

FINAL STUDY NOTES – 1 Samuel Chapters 17 –18 8/25-26/2025

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).
TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com), **AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!**

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OPENING PRAYER

1 SAMUEL –Chapter 17 – David and Goliath – (vs. 1-58)! Chapter 18 – Saul Resents David (vs. 1-30)!

DAVID AND GOLIATH – All of us face giants, but we too may overcome them through the power of God!

1Sa 17:1-2 Now the Philistines gathered their armies together to battle, and were gathered at Sochoh, which belongs to Judah; they encamped between Sochoh and Azekah, in Ephes Dammim. [2] And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and they encamped in the Valley of Elah, and drew up in battle array against the Philistines.

- **The Elah Valley is a beautiful valley flanked by hillsides.** There is a little stream which flows down the valley itself. The stream, for the most part, is dry except during the rains. This stream has many smooth stones.
- **Evidently neither army was capable of mounting a full offensive** against the opposing army that could carry them up the hill on the other side. The advantage was always to the fellow on the higher ground. So they had a stand-off, as far as the armies go.

1Sa 17:3-4 *The Philistines stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, with a valley between them. [4] And a champion (an overwhelming threat) went out from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, from Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.*

- A cubit is about 18 inches, and a span is about 6 inches. You measure a cubit from the elbow to the tip of the finger. So the man was almost 10 feet tall!

1Sa 17:5 *He had a bronze helmet on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze (about 135 pounds).*

- A coat of mail, which was overlapping pieces of metal protecting against a spear or arrow. Think how cumbersome that would be to fight with 200 pounds of bronze (coat of mail, helmet, javelin) on you.

1Sa 17:6-9 *And he had bronze armor on his legs and a bronze javelin (chest protector) between his shoulders. [7] Now the staff of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his iron (regionally unique to the Philistines, Israel had none) spearhead weighed six hundred shekels (about 15 pounds); and a shield-bearer went before him. [8] Then he stood and cried out to the armies of Israel, and said to them, "Why have you come out to line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and you the servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. [9] If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us."*

- Goliath was offering this fight with "winner take all." In other words, 'Set your champion against me, and the two of us will fight. The loser becomes the servants for the other side. He defied the armies of God!

1Sa 17:10-11 *And the Philistine said, "I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together." [11] When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed (mentally broken and disabled) and greatly afraid.*

- Goliath, no doubt, intended to throw fear in their hearts. He came out there with a huge coat of armor and a spear. It was too big to be practical in battle, but it must have been awesome to look at. To see this guy lift up this spear, with a shaft on it like a weaver's beam, and a fifteen pound spear head would inspire fear. It was working. They were greatly afraid.
- It just broke them mentally. Nobody could even think in their mind that we could ever defeat this giant, or that anyone in their right mind would go out to fight him!

1Sa 17:12-15 *Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehem Judah, whose name was Jesse, and who had eight sons. And the man was old, advanced in years, in the days of Saul. [13] The three oldest sons of Jesse had gone to follow Saul to the battle. The names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. [14] David was the youngest. And the three oldest followed Saul. [15] But David occasionally went and returned from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.*

- David was a simple little shepherd boy. Today you can see little boys and their flocks of sheep, reminiscent of the time of David.
- In all of history, no man was more articulate in his praises unto the **LORD**. Read the Psalms. Whenever I am looking for a more effective way of praising God, I refer to the Psalms. David was just so articulate in his praises unto the **LORD**. Yet, God speaks to him and says, 'From you, the Messiah is going to come.' The grace of God just absolutely wiped David out. Just as the grace of God wipes me out. There are times when what can you say? "God, You are so gracious and forgiving. God You are so good. I don't deserve it. I am not worthy. **LORD**, what can I say?" David is wiped out before the grace of God.

1Sa 17:16 *And the Philistine drew near and presented himself forty days, morning and evening.*

- This is getting rather repetitive, twice a day for forty days. Here is this guy bellowing out his challenge, defying the armies of Israel!

1Sa 17:17 *Then Jesse said to his son David, "Take now for your brothers an ephah of this dried grain (parched corn) and these ten loaves, and run to your brothers at the camp.*

- Normally a battle would be over rather quickly. Now after forty days, the army is dependent on their families and others to supply them with food.

