

DAVID AND THE GIANT

I Samuel 17:1–58.

LESSON 59 -- Primary Course

MEMORY VERSE: “I can do all things through Christ” (Philippians 4:13).

BIBLE TEXT

I Samuel 17:1–58

1 Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which belongeth to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim.

2 And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched by the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines.

3 And the Philistines stood on a mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side: and there was a valley between them.

4 And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath,

of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

5 And he had an helmet of brass upon his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of brass.

6 And he had greaves of brass upon his legs, and a target of brass between his shoulders.

7 And the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam; and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron: and one bearing a shield went before him.

8 And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, Why are ye come out to set your battle in

array? am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me.

9 If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us.

10 And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.

11 When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

12 ¶ Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehemjudah, whose name was Jesse; and he had eight sons: and the man went among men for an old man in the days of Saul.

13 And the three eldest sons of Jesse went and followed Saul to the battle: and the names of his three sons that went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next unto

him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

14 And David was the youngest: and the three eldest followed Saul.

15 But David went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

16 And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days.

17 And Jesse said unto David his son, Take now for thy brethren an ephah of this parched corn, and these ten loaves, and run to the camp to thy brethren;

18 And carry these ten cheeses unto the captain of their thousand, and look how thy brethren fare, and take their pledge.

19 Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

20 And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came

to the trench, as the host was going forth to the fight, and shouted for the battle.

21 For Israel and the Philistines had put the battle in array, army against army.

22 And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

23 And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spake according to the same words: and David heard them.

24 And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

25 And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.

26 And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

27 And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him.

28 And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.

29 And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause?

30 And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and

the people answered him again after the former manner.

31 ¶ And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him.

32 And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine.

33 And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.

34 And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock:

35 And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him.

36 Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he

hath defied the armies of the living God.

37 David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.

38 And Saul armed David with his armour, and he put an helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with a coat of mail.

39 And David girded his sword upon his armour, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved it. And David said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them. And David put them off him.

40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

41 And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him.

42 And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance.

43 And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

44 And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.

45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the

host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.

47 And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.

48 ¶ And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.

50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.

51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.

52 And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until thou come to the valley, and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron.

53 And the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their tents.

54 And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought

it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent.

55 And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said unto Abner, the captain of the host, Abner, whose son is this youth? And Abner said, As thy soul liveth, O king, I cannot tell.

56 And the king said, Enquire thou whose son the stripling is.

57 And as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand.

58 And Saul said to him, Whose son art thou, thou young man? And David answered, I am the son of thy servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.

NOTES

Fear of the Enemies

There were some people who were always troubling the Israelites. The armies were ready for a battle. The enemy stood on a mountain on one side and the Israelites stood on a mountain facing them.

A big man, a “champion” named Goliath, came out of the camp of the enemy and dared the Israelites. He had a brass helmet upon his head. He had a coat of metal scales, that was very strong and very heavy. His legs were covered with metal, and also his shoulders. He carried a great, strong spear in his hand. A man went in front of him with a shield. He went out before the army of the Israelites and asked them why they had come out to fight, meaning that they were too weak. He said that they should send a man to fight him. King Saul and the people were afraid of this man. The giant came every morning and evening for forty days. No doubt he was sure that there was no one who would come and fight with him.

David was taking care of the sheep when his brothers went to the battle. One day David’s father told him to take some food to his brothers and to the captain.

David’s Faith

When David came there they were getting ready for the battle. The giant came out and again asked for a man to fight him. David heard what the giant said, and David said he would fight him. David was not afraid, because he was trusting God to help him. The brothers were angry at him for coming out to the battle. David said he had done no wrong in coming; he knew that his father had sent him.

The king was told about David and sent for him. David told the king that he would fight the giant. Saul told David that he was not strong enough. David told the king that he had killed a lion and a bear that were trying to take the sheep. He said God had protected him from the lion and the bear, and He would protect him from the giant.

In the Name of the Lord

Saul put a heavy coat of metal scales on David, and a helmet on his head, and gave him a great sword, too. But David did not want

Saul's armour and sword, for he had not proved them. And he took them all off. David took his shepherd's staff in his hand. Then he picked out five smooth stones from the brook and put them into a shepherd's bag. With the sling in his hand he went toward the giant. When the giant saw little David he said: "Am I a dog, that though comest to me with staves?" And he cursed David.

David told the giant, "Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou has defied."

The giant came toward David; and David took a stone from his bag, and with his sling he killed the giant. Then David took the giant's sword and cut off his head. When the enemy saw that their giant was killed they were afraid and ran away. The Israelites had won a great battle because David trusted in God's help rather than in a sword or spear, or in his own strength as the giant had done.

