

# Who Will Fight the Giant?

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1 Samuel 17:1-30

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## A Often Misunderstood Story

- Perhaps best known story in all of Scripture
- Cultural: Cliche - David & Goliath
- Often misinterpreted - just have enough faith & you can overcome
- David foreshadows his greater son – Jesus
- David's life shows us need for Spirit-filled life and trust in God

## A Story of Contrasts

- Not 1<sup>st</sup> time God's people faced giants
- Numbers 13 spies reported<sup>Num13:27,28-29,30,31-33</sup>
- People failed test – wandered for 40 years<sup>Num14:10,17-19</sup>
- Israel now faces a giant for 40 days<sup>1Sam17:16</sup>
- Philistines were deep in Promised Land
- Good thing Saul was big & ready to fight<sup>1S9:2;8:20</sup> - NOT!
- But Saul no longer had God's Spirit, just fear<sup>1S17:24</sup>

## Goliath Presented

- Incredible details about Goliath
- Goliath from Gath in Gaza<sup>Josh11:21-23</sup>; descended from Anakim
- Big 9ft6inches; spear head 15lbs
- Goliath described with coat of scales – snake
- Saul had faced a snake<sup>1S11</sup>; Nahash=snake
- Why isn't Saul leading into battle to face this giant snake – his job!
- Saul is seeing things in earthly terms
- Adam was to rule over beasts, defeated by snake<sup>Gen3</sup>
- Goliath taunts God's people<sup>1S17:8</sup>
- We often face same challenges today – will we trust God or eyes?

## Who Should Fight the Snake Giant?

- Saul was the natural candidate - his job<sup>1S8:20</sup> but afraid<sup>1S17:11</sup>
- Now we are introduced to David – covenant lineage<sup>1S17:12</sup>
- Contrast between David & Goliath<sup>uncircumcised</sup>
- David wasn't normally present, but tasked w/ supply duty<sup>15</sup>
- Likely David didn't know what that day would hold for him!
- Read Word & pray<sup>Ps5:1-3</sup> so we will be ready like David
- David hears Goliath blaspheme...
- God's army has failed challenge for 40 days
- David amazed uncircumcised enemy defies armies of God<sup>26</sup>
- God's people lacked faith in God who has provided
- This is a retelling of 1S16:7 *the Lord sees not as man sees; man sees with eyes; but the Lord looks with the heart.*

## David Responds in Faith

- We are called to see David's faith in God, not circumstances
- This is a story about contrast of faith
- What circumstances cause you dismay?
- Do you turn to sin in comfort?
- Believers can face challenges because we have been Redeemed from our former way of life which is corrupt through deceitful desires<sup>Eph4:22</sup> and we are called to walk in our recreated selfs, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness & holiness<sup>Eph4:22</sup>