

# Secrets of Success in the Life of David

SOS 1 - ANOINTED BY GOD (1 SAMUEL 16)

SOS 2 – FAITH IN GOD (1 SAMUEL 17)




Today

# 1 Samuel 17

- ❑ The young shepherd defeating the giant warrior with a sling shot.
- David vs Goliath teaches us about David's faith.

# 1. David's faith was **SUPERNATURAL** (in focus) .

- ▶ In the natural, Goliath looked pretty unbeatable. There was a lot to **fear** (v11).
- ▶ *'Goliath .... , whose **height** was six cubits and a span.'*  
= 9 foot 9 Inches.
- ▶ *'Goliath of **Gath**'* was possibly a descendant of the Anakim, one of giant clans that originated with the supernatural sin of Genesis 6 (Joshua 11:22).

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- ▶ *1 Samuel 17:32 (ESV) And David said to Saul, ..... Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."*
  - ▶ *David wrote in Psalms 20:7 (ESV) 'Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.'*
  - ▶ *The supernatural giants we are facing are 'the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places' (Eph. 6:12).*

## 2. David's faith was **COVENANTAL** (in expectation).

- ▶ *1 Samuel 17:26 (ESV) ... For who is this **uncircumcised** Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"*
- ▶ *Genesis 17:11 (ESV) You shall be circumcised ....and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. 12 He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised....*

- ▶ God's covenant with Abraham, included giving his descendants (the people of Israel) the promised land and removing the remnants of the giants clans that had descended from the Nephilim, Rephaim and Amorites of Genesis 6:1-4.
- ▶ Genesis 15:9-21
- ▶ Deuteronomy 9:1-3
- ▶ That's what it meant when David said '*the battle is the Lord's*' (1 Sam. 17:47).


For us to **transpose** the message of 1 Samuel 17 into our situation in the New Covenant.

- ▶ We are NEVER called to fight against '*flesh and blood*' people. But rather to struggle '*against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places*' (Ephesians 6:12).
- ▶ Matthew 28:20
- ▶ John 14:16
- ▶ Hebrews 13:5-6


### 3. David's faith was **EXPERIENTIAL** (in practice).

- ▶ *1 Samuel 17:38-40 (ESV) 38 ... Saul clothed David with his armour. He put a helmet of bronze on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail, 39 and David strapped his sword over his armour. **And he tried in vain to go, for he had not tested them.** Then David said to Saul, “**I cannot go with these, for I have not tested them.**” So David put them off.*





▶ *1 Samuel 17:40, 48-51 (ESV) Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch. His sling was in his hand, and he approached the Philistine.....49 And David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine on his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the ground. 50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. There was no sword in the hand of David.*

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- ▶ *1 Samuel 17:34-37 (ESV) 34 .... David said to Saul, “Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, 35 I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him. 36 Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God.” 37 **And David said, “The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” .....***

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► *Psalms 18:29, 31-34 (ESV) (A Psalm of David)*


29 For **by you** I can run against a troop, and **by my God** I can leap over a wall.....32 **the God who equipped me with strength** and ...33 ... made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights. 34 **He trains my hands for war ....**

## 4. David's faith was **THEOLOGICAL** (in content).

### ▶ The truth of God's **name**

*1 Samuel 17:45 ESV Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the **name** of the LORD.*

... 'Name' speaks of his power and supernatural ability



Jeremiah 10:6 ESV “There is none like you, O LORD; you are great, and your **name** is great in **might**.”

Acts 4:7 ESV “By what **power** or by what **name** did you do this?”

## 4. David's faith was **THEOLOGICAL** (in content).

- ▶ The truth of God's army - the '**hosts**'.

This great God leads the '*hosts*' or supernatural armies of heaven.

There is so much available from this heavenly '*host*'.

## 4. David's faith was **THEOLOGICAL** (in content).

### ▶ The truth of God's **life**.

*1 Sa. 17:26 (ESV) "For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of **the living God?**"*



'Three words that change everything'

May we grow into a faith like David, that is:

- ▶ In **focus**, looking to the **supernatural** God.
- ▶ In **expectation**, trusting that God will keep his **covenantal** promises.
- ▶ In **experiential practice**, finding that God is more than able.
- ▶ In **theological content**, rejoicing in the truth of who God is.