

SLAYING GIANTS

I Samuel 17:20-51

How many giants are there in I Samuel 17?

One is very popular ... but I believe there are at least three others that had to be confronted and conquered before getting to Goliath.

Let's look at slaying giants in I Samuel 17

I. THE GIANT OF FEAR (20-27)

A. THE SITUATION (20-25)

B. DAVID'S RESPONSE (26)

1. He rightly responds to the threat
 - Remove the fear-causing element
2. He rightly identifies the enemy
3. He rightly identifies Israel's army

II. THE GIANT OF RIDICULE (28-30)

A. ELIAB'S RAGE (28)

1. Anger
2. Accusation

B. DAVID'S DEFENSE (29-30)

1. Just a question (29)
2. In effect David tells Eliab he is overreacting.
3. Turn away from him (30)
 - The giant of ridicule and accusation was overcome by simply walking away!

III. THE GIANT OF PROTOCOL (31-40)

A. DAVID'S OFFER (31-32)

B. SAUL'S EXPECTATIONS (33, 38)

1. Only qualified soldiers could fight (33)
2. Only equipped soldiers stood a chance (38)

C. DAVID'S EXPLANATIONS (34-39)

1. I am qualified (34-37)
 - a. I have experience (34-35)
 - b. I have confidence (36-37)
2. I do not need equipment (39)

D. DAVID'S DETERMINATION (40)

1. Equipment: Things with which he was familiar
 - Stick (or staff), stones and sling
2. Engagement

IV. THE GIANT OF DEFIANCE (41-51)

A. GOLIATH'S MOCKERY (41-44)

- Disdaining, cursing and threatening

B. DAVID'S MESSAGE (45-47)

1. Observation (45)
 - You have weapons but I have an offended God
2. Information (46a)
3. Publicity (46c-47)
 - a. For everyone (46c)
 - b. For Israel (47)

C. DAVID'S VICTORY (48-51)

1. Running (48)
2. Slinging (49)
3. Prevailing (50-51)

V. SOME GIANT SLAYING LESSONS

A. DON'T RASHLY ENTER CONFLICTS

- Don't go to battle for your own reputation or in your own power.

B. DON'T NEGLECT BATTLES

- Don't overlook the smaller things that keep you from doing the big things.

C. DON'T QUIT TOO SOON

- Don't think that one victory means the battle is over.

D. DON'T COUNT GOD OUT

- Claim His power and watch Him work wonders

When it comes to giants, might we be victors and not victims