1Sa 17:18 *And carry these ten cheeses to the captain of their thousand, and see how your brothers fare, and bring back news of them."*

- Find out how they are doing and bring back a report.

1Sa 17:19-20 Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. [20] So David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, and took the things and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the camp as the army was going out to the fight and shouting for the battle.

- The guys were psyching themselves out to go out to the battle against the Philistines.
- Bethlehem is about nine miles from the Elah valley. It appears that David had an early start. He got there just about the time the guys were psyching themselves up to go to fight for Israel. The guys were getting lined up, getting ready to go at it again in their daily battle.

1Sa 17:21-24 For Israel and the Philistines had drawn up in battle array, army against army. [22] And David left his supplies in the hand of the supply keeper, ran to the army, and came and greeted his brothers. [23] Then as he talked with them, there was the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, coming up from the armies of the Philistines; and he spoke according to the same words. So David heard them. [24] And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were dreadfully afraid.

- Goliath was terrifying the armies of God. They were fleeing back to their tents. They were psyching themselves up. Then this guy comes up, and the psyche is gone.

1Sa 17:25-26 So the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man (Goliath) who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel; and it shall be that the man who kills him, the king will enrich with great riches, will give him his daughter, and give his father's house exemption from taxes (and free from forced labor) in Israel." [26] Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, "What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

- Defying armies of the living God! For 40 days and 40 nights, it is the first mention of God in the entire event that's unfolding here. David is the first one to come on the scene and make mention of the LORD! He's the first one who doesn't feel fear related to what's happening here! When he saw and heard what that Giant said, it was an affront, an insult to him! This giant was a defier, a blasphemer, an uncircumcised Philistine, coming out for 40 days and 40 nights, being a reproach, an affront to God and everyone. It incensed David! Though he was just a kid, he knew his God, the God of Israel, was a living God!
- **How would I have reacted here? Like David, incensed at Goliath coming against my God, the living God, being ready to take on the enemy? Or would I have been so terrified and dismayed that I simply would have done nothing?**

1Sa 17:27-28 And the people answered him in this manner, saying, "So shall it be done for the man who kills him." [28] Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab's anger was aroused against David, and he said, "Why did you come down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle."

- Eliab said, "Why did you come down here?" You just came down to get into mischief. Who did you leave your few sheep with? You had better get home. You're going to get in trouble, David.
- Evidently, David was a spunky little kid. He never worried about getting in fights because he had his big brothers around. David was probably brash, so Eliab got angry with him. Is there not a parallel here as with Joseph and his brothers?

1Sa 17:29 And David said, "What have I done now? Is there not a cause?"

- This fellow is defying the armies of the living God, and if none of you fellows want to go out and fight him, I will!

1Sa 17:30 Then he turned from him toward another and said the same thing; and these people answered him as the first ones did.

- David asked, "What did the king say he would do? What will he give a guy that will wipe out this Philistine?"

1Sa 17:31-32 Now when the words which David spoke were heard, they reported them to Saul; and he sent for him. [32] Then David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."

- David said, 'Don't be afraid, fellas, because of him! I'll go fight him!' Oh man! And so they brought David before Saul.

- **Envisioning this situation with Goliath, how likely would my heart fail? Would I be willing to go and fight the Philistine?**

1Sa 17:33-36 And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are a youth, and he a man of war from his youth." [34] But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep his father's sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock, [35] I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard, and struck and killed it. [36] Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God."

- David saw things in the proper perspective! Many times we are so overwhelmed by the enemies, so overwhelmed by our problems, that we lose true perspective. Fear grips our hearts and we are just open for defeat.
- David saw the thing in true perspective! It isn't that I against this giant; it is this giant is against the great God that I serve! So it isn't, 'Poor me, I'm facing this giant of a man, but it is poor giant! He is facing the eternal God of Israel! Seeing it in that light, David saw it as, "This man *has defied the armies of the living God.*" He doesn't have a chance!

1Sa 17:37 Moreover David said, "The LORD, who delivered me (notice David is giving God all the glory) from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!"

- **Following victorious situations, do I ever have a problem giving God all the glory for the victory?**

1Sa 17:38-40 So Saul clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail. [39] David fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested (not used to, practiced) them." So David took them off. [40] Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine.

