

A Courageous Man

Introduction

1. **The battle of David and Goliath is one of the best known stories in all of the Bible.**
 - A. **A champion, Goliath, came out of the Philistine camp every day for 40 days, defying the Israelite army to send him a worthy opponent.**
 - 1) **He was about 9 feet 9 inches tall and wore at least 150 pounds of armor.**
 - 2) **Confident in the superiority of his equipment and his extraordinary natural strength, he proposes a winner-take-all contest. Nobody accepted!**
 - B. **Young David was sent by his father to deliver some food to his brothers and their commander on the battlefield. It was on this battlefield that young David accepted the giant's proposition.**
2. **David's victory over Goliath:**
1 Samuel 17:40-50
3. **This is an inspiring story, but many have trouble relating it to today.**
 - A. **David represents the Christian while Goliath represents the world.**

David Was Zealous

1. **David was incensed at the challenge of Goliath - not for himself but rather for his God.**

1 Samuel 17:26, 36

2. **The apostle Paul had that kind of zeal**

Romans 1:15-17 So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also. **For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ,** for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Acts 20:31-32 Therefore watch, and remember that for three years **I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.** So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

3. **Christians are encouraged to have this kind of zeal for their Lord today. To do good and to contend for the gospel.**

1 Corinthians 15:58

Galatians 6:9 And **let us not grow weary while doing good,** for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

Titus 2:14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, **zealous for good works.**

Jude 3...I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to **contend earnestly for the faith** which was once for all delivered to the saints.

David Was Courageous

1. To most, we would think that he had every physical reason not to be courageous in this particular case.

1 Samuel 17:4-7

Cubit = 17.72 inches standard or 20.67 inches royal

Span = 9 inches

(Verse 4 - height was approx 9 feet 6 inches (standard) 11 feet (royal)

Shekel = approx 0.364 oz. (Talent = 3,000 Shekels = 91 U.S. lbs)

(Verse 5 - weight of coat= 151.50 U.S. lbs)

(Verse 6 - weight of iron spearhead = 18.50 U.S. lbs)

- A. Still, he did not fear Goliath

1 Samuel 17:32, 45-47

W. T. Sherman: I would define true courage to be a perfect sensibility of the measure of danger, and a mental willingness to endure it.

2. We find others that had this kind of courage.

- A. Jesus - at Nazareth, before the Pharisees, the Sanhedrin, and Pilate.

- B. Peter and the apostles (Acts 4 and 5)

3. All Christians should exhibit this kind of courage

- A. Physical

Matthew 10:27-28

- B. Mental

Acts 17:18-21, 32

David Was Equipped

1. **He was equipped but not as this giant philistine**
 - A. **Notice what happens when Saul tries to prepare him as he thinks he should be prepared for battle.**
1 Samuel 17:38-40
 - B. **David knew that he was equipped with His God!**
1 Samuel 17:37
 - 1) **This was the same equipment that he possessed throughout his life and written for our benefit in the Psalms.**
2. **Others of long ago had this kind of deep faith:**
 - A. **Daniel knew God would rescue him from the lion's den.**
 - B. **Samson knew God would give him strength to destroy many Philistines.**
 - C. **Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego knew God could rescue them from fire.**
3. **Christians today need to be well equipped for battle. How should we be equipped?**
Ephesians 6:10-17; Romans 10:17
 - A. **Trust is based on knowledge of God's previous dealings with mankind and His people. The more we read of this, the more we learn and gain trust.**

David Was Victorious

1. **He was victorious for one reason - because God was with him.**
1 Samuel 17:46-50

2. **The people of God have always been victorious when they trusted in Him.**
 - A. **Israel was able to conquer Egypt, the Philistines, Syrians, Assyrians, etc. even though all of these were superior in might.**
 - 1) **When they were obedient to God, God delivered them, God was there for them.**

3. **Christians are victorious when we trust in God completely.**

Luke 10:17 Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

Romans 8:31-33, 35-37

Conclusion

1. **The Christian's warfare with the world looks as bleak as what others saw David facing.**

2. **Let us remember this wonderful story of courage by a young David, and consider as David did before he engaged in battle.....**
.....that the battle is God's!

Invitation

Place

Date

A Courageous Man.wpd
Richard Thetford, October 2000 - Reworked February 2023