

THE ROCK COMMUNITY CHURCH

1 Samuel 17:31-58

“In This Corner”

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Anaheim Hills, CA | RockCC.com

22:45

Good morning, everyone. We're going to be in 1 Samuel, is that really loud? 1 Samuel chapter 17, but before we get into our text, I wanted to take a moment and pray. Pray for our country. Pray for our leadership.

23:19

And I have a friend, Matt Shackelford, he was a pastor at Kindred for a number of years and took over a pastor in a church at a church in Tennessee called Central Church. And he posted this yesterday and I thought it was, it would be good for us to read.

23:40

He goes, in this session of political confusion, chaos, and crime. Hold these confirming biblical truths close and keep your eyes on the mission we have been given. And he gives four points. He says, one, life is short and precious.

23:57

Live every day like it's your last, cherish your family, rejoice in your salvation, but don't waste your life. Embrace the mission God has graciously given you for His glory and the time you have been given to accomplish it.

24:11

Point two. He said the Lord is sovereign over all rulers and nations. Today most certainly marks the most definitive moment in this political cycle. The visual that we saw today will be used throughout the upcoming election.

24:27

And as easy as it is to put our hopes and hates on earthly leaders, let's remember that the King of Kings rules over all. Point three, let's pray for peace and pray especially for our leaders. It's good that we pray for President Trump.

24:47

It's good that we pray for President Biden. Now more than ever we need to lift them up before the Lord for safety and healing and that God would use our leaders to open a door for the gospel. This fourth point, now look for opportunities and open doors for your mission.

25:07

Use this moment, use moments like these for the mission to take the gospel to every relationship you have. Use these moments to talk about the uncertainty of life, the need of salvation, and the hope that Jesus Christ brings in such dark days.

25:28

Dear friends, do not let present darkness win in your mind and hearts. Will you join me as we take a moment to pray for our nation. Lord, I want to pray for President Trump and in your providence over the trajectory of a bullet.

25:47

You decided to spare his life yesterday. Pray for his healing. Pray for his mind. Pray for his family as they process this horrific act. Pray for our current administration. Pray for wisdom for those that are in office, in all the areas of our government, for the FBI as

26:17

they investigate for the political climate we see ourselves in. I pray for righteousness in our land. I pray for healing, I pray for revival. As we've been studying in 1 Samuel, we clearly see putting our faith in and human leaders is futile or that our hope as the people of God would be placed in the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

26:50

Help us be a praying people. Help us be a people who seek first the kingdom of heaven. Help us be the salt and light we're supposed to be in our communities, amongst our families, and our nation to herald the gospel of Jesus Christ. Help us.

27:15

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen. 1 Samuel chapter 17 verse 31. This is the word of the Lord. The words that David spoke were heard. They repeated them before Saul and he sent for him. And David said to Saul, let no man's heart fail because of him.

27:45

Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine. And Saul said to David, you are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him for you are but a youth and he has been a man of war from his youth.

27:59

But David said to Saul, your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion or a bear and took a lamb from the flock, I went and struck him and

delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by the beard and struck him and killed him.

28:21

Your servant has struck down both lion and bears. And this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them. For he has defied the armies of the living God. And David said, The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion, and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.

28:45

And Saul said to David, go and the Lord be with you. Then Saul clothed David with his armor and put a helmet of bronze on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail. And David strapped his sword over his armor and he tried in vain to go for he had not tested them.

29:05

Then David said to Saul, I cannot go with these for I have not tested them. So David put them off. Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch.

29:21

His sling was in his hand and he approached the Philistine. And the Philistine moved towards and came near to David with his shield bearer in front of him. And when the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him.

29:36

For he was but a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. And the Philistine said to David, am I a dog that you come at me with sticks? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine said to David, come to me and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field.

29:57

Then David said to the Philistine, you come to me with sword and with spear and with javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defiled.

30:11

This day, the Lord Yahweh will deliver you into my hands and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the hosts of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth.

30:27

That all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And that all this assembly might know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear, for the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hands.

30:47

When the Philistines arose and came and drew near to meet David, David ran quickly towards the battle line to meet the Philistine. And David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead.

31:04

The stone sank into his forehead and he fell on his face to the ground. So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone and struck the Philistine and killed him. There was no sword in the hand of David.

31:21

Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him and cut off his head with it. When the Philistine saw that their champion was dead, they fled.

