

NOON BIBLE STUDY: 1 SAMUEL 17

1 SAMUEL 17:1-11 - PHILISTINE CHAMPION DEFIES & TAUNTS ISRAEL'S ARMY

V. 4 - HEIGHT: 6 CUBITS & A SPAN = 9 FEET 9" (1 CUBIT APPROX. 18")

V. 6 - GREAVES = SHIN GUARDS

V. 8 - MOCKING PREVIOUS VICTORIES OF ISRAELITES.

V. 5 - 5000 SHEKELS OF BRONZE = 125 LBS

V. 7 - SPEARHEAD (600 SHEKELS IRON) = 15 LBS

V. 11 - SAUL & ISRAELITE ARMY "GREATLY AFRAID"

1 SAMUEL 17:12-19 - DAVID (NOT IN ARMY) VISITS BROTHERS

V. 15 - DAVID IS GOING BACK AND FORTH FROM SAUL (ASSUMINGLY ATTENDING TO HIM WITH HARP) AND HIS FATHER'S SHEEP.

1 SAMUEL 17:20-25 - DAVID VISITS ENCAMPMENT. GOLIATH

1 SAMUEL 17:26-31 - DAVID TAKEN BACK BY GOLIATH'S WORDS. SAUL HEARS OF HIS REMARKS

V. 27-28 - ELIAB & DAVID TYPICAL SIBLINGS

1 SAMUEL 17:32-37 - DAVID BEFORE SAUL

BASED ON THIS EXCHANGE ALONE, ONE WOULD THINK DAVID, RATHER THAN SAUL, WAS THE KING AND VICTORIOUS GENERAL. DAVID IS BOLD, CONFIDENT AND ZEALOUS FOR THE NAME OF THE LORD. SAUL IS AFRAID AND DOUBTFUL (CP. V. 11).



Q - WHAT DO YOU THINK GAVE DAVID THE CONFIDENCE TO GO AND FIGHT GOLIATH?

DAVID HAD ALREADY SEEN THE LORD WORK IN HIS LIFE THROUGH THE LION AND THE BEAR. THIS IS A GOOD LESSON FOR US. WE MUST HAVE COME TO KNOW & RECOGNIZE THE LORD'S POWER IN OUR LIFE SO THAT WE CAN HAVE THE CONFIDENCE TO RELY ON IT TO HELP BRING VICTORY TO OTHERS.

V. 34-35 - WHEN A LION OR BEAR ATTACKED, DAVID TOOK INITIATIVE AND "WENT OUT AFTER HIM..." HE IS A GOOD SHEPHERD, A GOOD PROTECTOR.

1 SAMUEL 17:38-41 - DAVID REJECTS SAUL'S ARMOR IN EXCHANGE FOR A SLINGSHOT AND 5 STONES

1 SAMUEL 17:42-47 - DAVID CONFRONTS GOLIATH

V. 43 - "STICKS" - PERHAPS A REFERENCE TO DAVID'S SHEPHERD'S STAFF

V. 44, 46 - "IN ISRAEL, BEING DEPRIVED OF BURIAL AND EXPOSED TO BIRDS AND BEASTS WAS CONSIDERED WORSE THAN DEATH ITSELF" (ESV STUDY BIBLE NOTE, 1 SAM. 17:44, 46)

DAVID'S PURPOSE IN CONFRONTING GOLIATH HAD MORE TO DO WITH JUST DEFEATING A PHYSICAL ENEMY. GOLIATH HAD BEEN BLASPHEMING THE NAME AND REPUTATION OF YAHWEH, THE TRUE GOD. THIS BATTLE WAS ALSO A SPIRITUAL STATEMENT, THAT THE GOD OF ISRAEL WAS GREATER THAN THE GODS OF PHILISTINE (V. 46). SECONDLY, THIS WAS A STATEMENT TO THE NATION (AND PERHAPS KING) OF ISRAEL THAT THE LORD WAS THEIR GOD, AND MIGHTY TO DELIVER (V. 47). THROUGH 1 SAMUEL WE ARE LEARNING THIS LESSON. THE NATION WANTS TO FOOLISHLY TRUST IN MAN, RATHER THAN IN YAHWEH THEIR GOD. THIS IS A REALITY WE MUST EMBRACE AS WELL.

