



Cover to Cover: David and Goliath

May 13

Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJOju5Dw0V0>

Context: Today we are going to examine what is, for many of us, a well-known story. It is so well known you might say we risk overlooking it. It is my prayer that as we review the story of David and Goliath (or maybe look at it for the first time) that God will speak to us in mighty ways. It is a pivotal story in 1 Sam and in the demise of Saul and the rise of David and all that God is saying about godly kingship and the life of faith.

First, think about Doug Reider's sermon on Ruth from this past Lord's Day:

- What are some key themes from Ruth?
- How does the setting of the Judges make the story of Ruth so remarkable?
- God is seldom mentioned in the book, how do we know He was at work?
- How does Ruth speak today?

Read: 1 Sam 17

Questions

1. In 1 Sam the people demanded a king, they got Saul. Saul fails to be obedient to the Lord and so his kingdom is taken and given to another, David. This story follows on from David's anointing and highlights that transition and their differences as men.
2. Who were Israel's enemies, the Philistines?
3. Vv. 2–3: What picture is drawn of the battle lines?
4. Vv. 4–7: How would you describe Goliath? Why was he their champion?
5. Vv. 8–9: What was Goliath's wager?
6. V. 11: Why were Saul and the Israelites dismayed and greatly afraid? What do you think this speaks to Saul's leadership?

7. Vv. 12–23: What do we learn of the situation from these verses, and more importantly about David? What stands out?
8. In v. 24 David discovers the people are fearful. To seek to combat this and draw out their own champion, what tactic had Saul resorted to?
9. V. 26: What do you think of David's comment?
10. Vv. 28–30: How does the attitude of this upshot compare with the mood within the camp?
11. Vv. 31–33: Compare the different perspectives in David and Saul's words.
12. V. 33 (and v.42): How is this but another example of the truth of Paul's words to Timothy (1 Ti 4:12)? How ought we to treat those younger in the faith than us—generally—and especially those who show great faith, humility and spiritual maturity?
13. V.37: What is David's faith filled rationale for thinking he can have victory over Goliath?
14. Vv. 38–40: Why didn't David want to use Saul's armour? What great theme does this help accentuate?
15. Vv. 41–47: Compare the exchange of words between Goliath and David. What is the attitude of Goliath, of David?
16. Why was David taking a stand against Goliath (v. 45b &46b)?
17. How/why is the Lord's way of salvation vertical vs. horizontal?
18. V. 49- *It is amazing how the Lord uses little things offered in faith to topple the pride of giants!*
19. Review vv. 50–58. Summarize and identify anything you think of note.
20. Review the following themes and apply to the life of faith in Christ today or in our circumstances and experiences:
 - a. The character contrast between Saul & David
 - b. The nature of faith
 - c. Pride & humility
 - d. Youthfulness
 - e. Being jealous for God
 - f. Being an inspiration to God's people.