31:35

And the men Israel and Judah rose with a shout and pursued the Philistines as far as Gath and the gates of Ekron, so that the wounded Philistines fell on the way from Shaaraim as far as Gath and Ekron. And the people of Israel came back from chasing the Philistines and they plundered their camp. And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent.

32:02

As soon as Saul saw David go out against the Philistine, he said to Abner the commander of the army, Abner whose son is this youth? And Abner said as your soul lives oh king I do not know and the king said inquire whose son the boy is. And as soon as David returned from the from striking down the Philistines, Abner took him and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand and said to him whose son are you young man. And David answered,

32:36

I am the son of your servant Jesse, the Bethlehemite. This is God's holy, inspired word. Let's pray. Lord, as we come to this text, I pray that you would open it up to us, that we would see the beauty of Christ, that you would speak, you would change

32:55

us. Break us and mold us. Do your perfect will here amongst us today. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. Well, we've made it. We've come to one of the most, probably the most best known Bible stories of David and Goliath, a favorite amongst children's ministry and VBS.

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But this story has been told so many times in a way that disconnects it from the bigger biblical story and turns it into something it was never meant to be. Often pastors teach about David and Goliath and it becomes a tale of works-based righteousness.

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It's said that David was such a man of such great faith and because of that, because of his great faith, he was able to slay the giant. And if you, if you, oh man and woman, if you could only muster up faith like David, you too could slay your giants.

34:03

That sounds good. It preaches well. It creates a pep-rally atmosphere where the pastor stands up and works the audience into an emotional lather. And we are all pounding our fists in the air like some battlefield inspirational speech we saw in a movie or some football, you know, locker room, halftime speech from a coach.

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And we're like, are you ready? You can do it. Let's charge. And we all run out the door inspired and feeling good. And a lot of people will say, well, isn't that, isn't that good? Don't you want to inspire people?

34:38

Well sure, of course we want to inspire people, but my goal is not an emotional high. My goal is not to give you some emotional high that will last for a few moments until the actual giants show up in your life and you realize you have no ability to slay them.

35:03

And you come back beaten and defeated to the pep rally preachers who tell you again and again that your problem is you just lack faith. You just lack faith and you need more faith and then then you'll be able to overcome.

35:21

And there is a view that Old Testament stories simply exist to some moralistic and therapeutic collection of tales that are designed to inspire us to try harder and do better, or they exist to pad our emotions.

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I found H.V. Charles, I quoted him when I taught a few weeks ago. He posted a really an excellent picture on his Facebook. I put it up here. It's super duper small. Sorry, it's not my picture. I will post it on our social media so you can see it.

35:55

But I want to read the top line. It says, how the Bible is typically presented. Adam and Eve, how to avoid making bad decisions. Noah, how to follow instructions. Abraham, how not to sacrifice your son.

36:13

Joseph, how to forgive mean people. Moses, how to lead a group of whiny people. Pastors love that one. Samson, how to avoid losing your superpowers. David and Goliath, how to be brave for boys. Esther, how to be brave for girls.

36:35

Psalms, those are memory verses. Daniel, how to do civil disobedience. Jonah, how to be obedient. Jesus, how to be extra obedient. And Paul provides more memory verses. And oftentimes that is how those stories are proclaimed.

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And if that's the purpose of these stories, if they exist simply as moralistic and therapeutic stories, well, we can get the exact same effect from watching a Hallmark movie. If that is the purpose of these stories, then there is no good news.

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Maybe you can overcome. If you muster up enough faith. Or maybe you can, I don't know. That's up to you, right? Who knows, good luck, let's pray. And oftentimes it's presented. Then we get to the New Testament.

37:31

And we breathe a sigh of relief because in the New Testament we read and we say, oh, Christ conquered sin and death and I'm a New Testament type of person. And we go to the Old Testament and you find messages that say work harder and do better. Two opposing messages.

37:57

No wonder so many Christians read the Bible or read only the New Testament because they have been taught to read the Old Testament wrong. This morning I want to seek to convince you that this is all about Christ, that the Old Testament, and we're going to study David and Goliath this morning, the Old Testament and all the other stories portray Christ in types and shadows.

38:26

And if you miss Christ, you miss the whole thing. I will argue that we must read the Old Testament, specifically, especially David and Goliath as Christians, as we have the whole biblical narrative at our fingertips, and not as some moralistic or therapeutic inspirational story.

