what we did last time – bring a band – do a concert – preach

B)Worked last time -but it didn't work this time!

C)Prayer walks – first come into the city. What do you want to do this time.

It is through prayer and waiting on the Lord that God is going to provide the armor he has for you in this season.

A)For your step of faith – for you to have victory in your battle and over your Giants

B)So David says to Saul – I can't wear this – this is your armor and it doesn't fit me.

<sup>40</sup> Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine.

C)Some Scholars believe that David took 5 stones – because the rumor was Goliath had 4 brothers - Not sure – but that wouldn't surprise me

**#6 Move Forward in the Confidence that the Lord is with you**

<sup>41</sup> So the Philistine came, and began drawing near to David, and the man who bore the shield *went* before him. <sup>42</sup> And when the Philistine looked about and saw David, he disdained him; for he was *only* a youth, ruddy and good-looking. <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.”

A)David moves forward in this confidence – the Battle belongs to the Lord

B)God is going to deliver you into my hand

C)When we know God is with us – when God is in something –

1)we can move with a confidence not in our ability to achieve victory

D)Or make something happen

E)But in His ability to make something happen – His ability to Bring Victory

**Quickly note the Result of David's Faith:**

48 So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

**David Run towards – Goliath**

A)He is not tiptoeing into the battle. – He is not cautiously moving forward

B)He ran at Goliath in Confidence – God is going before me.

C)Jesus wants us to move forward in that type of faith and confidence in our walk with Him

1)Not fighting for Victory but from a position of Victory because Jesus has already won the war!!!

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> result to David's faith is the Enemy gets defeated**

<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. <sup>50</sup> So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. But *there was* no sword

in the hand of David. <sup>51</sup> Therefore David ran and stood over the Philistine, took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it.

And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled

When our enemy sees a Christian having confidence in God –

A) And not giving into the discouragers but stepping out in confidence believing God

B) They flee as well. – Pointless – let's go attack someone else that we can beat

C) That guy that gal – is too focused on Jesus – too locked into Jesus –

D) This is pointless – let's move on

### **The 3<sup>rd</sup> result to David's faith is others are encouraged in their faith**

<sup>52</sup> Now the men of Israel and Judah arose and shouted, and pursued the Philistines as far as the entrance of the valley and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell along the road to Shaaraim, even as far as Gath and Ekron. <sup>53</sup> Then the children of Israel returned from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their tents.

Faith is contagious

A) The Army of Israel inspired by David to launch out in battle over the Philistines resulting in a great Victory

B) When others see you stepping out in Faith – they are inspired to step out in faith

C) When others see you being victorious over your giants – they can believe that it is possible for them as well.

Now maybe you are thinking – I don't know Pastor Rob – I am not like David

A) Ok I get that – I can feel that way at times too –

B) Like the Father with the Demon Possessed boy – I believe – but Help my unbelief

C) But here is what I we need to understand – there is someone greater than David on our side –

### **D) He took out a Giant bigger than Goliath – You see David is really a picture of Jesus**

#### **Consider the Parallels to the Story**

A) David came to the battle being sent on a mission from his father

B) So too Jesus entered into the Battle between light and darkness –

1) good and evil being sent on a mission from his father

C) David was faithful to his mission – Jesus was faithful to fulfill the mission the father sent him on

2<sup>ND</sup> David stood in the gap for the Nation of Israel against the giant Goliath

A) Jesus stood in the gap for Humanity against the giant Satan

B) Paul the apostle declared that through one man's sin – Adam – brought death and condemnation into the world

C) But through another man's victory – Jesus –

1) brought new life and triumph over sin to as many would believe in him.

3<sup>RD</sup> David's Victory brought him a Bride.

A) So too Jesus Victory brought him a Bride – THE CHURCH – { Band come up

4<sup>TH</sup> David's Victory led to Israel's Victory

A) Listen we can experience Victory today – because of Jesus Victory

Aa) We are more than conquerors through him who loved us and gave himself for us.

### **B) Some of you here today: Your Goliath is the sin – plagues you holds you in Bondage**

C) First Step: Get connected to Jesus

Cross – Finished! Paid Price for your sin

A) Paid in Full – took your Place

B) Rose – Fill you with his Life

C) Free you today – Sin Shame – release you from the Power of Satan – Foothold

**Some are prodigals – Here today – Mom said –  
Please come to Church.**

A) Been living in Rebellion – Condemnation

B) Devil has you thinking – God is mad at you –  
Parents are ashamed of you – LIES

C) COME HOME – JESUS forgive Cleanse

Pray:

**Now Some of you are Christians here today**

**A) You need a breakthrough –**

B) Obstacle – weighing you down -

C) Crippled by fear – Shame – loss – doubt –

D) Enemy has been whispering in your ear – lies

Pray for you today – Breakthrough –

A) Resurrection Power of Jesus

B) Go forth in Confidence – God is with you

C) One with God Majority