

50 Days of Transformation

Facing Giants in Life and Work

I. Introduction

- A. I Samuel 17:3-7 (NLT) ³So the Philistines and Israelites faced each other on opposite hills, with the valley between them. ⁴Then Goliath, a Philistine champion from Gath, came out of the Philistine ranks to face the forces of Israel. He was over nine feet tall! ⁵He wore a bronze helmet, and his bronze coat of mail weighed 125 pounds. ⁶He also wore bronze leg armor, and he carried a bronze javelin on his shoulder. ⁷The shaft of his spear was as heavy and thick as a weaver's beam, tipped with an iron spearhead that weighed 15 pounds. His armor bearer walked ahead of him carrying a shield.
- B. I Samuel 17:33 (NLT) "Don't be ridiculous!" Saul replied. "There's no way you can fight this Philistine and possibly win! You're only a boy, and he's been a man of war since his youth."
- C. I Samuel 17:43 (NAS) "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.
- D. Acromegaly is caused by a tumor on your pituitary gland which forces the overproduction of human growth hormone (HGH).
1. "Giants" are not what they seem.
- E. I Samuel 16:10b-11 (NLT) ^{10b}But Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹When Samuel asked, "Are these all the sons you have?"
- F. I Samuel 16:13 (NLT) So as David stood there among his brothers, Samuel took the flask of olive oil he had brought and anointed David with the oil. And the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David from that day on.

II. Common Giants We Face in Life

A. Delay

1. The test of delay is always about, "Will I wait on the Lord, and trust in His timing, or will I take matters into my own hands?"

B. Discouragement

1. I Samuel 17:28 (NLT) "What are you doing around here anyway?" he demanded. "What about those few sheep you're supposed to be taking care of? I know about your pride and deceit. You just want to see the battle!"
2. Conventional wisdom is often wrong!
3. I Samuel 17:16 (NLT) For forty days, every morning and evening, the Philistine champion strutted in front of the Israelite army.

C. Doubt

1. I Samuel 17:33 (NLT) "Don't be ridiculous!" Saul replied. "There's no way you can fight this Philistine and possibly win! You're only a boy, and he's been a man of war since his youth."

III. How to Defeat Giants

A. Remember how God has helped you in the past

1. I Samuel 17:37 (NLT) *"The LORD who rescued me from the claws of the lion and the bear will rescue me from this Philistine!"*

B. Use the tools God has given you now

C. Ignore the detractors

1. I Samuel 17:47 (NLT) *"Everyone assembled here will know that the LORD rescues his people, but not with sword and spear. This is the LORD's battle, and he will give you to us!"*

D. Expect God to help you for His glory!

1. I Samuel 17:45-46 (NLT) ⁴⁵*David replied to the Philistine, "You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of Heaven's Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶Today the LORD will conquer you, and I will kill you and cut off your head. And then I will give the dead bodies of your men to the birds and wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel!"*
2. God is doing exactly what you expect Him to do.
3. Matthew 9:29 (NLT) *"Because of your faith, it will happen."*
4. What you do next could make all the difference!

IV. Conclusion