

Size not a Factor



Suggested Props: Metal trash can lid, cooking pan, sword

Scripture: [1 Samuel 16: 7 18](#) and [1 Samuel 17: 3-8, 26-29](#)

1 Samuel 16:7 But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature;...for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.

Verse 18...Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, & a mighty valiant man, & a man of war, & prudent in matters, & a comely person, & the Lord is with him.

Introduction:

Much of the time as you are growing up, you will be complimented on your appearance: *Isn't that cute? Oh, you look so pretty today.*

Or for the guys something like: *Sharp ball uniform! or Like the boots !*

Sometimes you get compliments on things you own or even on awards for accomplishments during the school term.

Everyone likes a compliment now and then. Thing is, we just don't see what God sees. He isn't interested in the outward appearance or even the outward perception people have of you. He's interested in your heart. Too bad as a culture we tend to put too much emphasis on the carnal [*outward appearance of things*], sending a message to the young folks to emphasize the temporal things instead of the heart.

Size doesn't matter either; it is just another physical characteristic like any other.

What does matter is whether or not God's Power is with you! That's not anything you can muster up; that comes from His Hand. Few obtain it because few ask for it with the right heart.

Both Appointed and Anointed or *The Winning Side:*

As a child David shepherded sheep. He was the youngest of the sons of Jesse and overall a good looking young man according to 1 Samuel 16:12.

We see early on that he takes his duties seriously. We find out that he has slain a lion and a bear when the sheep were attacked, taking sheep out of the mouths of the animals. No small feat in and of itself, he has learned not to be afraid of opposition demonstrating a determination to do what is necessary to get the job done.

David not only kills the lion and the bear, he quickly gives God the credit for the ability to kill the lion and the bear; something few young men would do. Already as a child, he understands the source of his power and strength is in the Lord.

Samuel the prophet in Israel is faced with finding a new king. Saul the first king has let the power of his office go to his head and has made major mistakes. He has lost sight of God's glory and honor and taken credit for far too much; has lied to God and to Samuel; overall he is failing as King. So Samuel asks God what to do and God sends Samuel over to Bethlehem to anoint and appoint a new king. When Samuel arrives he culls through all of Jesse's sons

except for the one not there, the one out working, the one that no one thought worthy of appointment to the position of King.

When David is brought in from the fields; God tells Samuel this is him; anoint him. David does not immediately become king; he is yet too young, too inexperienced in such matters. God has a training time for him. David goes back to the sheep herd and God puts a plan into motion.

The Bible says: *Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the **Spirit of the Lord came upon David** from that day forward. 1 Samuel 16:13.*

As time passes David is summoned to the palace for a short time as a musician and as an armor-bearer to the King because of his reputation. Someone in the court told Saul about him and he ends up in the Palace. Coincidence? No, God was putting him in a place of service so that he could learn how to manage a kingdom on a daily basis so when the time is right, God will promote him.

War breaks out with the Philistines and David goes home to tend sheep while his three eldest brothers are called up to fight in Saul's Army for Israel.

As a side note, David started writing Psalms as a youth watching sheep. He continued to compose these "songs" or Psalms throughout his lifetime. Some of them were prophetic, that is, they spoke of future events and David didn't even know that at the time. He was just writing what God was putting into his heart. David was in tune with God from his youth up.

Power with God comes from being quiet and still long enough to hear from God. David had that while watching the sheep. He had time to think about what God wanted; where God was leading; and how God works.

If you want entertainment constantly and are "bored" easily, perhaps you need to take account of what you could better do with your time. Today, there are so many activities to be involved in that there is very little time for God until it is a desperate need for Him. Better to have prepared in advance; to have had that personal walk with God so that when the crisis comes you are prepared instead of scared. Besides all that, there is nothing more rewarding, period.

Up to this point in David's life we know he is a young man, can kill ferocious animals if need be, has been an armor-bearer but has never had to swing a sword himself much less face off with a 9 foot tall giant of a man. But we do know one thing about him. He is on the Winning Side; He has the Power of God on his side.

