



1 Samuel 17:1-51

❖ **INTRODUCTION** 17:1-11

Review

The heart that beats for the supremacy of God faces life’s biggest challenges with attitudes and actions that demonstrate the glory of God above all else and the worship of God at the exclusion of all else.

1. The Philistines & Israelites assemble on opposite sides of a valley preparing for battle.. 17:1-3
2. The Philistines chose a warrior to represent them and their gods to engage in one-on-one combat with a representative of Israel and their God. Typically, the outcome of this fight was thought to show who had the more powerful god and who would win the war. 17:4-7
3. The champion of the Philistines has great size, great experience, and great weapons. v. 4-7
4. Goliath challenges Israel to agree to a fight that would decide the winner of the war and bind the other army to terms of surrender. 17:8-10
5. Goliath mocks the validity & ability of God’s army and defies Israel and their God to do battle with him and his gods. 17:8-10
6. Most of God’s people were cowering in fear including their leaders. 17:11
 - They were humiliated, demoralized, pitiful, losers.
 - They were faithless, unbelieving, man-centered sinners..

Enter David: 1 man whose heart was “completely His” 1 man whose heart beat for the supremacy of God. 1 man through whom God could bring victory and show His glorious greatness!

Read: 17:12-30 Slowly with comments.

David was no different than anyone else on that battlefield when it came to having the ability to fight Goliath.

David is no different, has no greater ability than ANY believer!

Read: 17:31-51 Slowly with comments.

David was no different than anyone else on that battlefield when it came to having the ability to fight Goliath.

David is no different, has no greater ability than ANY believer!

What distinguished David from the rest of Israel that day?

David had heart . . . David had a heart for the supremacy of God!

<i>“The Heart that Beats for the Supremacy of Man”</i>	<i>“The Heart that Beats for the Supremacy of God”</i>
PERSPECTIVE	
<p>1. Sees Only Impossible Challenges. As Saul and the armies of Israel could only see the size and ability of Goliath, so the person with a heart that beats for the supremacy of man can only see the impossibility of facing the challenges of life because they only look at the circumstances in terms of what they can handle.</p>	<p>1. Sees The <u>GOD</u> of the Impossible. David had a high view of God and realized that nothing is impossible for God to accomplish. David recalled the “impossible” victories of God in his past and determined to recognize and exalt the supremacy of God in the present.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The heart that beats for the supremacy of God will be led by God to see and engage in <u>GOD</u>-possibilities</p>
<p>2. Sees Only Humans in Conflict. Saul and the armies of Israel only saw men at war. The person with a heart that beats for the supremacy of man will view conflict only in terms of <u>PERSONAL</u> issues on a human level. The focus of discussion will often be characterized by “I” & “Them” thinking.</p>	<p>2. Sees Humans in Conflict with God and Conflict as an Opportunity to <u>GLORIFY</u> God. David saw Goliath not just as the enemy of Israel, but as the enemy of God. He saw that Goliath was not just resisting man, but God. David saw this as an opportunity to display the greatness of His God.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The heart that beats for the supremacy of God will seek to discern <u>GOD’S</u> perspective in a conflict above all else, and how God can be glorified through it.</p>

