

## **1 Samuel 17:24-26**

As soon as the Israelite army saw him, they began to run away in fright. [25] “Have you seen the giant?” the men were asking. “He comes out each day to challenge Israel. And have you heard about the huge reward the king has offered to anyone who kills him? The king will give him one of his daughters for a wife, and his whole family will be exempted from paying taxes!” [26] David talked to some others standing there to verify the report. “What will a man get for killing this Philistine and putting an end to his abuse of Israel?” he asked them. “Who is this pagan Philistine anyway, that he is allowed to defy the armies of the living God?”

• **1 Samuel 17:28-29** But when David's oldest brother, Eliab, heard David talking to the men, he was angry. “What are you doing around here anyway?” he demanded. “What about those few sheep you're supposed to be taking care of? I know about your pride and dishonesty. You just want to see the battle!” [29] “What have I done now?” David replied. “I was only asking a question!”

• **1 Samuel 17:32-33** “Don't worry about a thing,” David told Saul. “I'll go fight this Philistine!” [33] “Don't be ridiculous!” Saul replied. “There is no way you can go against this Philistine. You are only a boy, and he has been in the army since he was a boy!” 2

•1 **Samuel 17:34-37** But David persisted. “I have been taking care of my father's sheep,” he said. “When a lion or a bear comes to steal a lamb from the flock, [35] I go after it with a club and take the lamb from its mouth. If the animal turns on me, I catch it by the jaw and club it to death. [36] I have done this to both lions and bears, and I'll do it to this pagan Philistine, too, for he has defied the armies of the living God! [37] The Lord who saved me from the claws of the lion and the bear will save me from this Philistine!” Saul finally consented. “All right, go ahead,” he aid. “And may the Lord be with you!”

## The Israelite army – impotent?

- **Historically – Judges 20:16** Seven hundred of Benjamin's warriors were left-handed, each of whom could sling a rock and hit a target within a hairsbreadth, without missing.
- **David's warriors - 1 Chron. 12:2** All of them were expert archers, and they could shoot arrows or sling stones with their left hand as well as their right. They were all relatives of Saul from the tribe of Benjamin.

## **How did Goliath gain victory?**

- **He intimidated the army**
- **He questioned their ability and their God**
- **He spoke curses over them**

## **They became:**

- **An army in retreat without a fight**
- **A people imprisoned without capture**
- **The strong become weak for no reason**

## **Why did David succeed?**

- **He realised the battle was spiritual**
- **He knew his ability in God**
- **Seeing the true battle he saw certain victory**

## **Some daily faith declarations**

- 1. I set the course of my life today with my words (James 3.2-5)**
- 2. I declare today that I cannot be defeated, discouraged, depressed or disappointed. (Phil 4.13)**
- 3. I am the head. I have insight. I have wisdom. I have ideas. I have authority. (Deut 28.13; 8.18; James 1.5-8; Luke 10.19)**
- 4. As I speak God's promises they come to pass. They stop all attacks, assaults, oppression and fear from my life (2Peter 1.2-4; Mark 11.23-24)**
- 5. God is on my side today and therefore I cannot be defeated (Rom 8.37; Ps 91.1-16)**
- 6. I have the wisdom of God today. I will think the right thoughts, say the right words and make the right decisions in every situation I face. (1Cor 2.16)**

## **Some daily faith declarations**

- 7. I choose life today. I choose health. I will not be depressed today. I will not be in lack today. I will not be confused today (Deut 30.19)**
- 8. I expect today to be the best day of my life spiritually, emotionally, relationally and financially in Jesus' name (Rom 15.13)**
- 9. I speak to the raging waters in my life; peace, be still. I say to my mind; peace, be still. I say to my emotions; peace, be still. I say to my body; peace, be still. I say to my home; peace, be still. I say to my family; peace, be still. (Mark 4.39)**
- 10. Now I speak to every mountain of fear, every mountain of discouragement, every mountain of stress, every mountain of depression, every mountain of lack and insufficiency; and I say, "Be removed and cast into the sea in Jesus' name!" (Mk 11.22-24)**

## **Some daily faith declarations**

**11. I speak to this day and I call you blessed and I declare that I serve a mighty God who today will do exceedingly and abundantly beyond all that I can ask or think. I say you are a good God and I eagerly anticipate your goodness today (Eph 3.20)**