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My goal today is to say, look at Christ. I have broken this message up into three sections. I've titled it in this corner, kind of playing off of like that boxing. I've never watched a boxing match in my life.

39:03

I think I've seen little clips, right? But in this corner, weighing so many pounds, we have Goliath in this corner, right? That idea, and I want to look at three things, David versus Saul, David versus Goliath, as in the contrast there, then I want to look at David versus Christ, and not in contrast, but in comparison.

39:28

So that's the division of my message today. So I'm going to not necessarily go through every verse we just read. That's not my goal. But I want to look at these three areas. And first, the narrator has belabored the point that Saul is the rejected king and David is the anointed king.

39:50

David is the better king. Remember back in Chapter 14, verse 28, when Saul is rejected and Samuel says, the Lord has sought out a man, found a man who is better than you. And what did the people ask for?

40:07

Well, they asked for in Chapter 8, going way back, they said, but there shall be a king over us, that we also may be like the other nations. It's a devastating request. And that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.

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All right. Well, here we find ourselves, as Pastor Dave shared last week, this champion of the Philistines going out for 40 days, taunting morning and evening, taunting Israel, saying, give me a man to fight.

40:50

And all of Israel cowers with their king behind the lines. The whole picture of Saul's reign is a tragic illustration designed by God to communicate that this is what happens when we go about our life our own way, when we refuse to acknowledge God and His rule and His kingship and His directions and we say, I know better.

41:15

This is where it always ends. Saul, we found, we saw that he was wealthy. He was the prettiest fella in all the land. He was the tallest one. All the ladies were swooning over him. He's the, he's the whole entire package.

41:34

And that's important to the story. And this is why they wanted him to be king, because they saw he was rich, he was tall, he was handsome. And they go, yeah, that's our leader. And you remember in chapter 16, God rebuked that thinking when Samuel goes to Jesse's house and says, bring your sons here, the Lord has communicated.

41:56

He is told that one of your sons will be king. And they don't even bring David in from tending the sheep. You remember, he stops at Eliab and says, "Surely this is God's man." And what does God do?

42:08

He steps in and he says, "Samuel, stop. "I don't look at the outside like people do. "It's not about his height, his stature, his talent. "That has nothing to do with being my king." I look on the heart.

42:29

Don't look on the outside. So when it comes to David versus Saul, we have this showdown of the people's king versus God's king. Saul was taller, prettier, wealthier, and God says, no, I've rejected him.

42:47

I've rejected him. Being king of my people has nothing to do with that. And we saw repeatedly time and time again, and Saul just disobeyed, refused to do what God had commanded him to do. Saul was taller, prettier, David, this little shepherd boy, didn't even get brought in.

43:18

Now, remind you, Isaiah chapter 53, right? This is the messianic prophecy there. Isaiah writes, he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him.

43:32

He was despised or rejected by men, a man of sorrow and acquainted with grief. And as one from whom men hide their face, he was despised, and we esteemed him not. See, in appearance, when Jesus showed up, he had nothing that would attract the people to him.

43:53

Israel picked Saul because he was the most attractive. And doesn't that echo often how we read the Bible? If only you could look better and work harder, then you can succeed. Absolutely not. I remember early on in my ministry, I had a person tell, you know, I was doing youth ministry and they're like, hey, drop like 75 pounds, get some skinny jeans and tattoo up your arm and you're going to be ready for youth ministry.

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And the person was being mostly serious. And I thought, what does any of that have to do with discipling people, right? It's not, God doesn't look on the outward appearance. When we look at David, we might be tempted.

44:41

I want you to hear this. We might be tempted to think that he was a worthy man. We might be tempted to think that he was a worthy man. And that's why he was selected to be king. That would be wrong too.

44:56

There is no one worthy. You see, many pastors and ministry leaders boast up their self-perceived worthiness and say, God looked at my heart and saw that I was worthy to be

his anointed. Then they manipulate people into submission, causing them to believe that God has placed some special anointing upon him.

45:24

And church, our pastors do not stand up here because we are worthy men. We are wretched sinners like David, like Saul, like you. We're all the same. Beware of pastors and churches who put forward this idea that their pastors are somehow God's anointed who hears from the Lord.

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We read the text wrong if we think that it's about David's worthiness, that faith that David exercised in the battle with Goliath was a gift from God. The faith in which we exercise, when we trust in Christ for salvation, is also a gift from God.

