

111.3 Courage to Confront the Giants

I saw a meme recently that pictured David slinging the famous stone at Goliath. The caption read:

When David faced Goliath, he didn't talk about how dangerous Goliath was – he talked about how great God was. Don't talk fear. Talk faith.

You remember this episode in 1 Samuel 17 where David's father, Jesse sent him to the battlefield to check on his brothers. While there, David observed the Philistine champion, Goliath, as he challenged the Hebrew army in the valley of Elah. The army fled the field when the giant issued the challenge to fight the Hebrews' champion.

David was outraged that the uncircumcised Philistine would defy the armies of Israel. No one in the army seemed concerned about God's name and reputation. They only cared about their safety. Goliath spoke with a seasoned warrior's authority, while most of the Hebrews were like David and his brothers, shepherds, and farmers. When they won a battle, they had to give God the credit. David decided to do something about this insolent giant.

King Saul was taller than the average Hebrew. He was the obvious choice to face the giant, but he, too, hid from the Philistine warrior. Saul and David's brothers tried to deter him from fighting Goliath when he offered. Yet, the future king persisted and fought the Philistine champion with a sling and stones. He refused Saul's armor and conventional weapons and chose to use the weapon he had used in the wilderness against his sheep's predators.

Let me read David's reply to Goliath when the two paired off. **1 Samuel 17:45-47 (NKJV):**

⁴⁵ Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, 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. ⁴⁶ This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. ⁴⁷ Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give you into our hands."

In **Numbers 13**, when the nation of Israel first neared the Canaanite border, Moses sent twelve spies into the land to reconnoiter and return with military intelligence for the battles ahead. They found a bountiful land and terrifying giants. These monsters were more than a little taller than the Hebrews. They were enormous and made the spies feel like "grasshoppers," according to **Numbers 13:33**.

The spies' fearful report frightened and discouraged the people, so they rebelled against Moses and wanted to return to their bondage in Egypt. Joshua and Caleb tried to reassure the people in **Numbers 14:8-9 (NKJV):**

⁸ If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey.' ⁹ Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them."

God sent that generation to die in the wilderness. Forty years later, under the leadership of Joshua, the new generation entered the Promised Land and began driving out the inhabitants. Caleb had asked Moses to reside in the giant-occupied hill country. As an old man, he makes the request again, this time to Joshua. **Joshua 14:12 (NKJV):**

¹² **Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim *were* there, and *that* the cities *were* great *and* fortified. It may be that the LORD *will be* with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said.”**

The Hebrews conquered the land and drove out the giants because God was with them and rewarded their faith. As a good Torah student, David knew about this event. In addition, God had preserved him through some life-threatening situations in the wilderness while he tended to his father’s sheep. David knew God and His word, so he could fearlessly face Goliath.

Eighteenth-century Christian Americans knew the Bible and the history of God’s providential care of their ancestors and those patriots fighting for liberty against the giant British army. In a letter to the Connecticut Governor Trumbull, **George Washington** confidently wrote:

The cause of our common country calls us both to an active and dangerous duty; Divine Providence, which wisely orders the affairs of men, will enable us to discharge it with fidelity and success.

The Deep State is a giant threat to humanity, not just America. We feel frightened and dismayed at its power. Remember our histories, biblical and national, and that God ALWAYS rewards those who diligently seek Him (**Hebrews 11:6**). Thousands of Georgian Orthodox Christians, led by their clergy, displayed faith and courage recently when they flooded their streets to stop an abominable Gay parade in their European town. That is faith over fear.

We know God wins in the end and that we must stand with Him to display His name and honor to the world. We must no longer hide our lights under bushels or in church buildings. Instead, we shine in the enormous darkness that is on every side.

Let’s Keep The Light *of Confronting the Giants* Burning!

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