

The Bible stories are true stories so they have to be shared to adults so we could learn from their mistakes and victories. Some Bible scholars would say that David was about the height of King Saul since he offered his armor to David. King Saul is not a foolish person. So I doubt that he would offer his armor knowing that it won't fit David. The average height of Jews according to Scholars is 6 feet. So if King Saul is a head taller than the average, maybe he's around 7 feet. So David was between 6 to 7 feet tall. But still Goliath is around 3 feet taller than David. I believe he's so huge even his body built. Then, he's more experienced in war because he's considered as the champion of the Philistines.

Goliath is a representation of what we experience in real life. In real life, we may not experience fighting a real giant. But I believe all of us have experienced fighting our personal Goliath or personal giants. Debts could be the Goliath that you're facing right now. Maybe, you have huge loans in the bank and you don't know how you're going to pay it off and your budget at home is greatly affected. Family relationship could be your Goliath now.

Perhaps, you're always quarreling with your loved ones or your loved ones are quarreling with each other. Some of you could be considering work as your Goliath. Either you can't meet your quota or your boss is your mortal enemy or you can't find a job. Some of you could have sickness as your Goliath. Whatever it may be, our personal Goliath bothers us in so many ways.

What Giant/S Can Do To Us

GIANT WILL CHALLENGE US

1 Samuel 17:8,16 - "⁸ Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me... ¹⁶ For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand." (NIV)

Think about what the army of Israel have to deal with everyday for 40 days. They were being challenged by Goliath everyday for 40 straight days. Honestly, they want to do something about it, but Goliath is too big for them. Goliath is too powerful so they are not accepting the challenge. Fighting your giant is not easy. In fact, fighting your giant is scary. But winning over your giant is not impossible.

GIANT WILL TRY TO OVERCOME US

1 Samuel 17:9-10 - "9 If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us." ¹⁰ Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other."" (NIV)

Goliath is an enemy. Goliath will try his best to overcome the people of Israel. Your personal Goliath will try to conquer you. John 10:10a said, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy...(NIV)" Temptation is one of the biggest giants we can ever face in life. We have different weaknesses so we have different temptations.

Therefore, we cannot judge other people. We can only judge ourselves. This giant has overcome them. They want to stop but it's like a huge giant stepping on them and they can't get out.

GIANT WILL INFLICT FEAR ON US

1 Samuel 17:11 - "On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified." (NIV)

Goliath here kept on challenging the people of Israel to inflict fear in them and he was successful with his scheme. Fear paralyzes us. Fear is the devil's favorite tool against children of God. Why? Fear can disable a person. It can make a person disoriented. And it can disarm anybody. This is why Goliath kept on shouting and challenging the army of Israel. He's using fear as a weapon against them and he was successful for several days until David arrived.

Fear bombards us with negativity to destroy our faith. Fear exaggerates the real situation. Either you have fear or you have faith. It can't be both.

What David Did To Defeat Israel's Giant...

DAVID AIMED FOR THE REWARD

As Goliath kept on challenging the army of Israel, David aimed for the reward on the challenge. What is the significance of reward to a person? Rewards can be used as positive reinforcement for facing the challenge.

Colossians 3:23-24 - "²³ Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, ²⁴ since you know that **you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward**. It is the Lord Christ

you are serving (NIV)." Reward is God's bonus to His children who would do their best for Him. This is why David enjoyed the challenge.

We may admit it or not, but usually we hate challenges in life. The disadvantages of having examination are pressure, worry, and we have to study harder. But there are also advantages. Examination maximizes your potential, develops your knowledge, and increases retention. Don't look at challenges as enemy. Look at its rewards.

DAVID IGNORED THE OVERCOMER

For your information, David had two giants to defeat. The obvious is Goliath. But the first giant that he conquered was his brother Eliab. Giants could be people who are even close to you. Sometimes we have friends or relatives who would stop us from conquering our giants because of envy. In life, there will be people who will be angry with you when you're doing something right. There are people who will always use anger to intimidate you.

You have two choices with the negative words of your giants. First, you can accept it and be defeated. Second, you can reject it and be victorious. If David accepted the cruel words of his brother Eliab, he won't be able to defeat Goliath.

DAVID FOUGHT THE FEAR

David was being discouraged by his king, King Saul. He's inflicting fear in him by saying, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth." As my dad said, "Fear paralyzes a person."

God doesn't want us to fear. God wants us to have faith. 2 Timothy 1:7 - "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind (NKJV)." Fear does not come from God. It came from the enemy. Fear is aborted faith. So we can't have both at the same time.



- 1.) What are your greatest fears in life?
- 2.) What are the results of this fear?
- 3.) What did you do to overcome?
- 4.) What did you learn from today's message?