<p>3. Sees & Trusts Only the Limited Resources of <u>MAN</u>. Saul and his men saw only their ability and weapons in comparison to Goliath’s. The heart that beats for the supremacy of man will never see beyond the resources they can see or come up with on their own.</p>	<p>3. Sees & Trusts the Power and Resources of <u>GOD</u>. David looked beyond the physical abilities and resources of man, even discarding them because he had complete confidence in the power of God to save with NO human resources.</p> <p>The heart that beats for the supremacy of God will think in terms of what GOD wants to do and how He can accomplish His will.</p>
<p>4. Sees & Trusts Only Human SOLUTIONS. Saul and his men looked at the situation from a logical, human perspective and saw no solution to their dilemma. The person with a heart that beats for the supremacy of man will think only of what fits within human logic and the reasoning of what makes sense from a human perspective.</p>	<p>4. Sees & Trusts in God’s Solutions that <u>DEFY</u> Human Logic. David took the path that seemed illogical to man – an inexperienced shepherd boy armed with a slingshot, doing battle against a heavily armored giant. David recognized that God’s way of doing things defies human logic to display divine glory.</p> <p>The heart that beats for the supremacy of God will diligently seek to discern how GOD thinks and acts.</p>
<p>5. Sees Only What’s at Stake for <u>THEMSELVES</u>. Saul was always concerned with promoting himself. The men in his army were only focused on what they would get for themselves if they defeated Goliath. The heart that beats for the supremacy of man will ask, “What’s in it for me?” “How will I profit from this?” “What could happen to me?”</p>	<p>5. Sees What’s at Stake for the Name & Fame of <u>GOD</u>. David’s motivation was the exaltation of God’s glory. David’s passion was that those around him and those who would hear of this would recognize and worship God as the one-and-only, true God.</p> <p>The heart that beats for the supremacy of God will be motivated by seeing GOD exalted and how others can be led to deeper appreciation of the glory of God.</p>

<p><i>“The Heart that Beats for the Supremacy of Man”</i></p>		<p><i>“The Heart that Beats for the Supremacy of God”</i></p>	
<p>RESPONSE</p>			
<p>1. Fear of <u>MAN</u>. Saul and the armies of Israel were terrified by Goliath. This was a pattern for Saul – being consumed with what people were thinking of him and how they might effect or hurt him.</p>	<p>1. Faith in <u>GOD</u> David was aware of the greatness of Goliath but focused on and trusted in the greatness of God. David trusted God to vindicate His glory in the demonstration of His greatness above Goliath’s.</p>		
<p>2. Fear of <u>CIRCUMSTANCES</u>. Saul and the armies of Israel were afraid of being enslaved to the Philistines. They were in fear of what was happening in the present, and what would happen in the future.</p>	<p>2. Faith in <u>GOD</u> David entrusted the present and the future to a sovereign God and chose to defend the name of God against attack.</p>		
<p>3. <u>PARALYZED</u> into inactivity. Saul and the armies of Israel sat in fear and inactivity for 40 days as each day Goliath slandered & defied God.</p>	<p>3. Moves to <u>ACTION</u>. David immediately moved to action based on His knowledge of GOD, his faith in God, and his commitment to the supremacy of God.</p>		
<p>4. <u>DISCOURAGES</u> Others from Trusting & Obeying God. Saul & David’s brothers told David he was not able to face Goliath. Those who are man-focused will often seek to cast a dark cloud of doubt and discouragement over those who see and trust in a great, sovereign God.</p>	<p>4. <u>ENCOURAGES</u> Others to Trust & Obey God. David responded with gentle & gracious words of faith & encouragement to Saul.</p> <p>Gracious, gentle, & steadfast faith in God will lead the one whose heart beats for the supremacy of God to remain committed to God in spite of the negativity of man centered thinking.</p>		
<p>5. <u>DEFAMES</u> the Glory of God. Saul & the armies of Israel sat quietly as day after day Goliath slandered God. By letting this happen, they were also guilty of defaming the glory of God</p>	<p>5. <u>DEMONSTRATES</u> the Glory of God David was used by God to demonstrate His glory in a profound way.</p> <p>The one who is fully committed to God and the exaltation of His glory will be used by God to demonstrate His glory. (2 Ch. 16:9)</p>		

CONCLUSION

Saul was primarily motivated by & acted to promote **HIS** position and prominence with the people.

David was primarily motivated by & acted to promote **GOD'S** position and prominence with the people.

What was the source of David's confidence & passion?

David had an intimate, personal, and experiential **KNOWLEDGE** of the character of God and an intense **PASSION** to know God more fully.

MY COMMITMENT

Most High God of all creation, God of my life,
as we continue in our study of your glorious greatness,
I will commit myself, with your gracious help,
to develop an intimate, personal, and experiential **KNOWLEDGE**
of who you are in all your glory.

I want to grow to have an intense **PASSION**
to know you more fully
to better demonstrate your glory through my life.

When you look for one
whose **HEART BEATS**
for your supremacy,
I want to be the one you find.