

Fearless

1 Samuel 17:24-31, 45-47, 52

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A. Don't Look at God through Human Eyes (vs. 24-25; Matt. 11:28-30):

1. Men of Israel saw – All the men came to complete intellectual understanding of the massive stature of Goliath and his fighting ability.
 - a) Goliath had been speaking to the Israelites for forty days (vs. 16).
 - b) The Israelites viewed the situation only in human terms, much like their forefathers had viewed, with fear and faithlessness, the giants in the land (Num. 13:26–14:10). ^{1[1]}
 - c) Based on the figures in the Bible (1 Sam 17:4), Goliath was at least 9 1/2 feet tall and perhaps as tall as 11 feet. The magnificence of Goliath's armor and weapons-his bronze coat of mail, bronze greaves, bronze javelin, spear with an iron spearhead, and huge sword-must have made him appear invincible.

2. Flee from him – Just the sight of Goliath caused the army of Israel to rapidly remove themselves from what they considered to be a dangerous situation. They had no plans to stop running.
 - a) In ancient times it was common for champions of opposing armies to face off in a personal duel. None of the Hebrews had the courage to face Goliath. ^{2[2]}
 - b) This passage shows David running to the battle line, while the army sees Goliath and is running away; vs. 22-23.

3. Afraid – The massive statue of Goliath caused the army of Israel to reverence him so much that they reacted in terror.

^{1[1]} Hughes, R. B., & Laney, J. C. (2001). [Tyndale concise Bible commentary](#) (pp. 119–120). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.

^{2[2]} Mathews, K. A. (1998). [The Historical Books](#). In D. S. Dockery (Ed.), *Holman concise Bible commentary* (p. 115). Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman Publishers.

4. Have you seen – All the men were completely focused with acquired comprehensive understanding as they inspected the massive status of Goliath.
5. Taunted; defy – Goliath aggressively sought to agitate the army of Israel by mocking, insulting and ridiculing them.
6. It will be that – King Saul was completely committed to finding someone among his men that would confront Goliath.
7. Enrich the man who kills him – King Saul would endlessly make the person who attack and strike Goliath so that he dies have a lot more possessions than the average person. He wanted Goliath to be dead, dead not wounded.

B. It Does Not Matter the Opposition You Encounter (vs. 28-30):

1. Eliab the oldest brother heard – Eliab continuously gave his undivided attention to what David was saying and doing so that he could have a full understanding of what was taking place.
2. When he (David) spoke to the men – Eliab remained firmly engaged in what David was saying.
3. Anger burned – Eliab was extremely (meaning his emotions were on fire) upset, to the point that he began fretting with David.
4. Know your insolence – Eliab said that he has completely experienced pride and self-willed nature. He feels that David is self-reliant and rebellious against authority.
5. Wickedness in your heart – Eliab claims that in David's deepest emotions he plots to do not morally pure and evil because it will purposefully violate the moral standards of God.
6. What have I done now - David asked Eliab what he was completely obligated to work extremely hard to do. It was simply a question- not something he was committing, to skillfully apply himself to.

C. Stand on God's Promises (vs. 31-32):

1. The words David spoke were heard – What David was verbalizing became

- completely understood.
2. They told them to Saul – The men of Israel explained to Saul what was continuously taking place.
 3. Sent; receive – Saul immediately decisively selected for David to not stop until he was in his presence.
 4. David said to Saul – David continuously, once in Saul’s presence, spoke to Saul.
 - a) The sling stone was held in a pouch with cords attached at opposite ends. The sling was whirled over the head until one end was suddenly released. While 1 Sam 17 apparently understands the sling as a shepherd’s weapon, it could also be used by organized armies, and with amazing accuracy as the Benjaminite’s demonstrated (Judges 20:16; cf. also 1 Sam 25:29; 1 Chr. 12:2 and 2 Chr. 26:14).^{3[3]}
 5. Let no man’s heart fail – David said that no one’s innermost feelings need to fall into a low place. This is like someone throwing themselves to the ground when in distress.
 6. Your servant will go fight – David views himself as a minister for the Israelites who will give himself completely to gathering his slingshot for war against Goliath.

D. God’s Power is Limitless (vs. 45-47):

1. David said – David spoke up in response to all that Goliath said.
2. I come in the name – David declares his advances toward Goliath are purposeful because it is being done based on his past experiences with the Lord, the Lord’s power and the Lord’s reputation.
 - a) David’s strength was his reliance on the Lord (Ps. 9:10; Pr. 18:10). For the expression “name of the Lord” see notes on Ex. 3:14-15; Dt. 12:11 ---- The name of the Lord is the manifestation of His character (Ex. 3:14-15; 34:6-7). It has no separate existence apart from the Lord, but is synonymous with the Lord Himself, along with His gracious manifestation and accessibility to his people.
3. Lord of host – The Lord of host is used here to signify that David viewed the Lord as someone who has all authority and power but also, He is the mightiest warrior and

^{3[3]} Klein, R. W. (1983). [1 Samuel](#) (Vol. 10, p. 179). Dallas: Word, Incorporated.

most powerful king over all; so, Goliath does not stand a chance.

4. Whom you have taunted – Goliath aggressively mocked, insulted, and ridiculed Israel. Goliath defied the Lord of Host. The person he agitated was the Lord so Goliath is the one who needs to be scared.
5. The Lord will deliver you into my hands – The One who has all authority and power is the One who is going to shut up Goliath so that he succumbs in battle giving David power and authority over him.
6. That all the earth may Know – All the earth endlessly is able to distinguish the power and might of the Lord.
7. There is a God in Israel – When Goliath is under the complete control of David, (who is smaller, not as experienced in war and weaker than Goliath) the world becomes exposed to the supremacy and creative power of God.
8. The assembly may know – All the people of Israel will endlessly be able to distinguish the power and might of the Lord.
9. Lord does not deliver – The One who has all authority and power does not save his people from harm based on man’s methods or instruments.
10. Give you into our hands – David is confident that that very day Goliath will permanently be under his control and authority.
 - a) David’s conquest over Goliath revealed the power that one faithful man could possess—the man with the kind of heart God looked for (13:14; 16:7). In 17:55–58 Saul knew David from his contact in the court (16:18–23), but he needed to know his father’s name to reward the family for the victory (17:25).^{4[4]}

^{4[4]} Hughes, R. B., & Laney, J. C. (2001). [*Tyndale concise Bible commentary*](#) (pp. 119–120). Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers.