

LIFE OF DAVID STUDY

STUDY NO 7 - VICTORY OVER THE SIN POWER (THE BATTLE BETWEEN DAVID AND GOLIATH)

1 SAMUEL 17

V47 HE WILL GIVE YOU INTO OUR HANDS

Note the plural "our hands". If Israel shared David's faith then Yahweh would give THEM the victory. David here typifies the multitudinous Christ-body. If we follow Christ into battle in the warfare of faith, Yahweh will give us the victory. Yahweh will fight for us as He did for David and the army of Israel. To be successful an army must be united. The lesson is that we must remain faithful to the principles of the Truth and loyal to our Commander and one another. We must go forward together. We must win the battle within ourselves and overcome the evil forces from without. We need to heed the exhortation of such passages as Ephesians 6:13 "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." 2 Timothy 2:3-4 "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

V48 WHEN THE PHILISTINE AROSE

Youngs Literal "the Philistine HATH RISEN". He must therefore have been seated when David commenced his approach. This implies that perhaps Goliath found the weight of his armour to be almost too much for him. But now at the approach of David he stands upon his feet. Here Goliath types the image of Daniel chapter 2. The image "STOOD" (Dan 2:31). The image had to stand upon its feet that the metals might be broken to pieces together (Dan 2:35) when it was struck by the stone (Dan 2:34, 45). The word "stood" in Dan 2:31 is the from Chaldee *quwm* which Strong (6966) says corresponds to the Hebrew *quwm* (Strong 6965) which is translated "arose" here.

THAT DAVID HASTED, AND RAN...TO MEET THE PHILISTINE

This is the very opposite to what Goliath would have anticipated. In his pride and arrogance Goliath would have expected that David would have advanced slowly, with fear and great caution, trying to eke out a few more minutes of life. But David is a young man of faith. He does not contemplate defeat. He is zealous and enthusiastic for the work of the Truth. Here was a bright shining faith going forth to perform the will of Yahweh. Here is an exhortation for us all. In his wholehearted, eager, faithful response to the challenge of sin as represented by Goliath, David types the Lord Jesus Christ. As well, this swift action on David's part was a good tactical move. David would have come within striking distance of Goliath before Goliath had an opportunity to collect himself. However, David did not expect that Goliath would suddenly drop down dead through some Divine miracle while David did nothing himself. David was required to manifest **FAITH IN ACTION** - and so are we. The warfare of faith requires that we **ACTIVELY** play out part.

V49 A STONE

Notice only **ONE** stone, although David had five (1 Sam 17:40). In scripture the symbol of the stone often speaks of God manifestation. For example in Genesis 49:24 we have "the stone of Israel" whose origins are said to be "the Abiyr of Jacob," referring to the fact that Christ was going to be the Son of God. Notice too that in this passage (Gen 49:24) "the stone" is linked with "the shepherd" thus making the reference to the Lord Jesus Christ (John 10:14) even more unmistakable. This is "the stone" that is going to destroy the sin power in its political and ecclesiastical manifestations and bring peace. This stone - this shepherd - is called "Shiloh" in Gen 49:10. Shiloh comes from a Hebrew root word signifying peace, rest, tranquillity. This the Lord will provide for the world at his second coming. Yet another example of the stone representing Yahweh in manifestation is found in Daniel 2:34, 45. In contrast to the stone which David used which was smooth (1 Sam 17:40), the stone of Daniel 2 which strikes the image on the feet appears to be rough ("cut out of the mountain") and thus in the state IN WHICH YAHWEH MADE IT. "We beheld his glory, the glory as of THE ONLY BEGOTTEN of the father" (John 1:14). Another reason for the difference may lie in the fact that altars were to be made with stone taken from the ground. Shaping of these stones was forbidden and was regarded as polluting by God (Exod 20:25). The smooth stone speaks of a person washed and shaped by the water of the word. The rough stone speaks of the **ONE** provided by Yahweh as our altar, and thus also refers to the **ONE** sacrifice of Christ (Heb 13:10, Heb 9:26, Heb 7:26-27).

THE STONE SUNK INTO HIS FOREHEAD

The stone found its mark in bringing down sin. The thinking of the flesh was thus destroyed. Scripture teaches that the carnal mind has to be destroyed: it **cannot be converted** - Romans 8:7 "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, **neither indeed can be.**" The thinking of the flesh has to be crushed (Gen 3:15) and replaced by the mind of the spirit. But what of ourselves? We have the same propensities as were in Goliath. Goliath was motivated by fleshly thinking. David had the mind of the spirit. The Goliath which is within us has to be conquered. We have to submit to the stone power - Galatians 5:24 "And they that are Christ's have **crucified the flesh** with the affections and lusts." We have to develop the mind - the spirit - of Christ (Phil 2:5, Rom 8:9). This incident is also a symbol of Armageddon where the pride and arrogance and fleshly thinking of man will be destroyed. Those mortals who survive Armageddon will have impressed upon their minds the teachings of the "Stone" - **Jeremiah 16:19** "... the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit." **Isaiah 2:3** "And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem."

1 SAMUEL 17

V50 SO DAVID PREVAILED OVER THE PHILISTINE

"Prevailed" is from the Heb *chazaq* (Strong 2388) meaning to prevail over; to be stronger than (Gesenius): be strong; strengthen (TWOT 636). Other translations of the word here are "overcame" (Youngs Literal) "triumphed over" (Jer B & N.I.V.). In Isa 42:6 (part of the Servant prophecies) it is translated as "hold" - "will hold thine hand", where the sense is that Yahweh would cause the Lord to be strong, to prevail, to overcome, to triumph over sin, as David did over Goliath and the Philistines.

WITH A SLING.....BUT THERE WAS NO SWORD IN THE HAND OF DAVID

Why put this in the record? It points to the miraculous nature of the victory - David having no recognised weapon. By human standards this victory was impossible - it was unachievable. Remember Goliath had on a helmet of brass which meant that only a minute portion of his skull was exposed. So here is a stone that is divinely guided to its mark. Such a victory seemed impossible to the mind of faithless men like Saul, but to faithful David all things were possible.

V51 THEREFORE DAVID RAN, AND STOOD UPON THE PHILISTINE...AND SLEW HIM.

This incident again relates to Genesis 3:15 (the **HEEL** of the seed of the woman was going to crush the serpent's head). It was the practice of the victor in such conquests to place his **FOOT** on the neck of the vanquished - see Josh 10:24 and the note below. From Psalm 8 it is evident that David understood that he was a type of his greater son - the Lord Jesus Christ (Matt 1:1). Regarding Psalm 8, see INTRODUCTION section on page 13 of these notes. In Psalm 8:6 David says "thou hast put all things **UNDER HIS FEET**". Likewise Psalm 110, which also appears to have its origins in David's victory over Goliath, looks forward to the Lord's coming victory over the forces of sin. Psalm 110:1 says "Yahweh said unto my Lord (i.e. Christ), Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy **FOOTSTOOL**." Hebrews 2:8 "Thou hast put all things in subjection **UNDER HIS FEET**."

Note on Joshua 10:24

Joshua chapter 10 deals with the defeat by Joshua of a confederacy of five Amorite kings (Josh 10:5) under the leadership of Adoni-zedek, king of Jerusalem (Josh 10:1). Adoni-zedek is a similar title to Melchizedek who was king of (Jeru)Salem in the days of Abraham (Gen 14:18). However while Melchizedek was "the priest of the Most High God" whose name means "King of righteousness", Adoni-zedek was neither. His name means "ruler of righteousness", but he was like the Pope, who while claiming to be 'Christ's Vicar of earth' and alleging to be head over 'Christ's church,' is an imposter who is grossly astray from the Truth. Joshua (whose name means "Yah shall save", and is the Hebrew equivalent of Jesus), has a great victory over these forces of sin lead by Adoni-zedek (Josh 10:12). In this Joshua types the Lord Jesus Christ, who will wage a ceaseless war against the Papal System at his second coming until it is annihilated from the earth. The faithful who were associated with Joshua in the battle (Josh 10:15, 20) were then invited to put their **FEET** on the necks of the vanquished (Josh 10:24). Thus it will be that those associated with the greater Joshua (the Lord Jesus Christ) will be invited to share the victory with him - Psalm 149:5-9.

1 SAMUEL 17

V51 AND CUT OFF HIS HEAD

There is only one thing that can be done with sin's power and the thinking of the flesh - it has to be destroyed. Psalm 110 (see relevance of this Psalm in foregoing note on this verse on page 27), finishes with the statement "therefore shall he (the Lord Jesus Christ) lift up the head." [FOR ALTERNATIVE MEANING OF "LIFT UP THE HEAD" SEE EUREKA VOL 2 PAGE 354 LOGOS EDITION]

WHEN THE PHILISTINE SAW THEIR CHAMPION WAS DEAD, THEY FLED

Initially the Philistines approached this battle with the same pride and arrogance as Goliath. They are shocked and dismayed by the death of their leader and flee. This will be the reaction of people in the future when they see Gogue and the Pope destroyed by the intervention of the Greater David. They will flee from the presence of Christ until they learn to submit to him.

V52 SHAARAIM

It lay in the territory of Judah - Josh 15:20, 36.

V54 AND DAVID TOOK THE HEAD OF THE PHILISTINE, AND BROUGHT IT TO JERUSALEM

This statement appears to be parenthetical because it does not seem that David did this immediately, but at some later time. But why would David do this? David understood very well the purpose of God. He undoubtedly understood that he typed the Lord Jesus Christ in this matter. The Lord was crucified at Golgotha - "And when they were come unto a place called Golgotha, that is to say, a place of a skull," (Matt 27:33). See also Mk 15:22, John 19:17, Lk 23:33. Golgotha is of Chaldee origin and means "the skull" (Strong 1115). Calvary is the greek equivalent and also means "a skull" (Strong 2898 and see margin of Lk 23:33). How did Golgotha get its name? Well almost certainly this was the very place where David buried Goliath's skull at Jerusalem. It was here at 'the place of the skull' that the Lord crushed the head of the serpent (Gen 3:15) and destroyed "the devil" (the Goliath) that was in him (Heb 2:14).

V58 AND SAUL SAID TO HIM, WHOSE SON ART THOU.....?

Some find it difficult to understand why Saul would ask such a question seeing that Saul had had David in his house, and in his service as his armour-bearer and musician (1 Sam 16:21-23). But notice that Saul doesn't ask Who David is, BUT Whose SON he is? In those days lineage was important, particularly as Saul had promised his daughter in marriage to anyone who slew Goliath (1 Samuel 17:25). Saul was a snob and was concerned about the social standing of the family into which he had promised to deliver his daughter. Saul types Israel after the flesh who did not recognise the origins of the greater David (the Lord Jesus Christ) who overcame sin and brought salvation 1900 years ago. Their ignorance will continue until after the Lord delivers them from the power of Gogue, following which, like Saul, they will enquire as to their Deliverer and his background - e.g. "Who is this King of glory?" (Psa 24:8, 10); "What are these wounds in thine hands?" (Zech 13:6).

THE SON OF THY SERVANT JESSE THE BETH-LEHEMITE

I.E. "the son of thy servant who stands out in the house of bread" - see earlier notes on 1 Sam 16:1 (pages 6 and 7) and 1 Sam 17:12 (page 8). David was saying that he was the son of a man who stood out in the ecclesia because of his faith. David's father was a humble man, who was poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembled at Yahweh's word (cf Isa 66:2). David's humble, faithful father was thus a complete contrast to Saul.

LIFE OF DAVID STUDY

STUDY NO 8 - DAVID AND JONATHAN

INTRODUCTION

DIFFERING REACTIONS TO DAVID

In 1 Samuel 18 we learn of Saul and Jonathan's (a father and son's) relationship with David. Jonathan learned to love David; Saul to hate him. Jonathan was a man of faith; Saul a man of the flesh.

THE PURPOSE OF TRIAL

A consideration of this section of the Word of God is helpful in understanding how Yahweh works in our lives. David was a man after God's own heart (1 Sam 13:14) but that did not make him immune to trials, difficulties, and suffering in life. Fresh from his victory over Goliath, David is soon plunged into a life of affliction and persecution. A brief moment of victory is followed by years of suffering and trial. Life can be like that. We have highs and lows in our life in the Truth. We all need to understand that that is what life is like, and why Yahweh allows that situation. The fact that trial is not removed does not mean that Yahweh does not answer prayer or that He is indifferent to our trials and suffering. Rather it means that Yahweh's answer is that trial is beneficial for our character development in the Truth. The trials that David endured were designed to develop David's character and prepare him for rulership in the Kingdom in his own days, and the Kingdom which is to come. 1 Peter 1:5-7 is instructive in understanding the purpose of trial.

1 PETER 1:5-7

"Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:"

KEPT

Greek *phroureo* meaning to be a watcher in advance i.e. to mount guard as a sentinel (Strong 5432). Bullinger gives its meaning as "to guard, keep with a military guard, to keep or guard with power, rather than with the eye." So the picture we have here is Yahweh guarding and protecting His saints.

GREATLY REJOICE

"Rejoice" is from the Greek *agalliao* which properly means "to jump for joy i.e. exult" (Strong 21). The reason for this joy is that IF we have a real working faith, then trial will bring us closer to God. Trial can bring us to concentrate our minds more on the Truth and the coming of the Lord, and this is a cause for great joy.

MANIFOLD TEMPTATIONS

N.I.V. "all kinds of trials". Jer B "all sorts of trials".

FOUND UNTO PRAISE AND HONOUR AND GLORY AT THE APPEARING OF JESUS CHRIST

When the Lord returns, the benefits of the trials of this life will be revealed in "praise at the judgement seat, honour by being incorporated into the perfected multitudinous Christ, and glory by being granted a change of nature" (Bro. H.P.M.). This will be the lot of all those like David and Jonathan.