- Now, in your mind, don't picture a sling shot, made out of a fork of a limb of a tree with inner tubes. But it is a sling that you let go, one of the two leather bands, and you can fling the rocks. You can become quite accurate with that. (*Jdg 20:16*) *Among all this people were seven hundred select men who were left-handed; everyone could sling a stone at a hair's breadth and not miss.*
- David probably used a sling to keep the sheep in line. All day long he's winging around with that sling, and throwing at rocks, bushes, and the sheep. Notice how God is training and preparing him!
- David picked up five smooth stones out of the creek bed, put them in his little bag, and he drew near to the Philistine. Possibly he knew that Goliath had four brothers who were also giants. (*2Sa 21:19b, 22*) *where Elhanan the son of Jaare-Oregim the Bethlehemite killed the brother of Goliath the Gittite, the shaft of whose spear was like a weaver's beam. [22] These four were born to the giant in Gath, and fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants.*

1Sa 17:41 So the Philistine came, and began drawing near to David, and the man who bore the shield went before him. [42] And when the Philistine looked about and saw David, he disdained him; for he was only a youth, ruddy and good-looking.

- He was just a little red headed kid.

1Sa 17:43 So the Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

- For David had his shepherd's staff in his hand.

1Sa 17:44 And the Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!"

- Goliath figured that he would scare the little kid off with the threats, 'I'll cut you up and feed you to the birds!

1Sa 17:45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, 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!"

- Again David has the right perspective! You come with a sword, and a shield, But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied!
- David derives his authority from God! He is dependent for his success upon God!

1Sa 17:46 This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel!

- Goliath didn't scare David, threatening to cut him up and feed him to the birds. David said, 'I'm going to cut up your whole army, man; Feed the whole army to the birds, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. David saw that God was on his side!
- David realized, 'Hey, God is for me! I'm not afraid of the giant or anyone else!' (**Rom 8:31b**) "If God is for us, who can be against us? Seeing the battle in the right perspective. And it's important that as we look at the problems of life, and the battles that we face, it's important we have that awareness and consciousness that God is for us. God has made His infinite resources available to us. He is there to help! God is for you!

1Sa 17:47 Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give you into our hands."

- The LORD doesn't use conventional means to bring deliverance to His people! He uses supernatural means. When I am faced with a problem, I usually am looking at natural ways, or conventional ways to solve my problems, to find the solution. "God doesn't save with sword or spear." It's His battle.
- Now, Satan is always trying to draw us into that arena where we are in the flesh combating him. If he can get you into the flesh, he can really give you a battle. I mean, he can wipe you out. The moment he can draw you into the flesh to battle against him, he can just make a pretzel out of you.
- But, as Paul said, (**2Co 10:4-5**) *For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, [5] casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,*
- I can go into my prayer closet and make a pretzel out of him. As I begin to use this weapon that God has given to me, prayer in the spiritual battle, and I keep it in the spiritual realm, he doesn't have a chance. "The LORD doesn't save with sword or spear." The battle is the LORD's, and He will give us the victory if we remain in the spiritual realm!
- **We would all agree that the "battle belongs to the LORD"! In battle situations what steps do I go through in determining what my role is and how and when to proceed?**

1Sa 17:48 So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

- David is running at this giant!

1Sa 17:49-51 Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth.

- God's providence directed the stone, and brought it with such force that it sunk into his head, killing him!

[50] So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. But there was no sword in the hand of David. [51] Therefore David ran and stood over the Philistine, took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it. And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.

- Why did David cut off his head? Because he hits this guy with a stone, but the armies are way on either side of all of this, they see Goliath fall, but they don't know that he's dead yet. When David raised Goliath's head, holding it up really high, it was a confirmation of a kill! Now everybody knew! There was victory over the Philistines!

1Sa 17:52-54 Now the men of Israel and Judah arose and shouted, and pursued the Philistines as far as the entrance of the valley and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell along the road to Shaaraim, even as far as Gath and Ekron. [53] Then the children of Israel returned from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their tents, (taking everything)! [54] And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent.

