

Delivering Courage

1 Samuel 17:1-11 & 32

(v.16) Every morning and every evening for 40 days the Philistine came forward and took his stand.

(v.24) When the Israelite men saw Goliath, they retreated from him terrified.

(v.11) When Saul and all Israel heard these words from the Philistine, they lost their courage and were terrified.

Either God or Goliath will dominate my imagination, which determines my action.

2 Timothy 2:3-4

Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in the concerns of civilian life; he seeks to please the recruiter.

A Counter Kingdom Narrative (v.1-11)

(v.8) “Why do you come out to line up in battle formation?” He asked them, “Am I not a Philistine and are you not servants of Saul? (10) I defy the ranks of Israel today.”

Listening to this Counter Kingdom Narrative day after day, morning and evening, eventually leads to **compromise**

2 Timothy 2:3-4

Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. 4 No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in the concerns of civilian life; he seeks to please the recruiter.

The Continual Counter Kingdom Narrative leads to compromise which leads to **cynicism**.

“Many a man meets with more trouble from his friends than from his enemies; and when he has learned to overcome the depressing influence of prudent friends, he makes short work of the opposition of avowed adversaries.”

—Charles Spurgeon

The Continual Counter Kingdom Narrative leads to compromise which plays out in cynicism and **unbelief.**

1 Samuel 17:33

David said to Saul, “Don’t let anyone be discouraged by him; your servant will go and fight this Philistine!” 33 But Saul replied, “You can’t go fight this Philistine. You’re just a youth, and he’s been a warrior since he was young.”

1 Samuel 17:34-37

But David said to Saul, “Your servant has been keeping his father’s sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it.

36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God.

(v.37) The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.” Saul said to David, “Go, and the Lord be with you.”

1 Samuel 17:45-50

David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.
46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head.

This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel.⁴⁷ All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

48 As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. 49 Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground. 50 So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

The Living God

YHWH

Lord of Hosts

Deliverer (v.46)

1 Samuel 17:51

David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the sheath. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword. When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran. 52 Then the men of Israel and Judah surged forward with a shout and pursued the Philistines to the entrance of Gath[f] and to the gates of Ekron.

1. Remember David's Representation

(v.32) “Don’t let anyone be discouraged by him; I will go fight this Giant.”

Jesus delivers courage!

“When David overcame the great Goliath, there came among the Jewish people the good report and encouraging news that their terrible enemy had been struck down and that they had been rescued and given joy and peace; and they sang and danced and were glad for it.

Thus this gospel of God or New Testament is a good story and report, sounded forth into all the world by the apostles, telling of a true David who strove with sin, death, and the devil, and overcame them, and thereby rescued all those who were captive in sin, afflicted with death, and overpowered by the devil.”

—Martin Luther

2. Rely on Him Daily