

1 Samuel 17:1-51 (1/19/2025)

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ 1 Samuel 17:1-51

1. Where, in your life, do you see the need for Courage? (To do what is right... to persevere in difficult circumstances... to say hard things...) Can you share an example from the past... Or even better—an example of such a need that you are facing right now?
2. Compare what Saul and Goliath placed their trust in... Think back to our introduction to Saul in 1 Samuel 9, in comparison to our introduction to Goliath in 1 Samuel 17:4-7. In what ways are they similar?
3. In Verses 38 and following, contrast what Saul and David were putting their trust in... How was David's confidence different?
4. Before David engaged Goliath physically, what was the nature of their "smack talk"?

5. Isaiah 9:7 says, "Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this."

When you put this verse next to David's statements to Goliath, what do we learn about God's "zeal"? (What is He zealous for?)

6. This may call for slight "conjecture"... But what role do you think God's anointing on David's life (as the future king) may have played for David's courage in this moment?
7. David's anointing by Samuel gave David confidence in God's promises to him regarding what would happen in the future. As followers of Christ, What (if any) promises has God given to us about our future, that can give us confidence as we step into the challenges that we face in our lives?
8. It may be tempting to view David as an "example" of courage for us... But try to think about David as not just an example, but also as a "representative head" (sort-of like Adam represented all man-kind). How was David like that for Israel?

How might seeing David in that "light" help us to better understand how Jesus is also not "just an example" for us, but our "Champion"?