46:10

We trust him because he changed our hearts. God was not looking for a worthy man. There is no worthy men. Yet far too many of us approach 1 Samuel chapter 17 and we see the spirit's transforming work in David's life and we preach a works

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based righteousness and say just be more like David. No, it was the spirit's work in David that made him the man we read about today. Or have we forgotten in chapter 16, verse 13, it says in the spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward.

46:53

David is not great because of his sinlessness or moral perfection. David does not defeat Goliath because somehow he was more pure than all the rest. That is not what the text teaches. It's not here to teach us something about David, but something about God.

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It teaches us how God changes, protects, provides, and saves his people. You might say, Pastor Mike, doesn't David boast in his accomplishments? After all he says he defeated lions and he defeated bears.

47:35

Let's read it. Verse 31. When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul and he sent for him. And David said to Saul, let no man's heart fail because of him. Pause. I love that the anointed king here speaks as a king, doesn't he?

47:56

Right? He goes into the in the presence of king and he says let no man's heart fail because of him. That's what Saul should have said. David stands as the anointed king, the true king. Your servant will go and fight this Philistine.

48:13

And Saul said to David, you are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him for you are but a youth. You're but a youth and he's been a man of war since his youth. Old people and young people in here.

48:32

There's often a war in generations and the young people are looking and and seeing a world lost and seeing a church more concerned about paint colors than they are about ministry and gospel. Right? You can't go because you're just a youth.

48:54

He's been a man of war from his youth. Now there's wisdom in Saul's what Saul is saying here but let's be a people just side note this isn't even in my notes let's be a people that disciple and equip and raise up the next generation well.

49:13

Let's not be a people like Saul who grow old and hang up our armor just to collect dust. And David said to Saul, sorry. You're you're not able, verse 34, but David said to Saul your servant used to keep sheep for his father and when they came and the lion or a bear and took the lamb from the flock I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth.

49:48

And if he arose against me I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him. Your servant has struck down both lions and bears and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defiled the army of the living God.

50:05

See Mike it says right there he says look how great I am. Keep reading. And David said right there there's this there's this pause between verse 36 and 37 like why did why did he put a period an end quotation mark and then say again David said. David was already speaking right it's like the the author here is saying pause for a second, right?

50:31

You picture Saul kind of pacing back and forth there for a moment. Okay, he's slayed lions and bears. Right, there's this dramatic pause, pause for effect, right? Verse 37, and David said, the Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.

50:52

Who delivered David from the lion, from the bear, from the Philistine? God. And Saul said to David, go and the Lord be with you. This is a story about God and his mighty hand to save. This is a story about God.

51:18

So we see David and we see Saul. Now I want to look at David versus Goliath. I want you to notice first Goliath's insults. Last week, Pastor Dave read out of from verse 8. He stood and shouted at the ranks of Israel.

51:34

Have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine and you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourself and let him come down. We have that theme there again of choosing a man, but I want to focus on I'm a servant of, I'm a Philistine.

51:54

You're a servant of Saul. You remember back in chapters 4, 5, and 6 we had the saga of the ark, right? We read about this epic showdown which God faces off, Yahweh God, faces off against the gods of the Philistines, namely Dagon.

52:12

Ark gets captured, placed in Dagon's temple. What happens to Dagon? He loses his head. Same story. Wash, rinse, and repeat. Dagon gets replaced by a giant. The ark gets replaced by God's anointed king

52:31

and off goes his head. Right? It's this epic showdown. And that's what I want you to, I want you to be...sorry, this was Goliath's insult here. Are you not servants of Saul, and am I not a Philistine?

52:54

If we win, our God is greater. If you win, your God is greater. We saw this in Egypt and the Exodus. That showdown where God humbles and puts to shame the gods of the Egyptians and the plagues. We see it again in Elijah versus the prophets of Baal, and over and over and over again in the biblical narrative.

53:18

We see it when Christ, fasting for 40 days and 40 nights, and Satan comes to tempt Him. And we see Christ victorious at the end of the book. The book of Revelation, we're going to read a part of it in just a minute.

53:33

We see our champion, our king, Jesus wins, right? This is the same story in types and shadow forms, in Old Testament imagery here in these events that God is our champion. He is victorious. He will be victorious, period.

