**14 – Boldness of David**

*1 Samuel 17:38-51; 2 Corinthians 3:5*

**David**

* Youngest of his siblings – **1 Samuel 17:12-14**
	+ He was small in stature. His appearance was not intimidating – **1 Samuel 16:6-13** (When Samuel the prophet was given instruction to go anoint a new King. Sent to Jesse the Bethlehemite – provide a king from his sons.)
	+ **It is worthy to note that God was able to see the heart of David and know of his courage, and the characteristics he possessed that would make him a good king (v. 7).**
* He kept sheep. He was not a man of war. – **1 Samuel 17:14-15** (The oldest sons followed Saul into battle with the Philistines. David did not.)

**War with the Philistines**

* **17:1-3** – Philistines gathered together against Israel for battle.
	+ **17:4-11** – The champion of the Philistines, Goliath, is introduced.
		- Height – ***“six cubits and a span”*** (8’ 5”; 9’ 2” – we obviously don’t know for sure, but do know he was a very large man.)
		- Weight of armor – ***“five thousand shekels of bronze”*** (shekel = 2/3 oz. Estimate. App. 200 lbs.)
		- Weight of iron spear head – ***“weighed six hundred shekels”*** (App. 25 lbs.)
		- Goliath was a very large and strong man. He was a warrior.
		- Presented a challenge to the army of Israel. He defied Israel and therefore defied God **(v. 8-10)**. (He mocked them with his challenge.)
		- The reaction was dismay and fear, but not for David 🡪
* David was sent by his father to bring food to the army and bring back word of how they were doing. When he went, he saw Goliath and heard his proposal **(v. 23)**.
* The men were very afraid of Goliath **(v. 24)**. David’s reaction was a little different. 🡪

**Boldness of David**

* The boldness of David in his speech, and the confidence he expressed **(v. 25-29).**
	+ **This was an opportunity for David to show the Lord was with him. (He was anointed to be king.)**
	+ Things David pointed out in his bold statement:
		- Goliath does not have God with him – ***“uncircumcised Philistine”*** – not in covenant relationship with God.
		- Goliath defied God – ***“defy the armies of the living God”*** – Goliath was not contending with a secular nation, but the chosen nation of the living God!
	+ David’s brother’s reproof **(v. 28).**
		- **Eliab suggested David was not content with his calling as a shepherd and wanted to look upon the battle.**
		- David’s response suggests a nobler mindset. 🡪
	+ ***“Is there not a cause?”*** (NASB – ***“Was it not just a question?”)*** (**v. 29)**
		- David had no ulterior motives. He merely inquired about the situation. He was deeply concerned.
		- He volunteered himself. He was victorious over Goliath 🡪

**David’s victory**

* **(v. 38-51)**
	+ Armor was not important to David. (This also reminds us of his lack of experience with things of war – he had not tested the armor so he could not do anything with it.) (**v. 38-39**).
	+ David’s choice of weapon was not normal and Goliath mocked for it **(v. 40-44).**
* David’s source of boldness **(v. 45-47).**
	+ He would not win the battle by human means. Even his ability to throw the stone with the sling would not help without the Lord being there.
	+ He pointed to the omnipotence of God, and that if the Lord willed something to happen nothing could stop Him. (**Remember Jericho?**)
* This was David’s mindset from before **(v. 32-37).**
	+ God had been with David before and he would be with him now.
	+ David did not take any of the glory for himself. He ascribed all to God.
* **2 Corinthians 3:5** – Paul’s remark.
	+ The ability Paul had to preach the Gospel, and the sufficiency it took was not without God. God made him sufficient.
		- ***Philippians 4:13 – “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”***
		- **2 Corinthians 12:7-10** – The strength he had was from God.
		- ***John 5:5 – “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without me you can do nothing.”***
* David’s victory **(v. 48-51).**
	+ David’s confidence/boldness because God was with him lead to his eagerness. He hurried and ran toward the enemy **(v. 48**).

**Application**

* God being with us is sufficient for us in what we are called to do (**cf. 1 John 4:4; 5:4-5**).
* We ultimately will overcome and be victorious with God on our side (**cf. 1 Corinthians 15:53-58; Romans 8:28, 31**).
* A source of courage is the past (David recalled when God was with him fighting bears and lions). (**cf. Hebrews 4:14; 10:19-23**). (And also looking to the past of others who God dealt faithfully with.)