Trusting in God

Many years ago, a quiet little village was notified that an enemy army was coming against them. The people feared that the village would be burned and the people killed. The men took their weapons, determined to defend their homes as long as possible. Outside the village, apart by itself there stood a tiny wooden hut, where an old woman lived with her little grandson, Wilhelm. The boy brought the news of the danger on his return from school. "What shall we do, Granny? They will kill and burn everything. If only my father were living he would fight for us and defend us. I am only a little boy, and you are old and weak; had we not better seek shelter in the village?" "No, my boy," the grandmother replied. "We must put our trust in God. We are safer here in our

heavenly Father's keeping than we should be in the village among the armed men. Get the Bible and read our evening chapter."

The boy read the second chapter of Zechariah, till he came to the words, "For I, saith the LORD, will be unto her a wall of fire round about." "What does it mean, Grandmother?" Said Wilhelm. "God has His own way of protecting His trusting children," replied the grandmother. "I know not how." They knelt in prayer, the old woman committing themselves and their little home to the Father's care. They both slept calmly that night. When morning came it was still dark, and they found that in the night there had been a heavy fall of snow, and they could not get out. The boy was frightened, but his grandmother told him not to be afraid; they had a store of wood, and food enough to last some days. After the second night they managed to shovel away some of the snow, and found that they had been completely buried; the storm had drifted the pure white snow high over roof and chimney and all. They were glad to get out into the sunshine, and went joyfully to the village.

They found the village deserted; many of their neighbours were lying dead on the ground, and no one was to be seen. At last they came upon a wounded man who told them that the enemy had come in the night, marched noiselessly over the fallen snow, and had killed every one they could find the rest had fled. Wilhelm learned that it had been better to trust in God than in the sword and that He had sent a "Wall of snow" to protect His trusting children.

QUESTIONS

1. Was the king afraid of the giant? I Samuel 17:11.
2. Why did David go down to the battle? I Samuel 17:17, 18.
3. Were David's brothers glad to see him? I Samuel 17:28.
4. Tell how King Saul dressed David for the battle.
I Samuel 17:38, 39.
5. What did David take with him instead of the armour?
I Samuel 17:40.

LESSON RESOURCES

TITLE

DAVID AND THE GIANT

Lesson 59

I Samuel 17:1-58

Only A Boy Named David

WATCH AND PRAY 93

2|
4↓

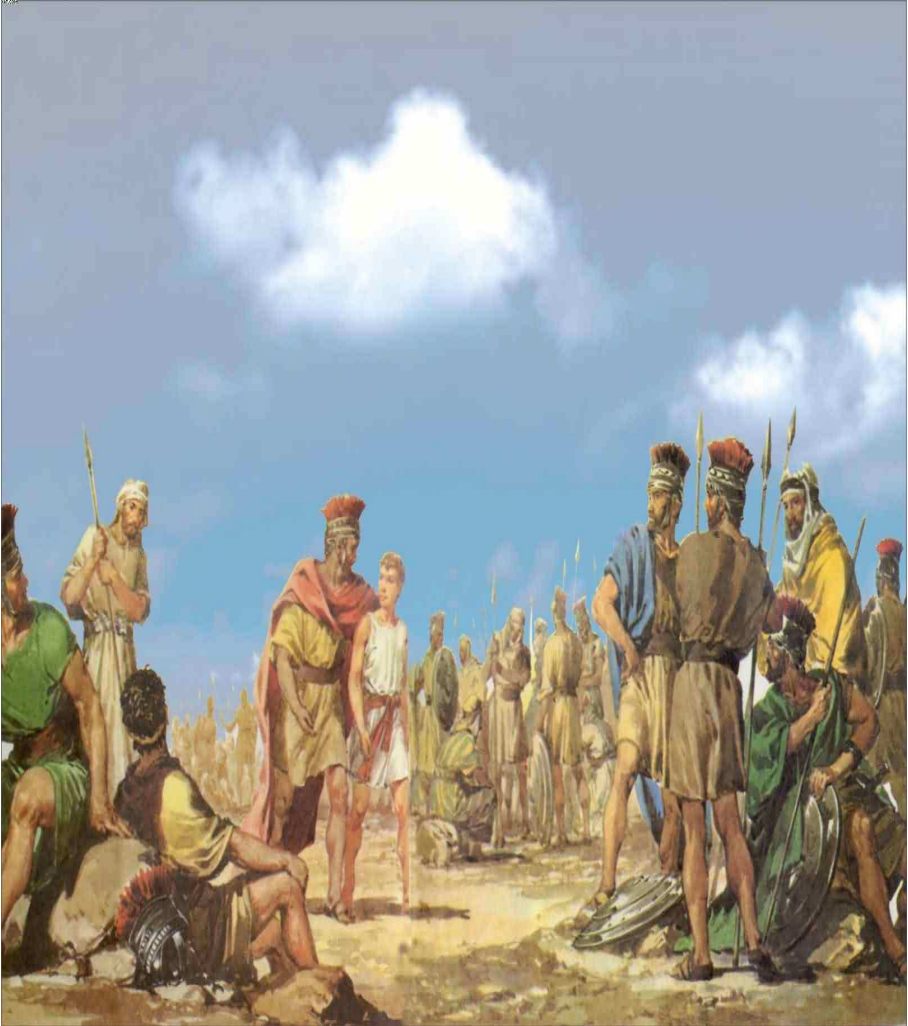
d. d, d, d. d. d. m:. d. d. r. m. s;-
d. d, d, d. d. d. s: m. m. r. r. m. r:-
d. d, d, d. d. d. m:. d. d. r. m. f:-
s. s, s, s. l. s. m: d. r. r, r, m. r. d:
d: f. f, f, f. f. l. l. l. l, l, l. s. s. m. s:
m. m. r, r, r. r. m. r. r. r, r, r. r. m. fe. s:
s. m. s. s. s. m. s. s. s. m. m. f. s. l.:
l. l. s, s, s. m. l. s, s, s. m, m, s. f. m. r. d:-