WHEN TROUBLE COMES, WHERE DO WE GO? WHEN WE ARE AFRAID WHAT DO WE DO? WHEN WE ARE THREATENED, WHERE DO WE TURN? WHEN WE FACE AN ENEMY, WHAT IS OUR RESPONSE? WHEN THINGS ARE GOOD, WHO IS OUR FOCUS? WHEN WE HAVE VICTORY OR BLESSING, DO WE FORGET FROM WHERE IT COMES?

1 SAMUEL 17:48-52 - DAVID KILLS GOLIATH

V. 48 - DAVID **RAN QUICKLY** TOWARDS THE BATTLE. THAT IS EVIDENCE OF HIS TRUST IN GOD. HE DID NOT WAIT FOR THE BATTLE TO COME TO HIM. HIS CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S POWER AND PRESENCE ENABLED HIM TO RUN INTO THE BATTLE, KNOWING GOD WAS WITH HIM.

V. 51 - DAVID CUT OFF GOLIATH'S HEAD WITH GOLIATH'S SWORD. AS A RESULT, THE PHILISTINE'S FLED.

V. 52 - ISRAEL WAS EMBOLDENED THROUGH DAVID'S FAITH (CP. JONATHAN'S FAITH IN CHAPTER 14)

1 SAMUEL 17:53-54 - DAVID RETURNS TO JERUSALEM (PROBABLY NEARBY CITY)X

V. 54A - DAVID BRINGS GOLIATH'S HEAD BACK TO JERUSALEM. THIS WOULD HAVE LIFTED THE FEAR OVER THE ENTIRE NATION. DAVID SHOWS EVEN THE PEOPLE WHO WEREN'T ON THE FRONT LINES OF THE BATTLE, BUT WERE CERTAINLY AFFECTED BY IT, THAT THE LORD IS MIGHTY. WE SHOULD GLORIFY GOD WHEN HE BRINGS VICTORY, SO THAT OTHERS WILL GROW IN COURAGE.

V. 54B - DAVID PUT (GOLIATH'S) WEAPONS IN HIS TENT. ANOTHER GOOD LESSON FOR US. THE GIANT WAS DEFEATED, BUT THERE WOULD BE OTHER BATTLES TO COME. DAVID DOESN'T ASSUME THE FIGHT IS OVER. THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN A DANGEROUS ATTITUDE. WE WILL SEE DAVID USE GOLIATH'S SWORD LATER IN HIS LIFE.

1 SAMUEL 17:55-18:2 - SAUL INQUIRES ABOUT DAVID'S FATHER.

V. 55 - THOUGH IT APPEARS AT THE END OF THE CHAPTER, THIS QUESTION IS ASKED AS DAVID WENT OUT TO FIGHT GOLIATH

V. 17:56-18:2 - THE QUESTION THAT IS BEING ASKED IS "WHO IS DAVID'S FATHER". WHILE SAUL WOULD HAVE REMEMBERED DAVID FROM HIS SERVICE TO HIM IN CHAPTER 16, IT'S UNLIKELY THAT HE WOULD HAVE REMEMBERED HIS FATHER'S NAME. SAUL IS INQUIRING BECAUSE AT THIS POINT HE WANTS DAVID TO REMAIN WITH HIM (CP 18:2). THIS WAS NOT THE SITUATION PRIOR TO THIS AS WE SEE DAVID BEFORE SAUL PLAYING THE HARP (16:17-23) BUT THEN IN CHAPTER 17 HE HAS RETURNED TO SHEPHERDING IN BETHLEHEM (17:15).