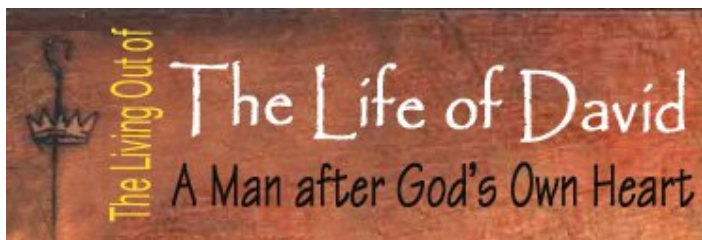




2 Samuel 21:15-22

Giant Problems – Part II Sun, Mar 18th 2007



Title of today's message – Giant Problems...part II

- Part 2? Yes...this is a sequel
- Sequel to what?
- **For us** – a year ago – **1 Sam 17**. Early on in our study of David – Message called **Giant Problems**
 - Then – looked at David face Goliath
 - One of most well known Bible encounters
 - By the way – past messages on web
- **For David** – almost 50 years ago
 - Then a young man – a teenager
 - Now...in his 60's and final days of life

The two accounts are linked in many ways

- That was David's first battle in Scripture
- This is David's last battle in Scripture
- Then David faced a giant – Goliath
- Here faces 4 giants related to Goliath

I. Understand the Enemy: Philistines

1. Encroaching Enemy

- a. Key in understanding who Philistines are **1Sam 17:1**
- b. They occupy other's territory—when they are weak

2. Consistent Enemy

- a. Follow history of battles with Philistines in 1-2 Sam
- b. See that David battled them his whole career
- c. Beating them once did not seal the deal - constant

3. What are the Philistines in your life today?

- a. Every life has— **Heb 12 – sin that so easily stumbles**
- b. Things that Encroach on territory in your life
 - i) Don't belong in life, in Christian life....
- c. Things that are a Constant battle
 - i) Want you to see this – in its Biblical honesty
 - ii) Are battles we face our whole life
 - A. Enemy constant reasserts itself
 - B. Sorry if that is discouraging – is honest
 - iii) Yet I hope, for some, this is encouraging
 - A. Some thing something wrong – thought done
 - B. Perhaps had moving experience like Goliath
 - C. Then enemy reasserts self—What wrong? Nothing

4. What are the Philistines facing the church today?

- a. Helpful to consider your heart – may find guidance into what God has you hear for
- b. Burden for elderly? – enemy of loneliness, despair
- c. Burden for kids? –Burden for youth?
- d. Burden for those in prison? – see despair, fear

5. Problem....Philistines often have Giants!

II. What are Giants?

1. Meet our Giants

- a. 1 Sam 17 – Goliath
- b. 2Sam 22:16 – Ishbi-Benob
- c. 2Sam 22:18 – Saph
- d. 2Sam 22:19 – Lahmi (2Ch 20:5)
- e. 2Sam 22:20 – Unnamed Giant

2. Heb word: רִפְּהִים rephaim

- a. Also called **Anakim, Emim, Zamzummim Dt 2:10-11, 20-21**
- b. Gen 6:4 – Nephilim, her in 2Sam Rephiam

3. Question – was this natural or demonic?

- a. Some see it as natural – genetic abnormality
- b. Some see it as demonic, Gen 6 and more
- c. Good Bible teachers are split on this, not clear
- d. Leave it as a question - Like it, true often in life in giants we face – question whether natural or demonic behind

4. Notice what we can know about Giants

- a. **Big!** - Goliath over 9 feet tall – picture it
- b. **Strong!** – emphasizes weight of armaments
- c. **Well equipped** –**new sword**-idea of cutting edge technology
- d. **Well trained**
- e. **Defiant against God**

5. God likes to arrange such odds in life

- a. A David against Goliath, Moses against Pharoah
- b. Gideon against Midiantes, Elijah against prophets
- c. **Why? – Causes us to be dependant on Him**
 - i) When we are weak, He is strong
- d. **Brings Him the most glory**

III. How do you Defeat Giants?

1. Can be said in one word – Faith

a. Life God has for us is always this, salvation, works

2. Must be willing to face – defeat the fear (opposite faith)

a. Again, know the power of Giants is creating fear

i) 1Sam 17:11, 16

ii) Fear immobilizes, hinders and robs

b. Must to be said for overcoming fear – stepping out

c. See in the young David 1Sam 17:32

d. See willingness in 17:40 – five smooth stones

i) Why five? Could it be because five giants?

e. In 2Sam 21 – David is still willing, going against

3. Must depend on God – Walk, War by Faith

a. 1Sam 17:37 – trust in God

b. 1Sam 17:39 – refuses Saul's armor

c. 1 Sam 17:41-47 – see boast, dependence

d. Again...know this is where God is trying to bring you

i) 2 Cor – no sufficiency in self

ii) John 15 – without Him, nothing

e. Again note what David wanted – two things

i) One – all would know God is real

ii) Two – God's people would trust Him...

4. Others discover God's power with David

a. Notice again – before Goliath – no one will face

- i) Not Saul, not his soldiers or men
- ii) Saul even tries carnal motivation – no avail

b. David is a different man entirely

- i) Willing at beginning of life and near end
- ii) Yet, in our text find him physically unable
- iii) See as more than age – time to pass on faith

c. Under David – we find four Giant Killers

- i) David well known as giant killer, but not alone
- ii) Under him, his life – others find same faith
- iii) Like David, his servants weren't "giants"
 - A. Just men...normal guys
 - B. Yet, by divine assistance take down giants
 - C. They saw in David something they could do

d. I long to inspire such in others

- i) Others to see in me – live it for themselves

e. Long to not hinder such men...like Saul did

- i) Under Saul–jealousy, fear of others success
 - A. Whether Jonathan or David
- ii) Long for others to trust and do greater things
 - A. Hear of Christ...you will do greater things

Conclusion

Today, I wonder if you see this

- Seeing David's Battles and victories
- God wants to do the same today, in you
- God does not show partiality
 - What He is to one – would be to you
- God's eyes looking to and fro – show strong
 - Sad context...one who turned away

What is in your life today that God wants to bring down

- 2 Cor 10:4-5

That was David's 2nd desire – 1st –all know God is God

- Maybe you are here and don't know yet
- Long that you would see in this passage
- Long that you would see in our lives