The Enemy and the Ridiculers or *The Sinning Side:*

David learned that the enemy is not always standing in the obvious place; that is on the opposite side of the battlefield.

David goes down to the battle grounds carrying food and supplies to the soldiers and to his brothers in particular on an errand for his father, Jesse. While there, he hears the defiant cry of Goliath along with the cursing and the vile slander towards the True and Living God. He sees the Israeli army scared and afraid to fight the giants.

When David sees the situation and is stirred up in his soul; he says in: *1 Samuel 17:26 And David spake ...for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?*

Immediately he is verbally attacked by his own brothers. Eliab, his eldest brother, in particular tries to discredit David. He asks David what he is doing down there at the battle and who is taking care of his "few" sheep back at the farm. He out right tells David he is prideful and wicked in his heart.

This is the same brother who only a few years, perhaps months earlier saw Samuel anoint David as the future king. This is the same brother who has no basis at all to attack David, yet, he has found an occasion to do so publicly. Eliab has no way to know David's heart; David has done nothing to insight Eliab except that he is the anointed King of Israel and is quietly waiting on the sidelines until God places him into that position.

No, the enemy isn't just on the opposite hillside; it is in his presence as well. Discouragers, ridiculers, and naysayers abound when someone stands up for the Lord. Nothing new there!

The obvious enemy of all of Israel however is Goliath, the Philistine, one of five brothers at the battle site. We have no way of knowing if the choice of five smooth stones was to eliminate all five brothers if necessary. People have speculated about that over the centuries. Nonetheless, David took five stones down to the battle field with him.

Goliath was over nine feet tall; had the biggest spear and sword that anyone had ever seen. He had super duty armor. He was trained to be a warrior from his youth.

Goliath lived among other giants, but he was the biggest and the worst of them all.

Power Play or God throws a Stone:

1 Samuel 17: 29... Is there not a cause?



King Saul gets word that David is willing to go down and fight Goliath man to man. Saul outfits David in his own armor, sword, helmet, and the works. Nothing fits. So David takes it all off; goes down to the creek, gets five stones, gets out his sling and walks onto the battlefield.

David is small and inexperienced in battle; Goliath is a giant fully equipped.

Sounds like the battle between Goliath and David would be one sided and short with David being killed in a humiliating defeat. God's word tells us that the battle was short, but David was the one that killed Goliath; and he didn't even get a scratch.

What made the difference? **POWER. One stone, one throw, battle over.**

*I get out a 2 Quart Sauce Pan for a Helmet & a Metal Trash Can Lid for a Shield. I have used a step ladder or a chair additionally. This is Goliath. When telling a short rendition of Goliath defying the Armies of God, I use the Goliath gear running up the ladder & then take it all off. Run back down the ladder for the David dialogue. If you have a sword, use it for the beheading of Goliath as well, remembering to wield it like it is very heavy. In about three minutes the scenario is played out using the scripture dialogue from **1 Samuel 17** between David and Goliath.*

How could David, the underdog, a little shepherd boy, go out to fight a giant like Goliath and end up cutting his head off? Goliath was strong and well trained in warfare, but he had NO POWER with God. Instead he was a blasphemer. He made fun of God's people and dared God to step in and do something. Goliath was on the sinning side.

David had power with God because he spent time talking to God. He trusted God completely. David was on the winning side.

Conclusion:

Which side are you on?

Are you still unsaved? Are you living for yourself and have no time for God in our life? This is not the winning side.

Are you saved? Do you want to please the Savior? Are you having devotion time? That is the winning side. On the winning side you will find power from God to allow you to face the giants that will come your way;

You may be like Eliab. You may be saved/born-again, but not spending any time with God's Word. Your thoughts may be all about you. That means you have a home in Heaven, but NO POWER here to face the giants, those big problems that WILL come your way.

Come over to the winning side. *(Present salvation here.)*