- David carried this head around for a few days!
- An application for us when facing our giants! David defeated the giant differently!
 - ✓ By operating upon faith rather than fear!
 - ✓ The key to his faith was that He judged the circumstance in the light of the power and the promises of God,

- ✓ **Rather than coming to conclusions about the power and the wisdom of God based upon the circumstances.**
- ✓ **David ran his life through a grid of knowing how big his God is, what he knew his God to be! God did not become a dwarf** because he looked at his God through the greatness of his circumstances.
- ✓ **The other Israelites saw only the ten foot tall Goliath and were paralyzed in fear!** David is the only one who looks above the ten feet to the God who fills all of the universe, who reigns over everything! He processes the whole scene in the light of the greatness of God! David's faith came from his head being lifted up above the circumstances to the **greatness of his God!**
- **The LORD knows that we're going to face these kind of giants and circumstances on a daily basis.** And we would need this daily reminder of the greatness of our God. We pray, "*our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name!*"*Give us this day our daily bread! Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one! For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen!*
- **Jesus has laid the same thing out for that to be a daily reality** in each and every one of our lives, for whatever develops. We have faith in our lives.

1Sa 17:55-58 *When Saul saw David going 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, O king, I do not know." [56] So the king said, "Inquire whose son this young man is." [57] Then, as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul with the head (probably by his hair) of the Philistine in his hand. [58] And Saul said to him, "Whose son are you, young man?" So David answered, "I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."*

- **Whose son is he?** Now, David had been called by Saul to play the harp whenever Saul would have one of his fits of anger, to soothe Saul. Saul knew who David was. But he couldn't remember or did not know who his family was. So David said, '*I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.*'

DAVID AND JONATHAN'S FRIENDSHIP

1Sa 18:1 *Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.*

- **Knit to the soul.** Knit is the same word used as expressing Jacob's love for his son Benjamin in (*Gen 44:30*) "*Now therefore, when I come to your servant my father, and the lad is not with us, since his life is bound up in the lad's life,*

1Sa 18:2-3 *Saul took him that day, and would not let him go home to his father's house anymore. [3] Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.*

- **Jonathan, the son of Saul, who also in his own right was a hero** on the field of battle; he had been in charge of part of the army of Saul, over a thousand men, and he had done tremendous exploits on the fields of battle. But now he sees this young man, David. He saw him as he faced Goliath: he saw the faith, he saw the courage (same courage as Jonathan at Michmash in chapter 14), he admired him, he loved him. "*He loved him as his own soul* (2x)." The love was so great that they formed a love covenant, they made a covenant of love between them.
- **Any suggestion that there was a homosexual relationship between David and Jonathan is borderline blasphemy.** The Hebrew language does not support that concept at all! It uses a very specific word, *ahab* (aw-hav) for the love that they have one towards another. It is a personal commitment. It is a trust. It is a covenant. It is never used of sexual love anywhere in the Old Testament. That is a concept that has only recently been suggested by those from the homosexual community who are trying somehow to justify their unscriptural deeds.
- **The Bible says that "David was a man after God's own heart."** If David had been involved in such perverse activities, surely it could never be said that he was a man after God's own heart! There was a bond of love, a camaraderie, a close kinship between these two fellows. There was a mutual admiration, and thus, they made the covenant of love.

1Sa 18:4-5 *And Jonathan took off the (princely) robe that was on him and gave it to David, with his armor, even to his sword and his bow and his belt. (Symbolizing transfer of one's position to another) [5] So David went out wherever Saul sent him, and behaved wisely. And Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.*

- **David was brought and made a captain in Saul's army.** He behaved himself very wisely and everybody began to admire David.

Saul's Jealousy of David

1Sa 18:6-7 Now it had happened as they were coming home, when David was returning from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women had come out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy, and with musical instruments. [7] So the women sang (answering one another) as they danced, and said: "Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands."

- **This was something that had become a practice.** Earlier when Jonathan smote the Philistines with a great slaughter, and Saul blew the trumpet in Israel taking the bows. It became sort of a custom when Saul would come with his armies to a city, all the ladies come out with their tambourines, and their cymbals. Saul was prideful over the thing, even though it was Jonathan that was doing most of the fighting, Saul was taking the credit and the glory. So as Saul came in, the women were, singing, "Saul has killed his thousands," -- here he is.' But they added a second verse: "David, his ten thousands." Bad news, Saul.