53:58

There's no question about it. We've seen it up until the...we're in 1 Samuel now. This has happened time and time again already throughout the first few books of the Bible. This is a deity showdown. That's why when David says in verse 45, you come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord, Yahweh of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, who you have defied.

54:28

Who you have defied, that's a man. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the hosts of the Philistines, so not only you Goliath, but that army standing behind you.

54:48

I will give the bodies of the hosts of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth. And then we have an evangelistic purpose, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly might know that the Lord saves, not with sword and spear.

55:11

Haven't we seen that already in this book, right? This isn't new. This is the same message over and over again, so we can get it, we can hear it. Who delivered Israel from the hands of the Egyptians?

55:25

Was it their great might and military power? No. It was God because He is mighty to save. For the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hands. David would be slinging some stones at many pastors today who make this story about David.

55:55

He would say this story wasn't about me. It was about God who is mighty to save. It was about God carrying out his perfect will and being faithful to his promises. He insulted their nation. Goliath insulted their nation.

56:17

He insulted them. He insulted their God. This isn't new. Remember back to the garden. Remember back to the garden. When the serpent said, Did God really say? Now the serpent says he was more crafty, he was more cunning, but the insult is the same.

56:40

The serpent stood in the garden temple and defied the living God and his king Adam who God had put in place. Did God really say, what should Adam have done? Pulled out a sword, grabbed some stones, and slayed the serpent.

57:01

Interestingly, the Hebrew word that used for the chain of mail that we saw in verse 5 is literally translated a coat of scales. The author builds in here serpent imagery, right? This isn't new to the story.

57:19

This is what Adam should have done, right? David now exists here to say this is what Adam should have done. Guess what? This is what Christ is going to do. Then the young David approaches the Philistine champion and we know how the story ends.

57:40

David is victorious and chops Goliath's head off. Now I want to look at David versus Christ in comparison, not in contrast. I want you to be perceptive readers. As we've been reading this text, have you noticed the shepherd theme that's interwoven throughout?

58:06

Again, I argue that these stories, these events that are recorded carry messages much deeper than moralistic and therapeutic, feel good about yourself and go slay your giants. Be like David. But in David, we get a picture of Christ.

58:26

Verse 15, but David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep. Verse 34, but David said to Saul, your servant used to keep sheep for his father. Verse 40, then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch.

58:54

David will later write, the Lord is my shepherd. Psalm chapter 78 verse 70 says, he chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfold, from following the nursing ewes. I don't know why I can pronounce.

59:11

He brought him to the shepherd, Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance. And we get to the New Testament and Jesus picks up that precious theme and puts the crowning jewel on top in John chapter 10 verse 11.

59:25

He says, I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep. Why did David go down into that valley of Elah? Because the good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep. That's why.

59:47

Because David was pointing to Christ. A few verses later in verse 14, Jesus says, I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own knows me. Just as the father knows me, and I know the father, and I lay down my life for the sheep, that is our shepherd king.

01:00:08

That is our champion. It's significant that David appears in the story as a shepherd. This story points to the true shepherd. Next, I want you to see what Bible scholars call the representative principle.

01:00:24

Pastor Mike, you're supposed to leave those big words in your office, right? This is precious, representative principle. Goliath represents the Philistines and calls for a representative of Israel. So what Israel needs is somebody to go and represent them in battle, face the enemy of the people of God, and defeat the enemy on their behalf so that in him, all the people of God will be victorious over the enemy because he serves as their representative substitute.

01:00:57

Does that sound familiar? David accepts the challenge on behalf of God's people and walks into the valley as Israel's representative. When David walked into that valley, all of Israel walked down in that valley in David.

01:01:19

What did Christ do? He walked into the valley of death on our behalf. Bore that cross. David serves as a representative. Not because it's about David, but because it's about Christ. Because you remember, the seed of the woman one day will crush the head of the serpent.

01:01:47

And what do we see in David? We see a head crusher, but it's not about David, it's about Christ. The head crusher, our shepherd king, our champion. Next, the true king fights the battles and is victorious.

01:02:06

Then David said to the Philistine, you come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel whom you have defied.

01:02:21

This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands and I will strike you down and cut off your head and I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air into the wild beast, that all the earth may know that I am a man of such great faith. Is that what he says?

01:02:39

That there is a God in Israel. David even points to God. There's a God in Israel. And that this assembly, all the assembly, may know that the Lord saves not with sword or spear and spear, for the battle is the Lord's.