SONG

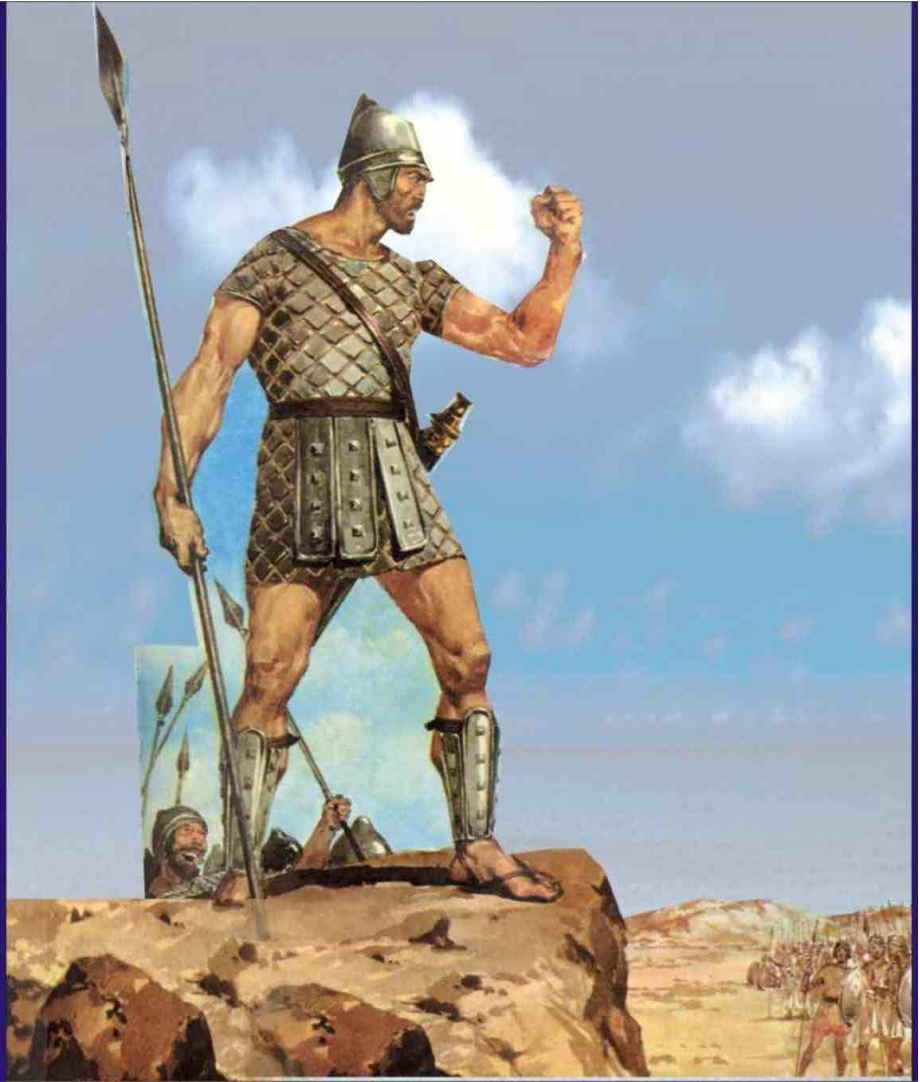
Only A Boy Named David

Only a boy named David,
Only a little sling,
Only a boy named David
But he could pray and sing
Only a boy named David
Only a rippling brook
Only a boy named David,
But five little stones he took
And one little stone went in the sling)
And the sling went round and round) 2ce
And round and round and round and round,
And round and round and round,
And one little stone went up in the air,
And the giant came tumbling down.

PICTURE 1



PICTURE 2



PICTURE 3

