

Address: 160 Paya Lebar Road, Orion@Paya Lebar #04-06, Singapore 409022 Sun Worship Service: 10am, Sun School: 11.45am, Wed Prayer Meeting: 8pm

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Lessons from the the Victory of David over Goliath

The Old Testament has wonderful accounts of victories by the people of God over evil, and there are rich lessons to be learnt from there. I Sam 17:1-19 gives the background to the battle between the Israelites and the Philistines during the reign of king Saul. Some people say that the Philistines could possibly be the



distant forefathers of the Palestinians today. Numerically, Philistine is a much bigger country than Israel. The champion in v.4 refers to a strong representative, Goliath who stood at 9ft and 2in (nearly 2.8 m). The tallest man alive today as highlighted in the Guinness World record is about 2.3 m. There was a contest between Israel and Philistine represented by one man a huge giant on their side, but Israel had none. How did the battle go finally in favour of Israel then? Let us consider below.

A. Vision, Truth and the Right Spiritual Perspective (v26 to 29)

We are often confronted many times by crisis, dangers and even formidable foes who try to undermine us in our ministry allowed by the will of God. We need to ask ourselves, what are we fighting for? Do we fight because our pride is hurt, or our work or possible gain is lost or when our family is hurt? Young David knew the purpose he was fighting for. The reason is given in v26. David was fighting for the glory of God and not for himself (not King Saul). He wanted all the world to know there is a living God in Israel (v46). Do not fight for the wrong cause but seek to know and follow the right one. Will you fight for the cause of the gospel and for the word of the Lord Jesus? Will you speak for Him with the testimony to your loved ones with the gospel and to the lost and share the Word to edify saints and encourage and build up families?

B. Fight Valiantly for the Honour of Christ (v32 to 37)

David gave a good testimony about how he slew a lion and a bear. This persuaded Saul that he was capable of fighting Goliath. A brave testimony is important as we serve God with godly courage and strength and not in fear of man. Fight your fears and dare to trust God even in a crisis, trials and

tribulations. David was a young shepherd boy but he stood up to a huge bully and God was with him; he was a good witness for the Lord for he was fighting for the honour of God. 3 John 1:12 speaks about how a man named Demetrius had a good report. We need to have a good witness to souls with the gospel and be an effective testimony in our Christian life if we were to shine for Christ among the people God sent into our lives.

C. Be Equipped with the Right Spiritual Armour of God (v37 to 40)

David was presented by king Saul with his own armour, helmet of brass and a coat of mail, the latest protective gear of those days. But David was not used to them. He chose to use just five stones and a sling. Why five stones? Because besides Goliath, there were 4 other giants who were Goliath's brothers to deal with and David was well prepared with godly wisdom (see 2 Sam 21:22). We should not underestimate these stones. They are described as "smooth", prepared by God and smoothened by the brook over a long period of time, so that they were accurate when used by a skilled person. We should be equipped with the right spiritual armour as described aptly by Paul in Eph 6:10-18 before we go forth to battle and not rely on our own human weakness.

D. God's Intervention and Human Responsibility (v45 to 51)

God is with David but David still had to face the foe and fight the battle personally There is a part only God can do, as in our salvation but we must do our part in our progressive sanctification. Whether as a father, as a student, as an employee, as a church worker, let us make sure we do our part right with full responsibility and then leave the results to God. God expects us to work hard in our life to support our family and serve and worship Him in his church and in His gospel work and let us do that dutifully.

Conclusion

David won this battle against the giant Goliath because he saw that it was "God vs Goliath", and not "David vs Goliath" and hence there was only going to be one true winner which was the almighty God of Israel.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is like David for He destroyed death and sin for us; He is the victor for us and our Saviour. How do you see your life today? Like the Israelites who entrusted their lives to David in the battle, let us entrust ours to

our Lord Jesus Christ. To all of us who are fighting our own Goliaths, let us seek God first and humbly pray and do our part, be brave and vigilant and stand fast in Christ, know Him as your only Saviour and Lord and believe faithfully in His death and resurrection and His deliverance of us from sin and be a good soldier of Christ in the many difficult battles of life and win by his divine strength and grace.



Jack Sin

GODLY COUNSEL FOR PILGRIMS & STRANGERS (STUDIES IN 1 PETER)

LORD'S DAY PROGRAMME FOR JUL-SEP 2022

JULY

- 3 Our Salvation & Eternal Hope (1 Pet 1:1-12)
- 10* Sojourning in the Fear of God (1 Pet 1:13-25)
- 17 Of Lively Stones & Royal Priesthood (1 Pet 2:1-10)
- 24 Of Pilgrims & Strangers (1 Pet 2:11-25)
- 31 Guide for The Believers Domestic Life (1 Pet 3:1-9)

AUGUST

- 7 Christian Apologetics in Practice (1 Pet 3:10-15)
- 14* Keeping a Good Conscience (1 Pet 3:16-22)
- 21 Godly Demeanour in Afflictions (1 Pet 4:1-8)
- 28 How to be Faithful Stewards of God (1 Pet 4:9-11)

SEPTEMBER

- 4 When We Suffer for Christ (1 Pet 4:12-19)
- 11* Models in Meek Service (1 Pet 5:1-7)
- 18 Sober and Vigilant Stand Against Evil (1 Pet 5:8-14)
- 25 Seeking Reconciliation with God (2 Cor 5:11-21)

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Memory Verse

1 Pet 4:7 But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.

Announcements

- Welcome to our Gospel Sunday Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave.
- Pastor speaks this morning on "Godly Demeanor in Afflictions (1 Pet 4:1-8), the quarterly series on Godly Counsel for Pilgrims and Strangers (studies in 1Peter).
- Pastor speaks next Sunday on "How to be Faithful Stewards of God" (1 Pet 4:9-11).
- 4. Sunday School classes continue after worship service:
 - Westminster Confession of Faith Pastor
 - Studies in Deuteronomy Dn Kwong Leen
 - Christian Ethics Joseph Wee
- The <u>Church Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM)</u> will be held on <u>Sunday</u> <u>28 Aug 2022 at 11.45am</u> after worship service. Church members are required to attend.
- Chinese Fellowship meets on Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. Included in the programme is a video study on Fundamentals of Theology on alternate Sundays. Join us for a time of profitable learning.
- 7. Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church.
- Monthly Neighbourhood Bible Class will next meet on <u>Fri 2 Sep 2022, 7.30pm</u> <u>in church</u> on the study of 2 Samuel. Come and join us!
- Do kindly observe the safety measures of the church and assist with the weekly cleaning of the premises.
- 10. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
 - Cheque payable to Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
 - Fund transfer to Church UOB Account 392-308-825-1
 - PayNow to Church UEN: T19SS0116FSOV