01:02:56

The battle is the Lord's. Hear that the battle is the Lord's. He is sovereign over the battle. David doesn't believe that the giant will fall because of his great faith and skills and weaponry, but because of his great God.

01:03:12

This is not a story about how great David is, but it's a story about how great God is. David prevailed, verse 50, over the Philistine with a stone and struck the Philistine and killed him. And I want to point out, there's a there's a wink towards eschatology here.

01:03:35

Again, Pastor Mike, you're supposed to leave those big words. Right? Eschatology, last times. Fancy nerd word for last times. Goliath says, come to me and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field.

01:03:49

And in David's gangster response, he says, you come to me with sword and spear and javelin. I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts. He says, I'm going to give the bodies of the dead Philistines to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field.

01:04:02

Turn with me to Revelation chapter 19. Verse 11. This is our champion. This is our shepherd king. Then I saw heaven open and behold a white horse. The one sitting on it is called faithful and true. And in righteousness, he judges and makes war.

01:04:27

That's our king. That's our king. He's not hiding behind the battle lines with his armor collecting dust. He is faithful and true and in righteousness he judges and he makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire and his head are many diadoms, many crowns upon crowns.

01:04:49

And he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood and the name by which he is called is the word of God. And the armies of heaven arrayed in fine linen white and pure were following him on white horses.

01:05:07

Where is he? Out in front. He goes before them and he fights the battle. The armies, they're just spectators. That's the funny part. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which he strikes down the nations and he will rule them with a rod of iron.

01:05:25

He will tread the wine-press of the fierceness of the wrath of God Almighty, on his robe and on his thigh he has a name, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, that's our King. Then I saw an angel, verse 17, standing in the sun with a loud voice and he called to all the birds that fly directly overhead, come, gather for the great supper of God, eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men,

01:06:00

and the flesh of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all men, both free and slave, both small and great. Goliath says, you come to me with this little boy, I'm going to feed your body to the birds of the air and the wild beasts, and David goes no.

01:06:16

Without knowing it, he puts his hand on the end and says, there is a champion that will come, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, I'm going to give your dead bodies to the birds of the air. That's our champion.

01:06:33

I didn't come here today to tell you to be like David, I came here today to tell you to look at Christ, our champion, who fights our battles on our behalf. Why? Because we aren't able. We aren't able.

01:06:49

He fights our battles. He's victorious on our behalf. He rules and reigns in absolute authority. He is our great high priest. He's the lion of the tribe of Judah, the one who was worthy, found worthy to take the scroll and to loosen its seals.

01:07:04

Christ is our representative and our substitute. And when we watch David walk down into the valley and face Goliath, we are seeing a foreshadowing of Christ, our great shepherd king, who goes into the greatest valley and fights and defeats the greatest of foes on our behalf as our representative.

01:07:27

He defeats the grave. He defeats death. He defeats sin. us who have placed our faith in him are represented there on the cross. He's our shepherd King who brings victory on our behalf. As we approach the table of communion this morning, we take the cup and we take the bread and we remember what Christ said on the night he was betrayed.

01:07:55

He took the bread, said, this is my body given for you. He took the cup, he says, this is the cup of the new covenant in my blood. Take, eat, drink, do this in remembrance of me for as often as you eat and drink of this, you proclaim the Lord's death till he comes.

01:08:13

Our representative, our Shepherd King who goes before us. Who leads us, who brings us into the true Promised Land as our shepherd and our king. You can approach. the tables. Save people today. You could approach the table with boldness and confidence, not because you are like David, right?

01:08:38

It's not because of you at all. It's because of what Christ has accomplished on your behalf. So come with confidence because he is our great champion. If you aren't born again here today, do not approach this table.

01:08:55

This is not for you. This is not for you. The Bible says, do not take of these elements in an unworthy manner for those who do eat and drink destruction upon themselves. Do not approach this king flippantly.

01:09:13

Repent of your sins. Look to Christ. He is mighty to save. He is mighty to save. Put your faith in him. There's nothing else but look to him. Let's pray. Lord, thank you so much for this text. And as we only scrape the surface, I pray that we would, we would see Christ so beautifully, so perfectly.

01:09:44

I pray that you would speak to us now as we approach these tables. We partake of communion together. We would find our confidence not in ourselves and in our abilities, but solely in our representative, solely in Christ.

01:10:02

It's in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.