

The Bigger They Are...

Joseph Carty / General

Great Stories of the Bible / David and Goliath

One of the greatest underdog stories of all time, David and Goliath is heartwarming. What made young David the man that he was?

Overcoming Hardship

Better Man

- Saul Rejected
 - Prophecy of David

1 Samuel 15:28 ESV

And Samuel said to him, “The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you.

- God saw young
 - David’s heart...
 - “better than you.”
- What made him better?
 - loving to

- love
- serve
- obey.

1 Samuel 15:35–16:1 ESV

And Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD regretted that he had made Saul king over Israel.

The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.”

- If god
 - closes a door
 - opens another
 - plan is right
 - timing is perfect
- Don't mourn
 - God at work.

Looking At the Heart

- Saul saw Eliab

1 Samuel 16:6-7 ESV

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is before him.” But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

- David was “better”
- Different than Saul
- Eliab was like Saul.
 - tall
 - dark
 - handsome
 - kingly bearing
 - physically respectable
 - guys at gym...

- All 7 older sons

1 Samuel 16:10 ESV

And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen these.”

- Why not,
 - good looking
 - pleasant people
 - respectful to profit
 - “church attendees”

1 Samuel 16:11 ESV

Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.”

- “Youngest”
- Hebrew word:
 - lowest status
 - insignificant

- Nobody saw
 - what God saw
 - in David.

Looking At Self

- So often today
 - people say
 - “I can’t do that.”

- Serve God
 - can’t lead bible study
 - can’t teach
 - can’t preach
 - can’t do SS
 - can’t be greeter
 - can’t be potluck
 - can’t

- can't
- can't

- Look at God's workers
 - David...
 - least
 - Disciples
 - fishermen
 - tax collector...
 - least
 - Jacob
 - youngest
 - Paul
 - Christian murderer
 - Abraham
 - liar
 - Moses
 - Lost Temper

- Sampson
 - womanizer
- Noah
 - Drunkard
- Lot
 - incest

- Least, least, least
 - broken people
 - shepherds
 - low-class

- Look in mirror.
 - Today,
 - God calls you...

- Look at calls of bible...
 - But I'm...

Jeremiah

Jeremiah 1:6–7 ESV

Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth.” But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’;

for to all to whom I send you, you shall go,

and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

- Jeremiah’s View
 - Too Young
 - Can’t Talk

- God’s View
 - Don’t Say That
 - I’ll use you.

Moses

Exodus 4:10 ESV

But Moses said to the LORD, “Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue.”

- Moses View
 - Not eloquent
 - can't talk
 - Also
 - scared
 - don't want to go
 - ect.
- You are my man.
- You are going.

Answer the Call

Isaiah

Isaiah 6:8 ESV

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

- I will Go!!!

- Truth is...
- We are:
 - unworthy
 - broken
 - sinners
 - poor speech
 - young
 - ignorant
 - etc.
- God likes people
 - that are broken
 - and know it.
- Those are the kind
 - he can use.
 - tax collector

- pharisee

Anointing

1 Samuel 16:12-13 ESV

And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

- What made David
 - man of God?
 - willing heart
 - faith
 - dependence
- Only prerequisites
 - to serving God.

Demon Possession

- God let Saul
 - Demons came
 - harassed Saul.
- Musician.
 - David played harp
 - wicked spirits left.
 - music is not a-moral.
- Built relationship.

1 Samuel 16:21 ESV

And David came to Saul and entered his service. And Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armor-bearer.

- Back and forth
 - home and palace

- Still too young,
 - to serve in army.

Goliath

- Massive giant

1 Samuel 17:4 ESV

And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.

- 9 feet 6 inches.

1 Samuel 17:5 ESV

He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze.

- 120 lbs

1 Samuel 17:6-7 ESV

And he had bronze armor on his legs, and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron. And his shield-bearer went before him.

- spear head
- 15 lbs.

- Massive Strength.

1 Samuel 17:8-9 ESV

He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, “Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us.”

- Challenge to
 - **a dual.**

When It Rains, It Pours

- If it get bad,
 - it gets really bad.

- Goliath was
 - a Huge Problem.
 - literally.
 - spiritually.

- Faith Problem.

- Today,
 - you may have
 - big problems
 - physical/health
 - emotional
 - financial
 - social
 - work
 - relationships
 - family
 - **Big Problems!**

- Remember
 - Goliath didn't
 - surprise God

People?

1 Samuel 17:11 ESV

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

- Yes, Israel:
 - surprised
 - scared
 - anxious

- God
 - foresaw him
 - not intimidated
 - not anxious.

- You got problems
 - God knows
 - not scared
 - not confused...

- Goliath goes further:

1 Samuel 17:10 ESV

And the Philistine said, “I defy the ranks of Israel this day. Give me a man, that we may fight together.”

- Now it is
 - affront toward God.
- Change Scene
 - calm country road
 - young boy
 - bag of food
 - singing songs
 - journey with God

- Enters Camp
 - astir
 - anxious
 - tension in air
- Battle Cry
 - ready to fight
 - battle gear
 - finds brothers
 - encourages them
- Suddenly Goliath
 - same words.
- Response?

1 Samuel 17:24 ESV

All the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were much afraid.

- Ran away...