1Sa 18:8 Then Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?"

- **It had been years earlier that Samuel said to him,** "Because you have not allowed God to rule over you, *God is taking the kingdom away from you, and He's going to give it to another.*" From that time, Saul probably was looking for someone. You know: "Who could it be? God's going to give it to someone else." When he saw the response of the people; how David was so brave in the field of battle; how the people were beginning to turn towards David, he got an inkling at that point, 'Hey, this must be the one that God's planning to give the kingdom to.' Thus, Saul by force from now on, will do his best to destroy David, and to keep him from taking over the kingdom.

1Sa 18:9 So Saul eyed (with suspicion, jealousy) David from that day forward.

- **Saul was constantly watching what David was doing,** watching how things would go. The praise that made David humble brought dross to the top in Saul's heart, revealing his pride, jealousy, and hunger for glory.

1Sa 18:10 And it happened on the next day that the distressing spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied (babbling, raving in anger, not true prophesy) inside the house. So David played music with his hand, as at other times; but there was a spear in Saul's hand.

- **God puts a protection around each of us: (Psa 91:11)** For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. In (Job 1:10a) Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? God puts protection around us. If that protection were not there, Satan would be on our case continually.
- **Now we can do things whereby the guard is let down!** We can open our hearts to attitudes, to spirits. There are many times when I must resist the devil. I must resist certain thoughts that are coming into my mind. I must refuse certain attitudes. And I have a battle sometimes with myself, "I have a right to be angry. I want to bust him."
- **You must put that out of your mind** or you're giving place to the devil. (Jas 4:7) *Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.* If we're not on guard, Satan can move in and draw us into this physical plane where we can really get worked over by him.
- **Saul was giving in to this jealousy, into this attitude!** His guard was down, so this evil spirit, allowed by the LORD, entered him! God's not protecting him now: 'You want to have that attitude,' God takes the protection away. 'Okay, you want that? Go ahead.'

1Sa 18:11-12 And Saul cast the spear, for he said, "I will pin David to the wall!" But David escaped his presence twice (escaping this difficulty, only possible because of the LORD). [12] Now Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, but had departed from Saul.

- **The Spirit of God had departed from Saul,** and it was now upon David!
- **Notice the LORD is stripping away things that David depended upon,** and is causing him to depend on the LORD!

1Sa 18:13 Therefore Saul removed him from his presence, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people.

- **The sun is setting for Saul,** but the star is rising for David!

- In the beginning, Saul, when he was first called to be king over Israel, he was just a humble guy. But unfortunately, through the years, this pride got hold of the guy and changed him completely. Now Saul is trying to fight for something that is no longer his.

1Sa 18:14-16 And David behaved wisely in all his ways, and the LORD was with him. [15] Therefore, when Saul saw that he (David) behaved very wisely, he was afraid of him. [16] But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them (military battles).

David Marries Michal

1Sa 18:17 Then Saul said to David, "Here is my older daughter Merab; I will give her to you as a wife. Only be valiant for me, and fight the LORD's battles." For Saul thought, "Let my hand not be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him."

- Only be valiant for me! 'Go and wipe out some Philistines.' He's hoping David will get wiped out in war. And so, 'Here, go out and be valiant for the LORD.' "I don't want to kill him, but let the Philistines kill him."

1Sa 18:18-19 So David said to Saul, "Who am I, and what is my life or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?" [19] But it happened at the time when Merab, Saul's daughter, should have been given to David, that she was given to Adriel the Meholathite as a wife.

- Saul's just fragmenting now, just another sign of his instability. He breaks his promise and gives Merab to someone else. Maybe Adriel came along with a healthy dowry. You know, to marry the daughter of the king, you would expect to pay a healthy dowry.

1Sa 18:20-21 Now Michal, Saul's daughter, loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. [21] So Saul said, "I will give her to him, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." Therefore Saul said to David a second time, "You shall be my son-in-law today."

- The whole idea is that Saul is going to use her as a snare to try and get David killed. She may be a snare to him and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him, and therefore Saul said to David a second time. You shall be my son-in-law today.

