

“The Battle Is The Lord’s”

Introduction. The account of David and Goliath is one of the most universally known and loved narratives of the Old Testament. But a deeper inspection reveals it to be more than just a compelling narrative. It illustrates not only the glorious power of God but also the depths of faith and trust in God of which mankind is capable.

David wanted Goliath and the Philistines to know that “there is a God in Israel” and that the “battle is the Lord’s” (1 Samuel 17:46-47). Furthermore, David fought for the glory of God. David’s courage will be a constant source of strength if we will only listen (Romans 15:4), so we will concentrate on four lessons from David’s battle.

I. David Provided Christians A Good Example For Warfare

- A. The Christian fights a spiritual warfare (Ephesians 6:12).
 - 1. We fight a battle of what we think (Philippians 4:8).
 - 2. We fight a battle of how we live (Titus 2:11-12).
 - 3. We fight a battle of what we teach (Romans 16:17-18).
- B. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal (2 Corinthians 10:3-6).
 - 1. We are not spectators; we have to pick up the sword (Ephesians 6:17).
 - 2. In the struggle over the nature, work, and organization of the church many decades ago, which resulted in a terrible division among the Lord’s people, there were certain men who, in private conversation professed the truth, but they would not speak up or speak out. They thought their soundness could be measured by their silence (Titus 1:13; 2:1).

II. David Did Not Let God Fight The Battle For Him

- A. We fight the good fight of faith (1 Timothy 6:11-12).
 - 1. This phrase is taken from the field of athletics, such as “contend in the gymnastic games.” The background of the words suggests exerting every ounce of energy to win.
 - 2. This is done while following after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, and meekness. We act beyond reproach (Ephesians 5:27).
- B. Fighting the good fight entails humbly correcting the opposition (2 Timothy 2:24-26).
 - 1. Gentle instruction is calculated to win them over rather than to provoke them.
 - 2. This does not mean we ignore boldness (Isaiah 58:1; John 7:26; Acts 4:31).

III. David Displayed The Characteristics That We Need Now

- A. We need faith not doubt (1 John 5:4-5).
 - 1. He did not compare himself with Goliath, but he compared Goliath with God.
 - 2. He looked beyond his problems and, armed with faith in God, he approached the enemy and won (cp. 2 Corinthians 5:7).
- B. We need humility not pride (Proverbs 15:33).
 - 1. David did not concern himself with “great matters” (Psalm 131:1-2).
 - 2. God wants us humble and trusting in Him (1 Peter 5:5-6).
- C. We need zeal not apathy (John 2:17).
 - 1. He was not concerned about his own safety and fame.

2. He had heard the gods of the heathen extolled and the name of God blasphemed. We, like him, must “hate every false way” (Psalm 119:104, 128).
3. When a man fights for God, he may confidently expect God to fight for him (2 Chronicles 20:1-4, 14-17).

IV. David Acted In God's Name And For God's Glory

- A. This principle was not understood by Goliath until it was too late; neither will it be appreciated by unbelievers today (Matthew 7:21-23; 2 Corinthians 4:4).
- B. In every victory we have over sin, we grow stronger in faith (James 4:7). When we grow stronger, it is for His honor (1 Corinthians 10:31).

Conclusion. This spiritual conflict against Satan will never end. We have to, like David, brace ourselves to be confident, courageous, and victorious. Always be able to say that you are on the Lord's side (Joshua 24:15).