- David is offended
 - Goliath's cursing God
 - soldiers running away
 - hears rumor.

1 Samuel 17:26 ESV

And David said to the men who stood by him, "What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

- What is the reward?

1 Samuel 17:25 ESV

And the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel. And the king will enrich the man who kills him with great riches and will give him his daughter and make his father's house free in Israel."

- Great Wealth
- King's Daughter
- No Taxes for Family!

Scaredy Saul

- Think about it.
 - who should have fought?
- Saul
 - head and shoulders above rest
 - Israel's Giant
 - Strong
 - Powerful
 - Leader
 - Hiding in fear...
- Why?
 - God left him.
 - No power
 - No strength

- against Satan.
- Young Boy
 - not scared.
- You have problems?
- Did Christ have problems?
- How did He get through?

Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing Chapter 3—The Spirituality of the Law

The Father's presence encircled Christ, and nothing befell Him but that which infinite love permitted for the blessing of the world. Here was His source of comfort, and it is for us. He who is imbued with the Spirit of Christ abides in Christ. The blow that is aimed at him falls upon the Saviour, who surrounds him with His presence. Whatever comes to him comes from Christ. He has no need to resist evil, for Christ is his defense. Nothing can touch him except by our Lord's permission, and "all things" that are permitted "work together for good to them that love God." Romans 8:28.

- If trials come,
 - God knows
 - He allowed
 - (infinite wisdom).

- We are
 - finite understanding
 - stuck in present
 - can't see value
 - in the moment

The Faith I Live By February—The Three Dignitaries of Heaven

The fact that we are called upon to endure trial shows that the Lord Jesus sees in us something precious which He desires to develop. If He saw in us nothing whereby He might glorify His name, He would not spend time in refining us. He does not cast worthless stones into His furnace. It is valuable ore that He refines. God never leads His children otherwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end from the beginning and discern the glory of the purpose which they are fulfilling as co-workers with Him.

All that has perplexed us in the providences of God will in the world to come be made plain. The things hard to be understood will then find explanation. The mysteries of grace will unfold before us. Where our finite minds discovered only confusion and broken promises, we shall see the most perfect and beautiful harmony. We shall know that infinite love ordered the experiences that seemed most trying.

- Been through hard times?
- In hard times?

- God is there.
 - We can see
 - through broke moment.
- God is
 - work on a
 - bigger picture.
- Trust him!
 - Believe in hand
 - Blacksmith

The Greater Good

War Casualties

- God work on
 - bigger plan

- not comfort here.
 - comfort there...
-
- Trust His hand.

Amazing Grace Disciplines and Refines, August 20

The blacksmith puts the iron and steel into the fire that he may know what manner of metal they are. The Lord allows His chosen ones to be placed in the furnace of affliction to prove what temper they are of and whether they can be fashioned for His work.

- Why does God
 - allow suffering?
- Perfect our character
 - going on:

Amazing Grace Disciplines and Refines, August 20

The Christian is not to retain his sinful habits and cherish his defects of character.... Whatever may be the nature of your defects, the Spirit of the Lord will enable you to discern them, and grace will be given you whereby they may be overcome.

- Don't fear trials

- Bible says:

1 Peter 4:12-13 ESV

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

- I know it is hard.
 - But..
 - **It will be worth it!**

Easy to say

sitting comfortable

Ukraine...

- Trials Come
 - back to story...

David Ponders...

- Should I offer to fight?

- Voice of Satan

1 Samuel 17:28 ESV

Now Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke to the men. And Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, "Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your presumption and the evil of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle."

- You?
 - least
 - insignificant
 - what are you thinking?

Decision

1 Samuel 17:32 ESV

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

- David makes up mind.

- He is going.

You Can't

- Saul Join Eliab

1 Samuel 17:33 ESV

And Saul said to David, “You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth.”

- Least
- Insignificant
 - too small
 - too young
 - too weak
 - too inexperienced
- **Let Me Tell You**
- **God Calls**
 - **small**
 - **young**

- weak
- inexperienced
 - willing.

- Today,
 - I looking around
 - small
 - young
 - weak
 - inexperience
 - willing.

- Who here
 - ready fight???

- Not because
 - big
 - strong

- capable
- experience
 - humble
 - willing!

1 Samuel 17:37 ESV

And David said, “The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “Go, and the LORD be with you!”

- Tried on
 - armor
 - shield
- David said no
 - staff
 - sling
 - 5 rocks
- Goliath thought

- joke
 - like all...

1 Samuel 17:43 ESV

And the Philistine said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?”
And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

- Serving God
 - looks foolish
- Faithfulness
 - like joke
 - to this world.
- Stick with it.
 - others will mock.
 - Pay No Heed.

Answer of Faith

- Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 17:45-47 ESV

Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the LORD saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the LORD’s, and he will give you into our hand.”

- Betting
 - NFL
 - sports analysts
 - percentages
 - prognosticating

The Underdog

1 Samuel 17:48-49 ESV

When the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. And David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine on his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the ground.

- True Faith
 - Going against
 - Giants of this life
 - Spiritual Weapons
- David's Victory
 - inspired others
 - went to battle
 - won

Appeal

- Giants Come
- Be an Underdog
- Stand In Faith
- Leave Results to God