1Sa 18:22-23 And Saul commanded his servants, "Communicate with David secretly, and say, 'Look, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you. Now therefore, become the king's son-in-law.'" [23] So Saul's servants spoke those words in the hearing of David. And David said, "Does it seem to you a light thing to be a king's son-in-law, seeing I am a poor and lightly esteemed man?"

- David says, man, I can't be the king's son in law. I am a poor man. I don't have any dowry to pay.

1Sa 18:24-25 And the servants of Saul told him, saying, "In this manner David spoke." [25] Then Saul said, "Thus you shall say to David: 'The king does not desire any dowry but one hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to take vengeance on the king's enemies.' " But Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.

- Saul is thinking David will go out in a foreskin raid. Surely one of the Philistines will wipe him out!

1Sa 18:26-27 So when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to become the king's son-in-law. Now the days had not expired; [27] therefore David arose and went, he and his men, and killed two hundred men of the Philistines. And David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full count to the king, that he might become the king's son-in-law. Then Saul gave him Michal his daughter as a wife.

- David and his men went out, killing 200 men of the uncircumcised Philistines, bringing their foreskins, giving them in full count to the king.

1Sa 18:28 Thus Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David, and that Michal, Saul's daughter, loved him;

- Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David. So now Saul is up against God!

1Sa 18:29-30 and Saul was still more afraid of David. So Saul became David's enemy continually. [30] Then the princes of the Philistines went out to war. And so it was, whenever they went out, that David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed.

- Notice David's progression and consistency in behaving wisely: (1Sa 18:5,14,15,30)
✓ So David went out wherever Saul sent him, and behaved wisely. And Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

- ✓ [14] And David **behaved wisely in all his ways**, and the LORD was with him.
- ✓ [15] Therefore, when Saul saw that **he behaved very wisely**, he was afraid of him.
- ✓ [30] Then the princes of the Philistines went out to war. And so it was, whenever they went out, that **David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul**, so that his name became highly esteemed.
- **How often does the LORD see me behaving wisely? Wisely in all my ways? Very wisely? More wisely than “all the servants of Saul?”**

SUMMARY

- **How would I have reacted here? Like David, incensed at Goliath coming against my God, the living God, being ready to take on the enemy? Or would I have been so terrified and dismayed that I simply would have done nothing?** (1Sa 17:26)
- **Envisioning this situation with Goliath, how likely would my heart fail? Would I be willing to go and fight the Philistine?** (1Sa 17:32)
- **Following victorious situations, do I ever have a problem giving God all the glory for the victory?** (1Sa 17:37)
- **We would all agree that the “battle belongs to the LORD”! In battle situations what steps do I go through in determining what my role is and how and when to proceed?**
- (1Sa 17:47) *Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give you into our hands."*

THE BATTLE BELONGS TO THE LORD Maratha Music (2:54/2:57)

In heavenly armor we'll enter the land The battle belongs to the Lord

No weapon that's fashioned against us shall stand The battle belongs to the Lord

Refrain: We sing glory and honor Power and strength to the Lord.

We sing glory and honor Power and strength to the Lord

When the power of darkness comes in like a flood The battle belongs to the Lord

He's raised up a standard, the power of His blood The battle belongs to the Lord (Refrain)

To the Lord!

When your enemy presses in hard do not fear The battle belongs to the Lord

Take courage my friend, your redemption is near The battle belongs to the Lord (Refrain 2X)

CLOSING PRAYER

- Father, we so appreciate Your grace towards us. We thank you, God, that we can put our trust and our confidence in You. Though we're faced with frightening giants before us, **LORD**, we thank You that You are on our side. *“If God is for us, who can be against us?”* **LORD**, help us to realize that *the battle is the LORD's*, and to Him belongs the victory. He shall cause us to triumph over every giant, over every foe, over every problem; and we shall come forth victorious in the power of the name of Jesus. **LORD**, too long the enemy has held us down, too long has the enemy tried to keep us in defeat. In the name of our **LORD**, we shall rise and we shall be victorious. We thank You, **LORD**, the battle is Yours: and You go before us, and You cause the enemies, the giants, to fall before us that we might experience Your victory. Thank You, Father: in Jesus' name, Amen.

NEXT WEEK: Study 1 Samuel, Chapters 19-21!