1 SAMUEL 18

V1 WHEN HE HAD MADE AN END OF SPEAKING TO SAUL

i.e. when David had finished speaking to Saul (see 1 Samuel 17:58).

JONATHAN

He was the eldest son of Saul and therefore heir to the throne (1 Sam 14:49; 1 Chron 8:33). At this time Jonathan would probably have been somewhere between 33 and 35 years of age, while David was 16 to 18 years old. The approximate age of Jonathan is calculated as follows. 2 Sam 5:4 tells us that David was 30 when he began to reign. Consequently his persecution at the hands of Saul must have lasted some 12 to 14 years if he was 16 to 18 at the time when he slew Goliath (see notes on "are here all thy children?" 1 Sam 16:11 - page 9; and "for he was but a youth" 1 Sam 17:42 - page 23). Saul's fourth son Ishbosheth (called Esh-baal in 1 Chron 8:33) was 40 years old when he assumed the throne after the death of Saul and Jonathan (2 Sam 2:10). By deduction it follows that being the firstborn, Jonathan was probably about 47 at the time of his death. Seeing the persecution of David lasted 12 to 14 years, it seems that Jonathan probably would have been somewhere between 33 and 35 at the beginning of 1 Samuel 18.

WAS KNIT WITH THE SOUL OF DAVID

The word "knit" is from the Hebrew *qashar* which "basically denotes binding or tying something to something" (TWOT 2090). The english word "knitting" illustrates the meaning, where by a certain process, one piece of wool is joined to another. The Hebrew word occurs in Nehemiah 4:6 where the wall is said to be "joined together". Brick was joined to brick with mortar to make a wall. What united David and Jonathan was the spirit of the Truth. The differences in ages of Jonathan and David was not matched by their approach to life. Their approach to life was the same despite the age difference. They were like-minded (cp Rom 15:5; Phil 2:2, 20). There was no 'generation gap'. In the Truth there should not be generation gaps. No matter what our age, our outlook on life and response to the Truth should be the same.

JONATHAN LOVED HIM AS HIS OWN SOUL

This was a love involving the mind. It was a love involving self-denial and self-sacrifice. Had this been expressed in Greek rather than Hebrew, almost certainly the greek word *agape* would have been used. In the parable which is involved in the events recorded here, David represents the Lord Jesus Christ, and Jonathan the ecclesia. Jonathan types the love we are to have for the Lord. Jonathan's love for David lasted to the end of his life. David described it as passing the love of women (2 Sam 1:26) - i.e. it was a love totally above and beyond physical gratification.

V2 WOULD LET HIM GO NO MORE HOME

Why? Because David had distinguished himself on the field of battle and Saul wanted him in his army (cp 1 Sam 14:52). Saul did not see David as a man of faith but as a man of valour. Saul's trust and confidence were in the flesh. He lacked a spiritual mind. So father (Saul) and son (Jonathan) were drawn to David, but for opposite reasons.

1 SAMUEL 18

V3 THEN JONATHAN AND DAVID MADE A COVENANT

What was the covenant? Well it appears that Jonathan was aware of the Divine pronouncement that David was to be the next king. Perhaps David had confided in Jonathan about Samuel's visit to the house of Jesse (1 Sam 16:1-13). Anyway, by whatever means, Jonathan appears to have been aware of Yahweh's will in the matter of succession to his father's throne, and as a man of faith, he willingly accepted it (1 Sam 20:42). The covenant had to do with Jonathan's acceptance of David's succession to Saul's throne.

V4 JONATHAN STRIPPED HIMSELF OF THE ROBE

The Jer B renders it as "he took off the cloak he was wearing and gave it to David". "Robe" is from the Hebrew *meiy* meaning an "upper and outer garment" (Strong 4598); "An upper garment: an exterior tunic, wide and long, reaching to the ankles but without sleeves.... It was worn....by men of birth and rank; by kings;especially by the high priest...." (Gesenius). Consequently the garment would have denoted Jonathan's royal rank. In Jonathan's giving of these things to David he signified his resignation of the throne and acknowledged David as Saul's rightful successor. From a fleshly point of view David was Jonathan's rival for the throne and the kingdom (1 Sam 20:31). But as a man of faith, Jonathan is anxious that Yahweh's will should be done. Jonathan was not destined to become great in this life. He could have said that the throne was his right as Saul's firstborn son, and that he was going to insist on his rights - but he doesn't. He resigns his own will that the will of Yahweh might be done. Jonathan has not missed out, because whatever sacrifices we are called upon to make in this life, they will be made up to us in the kingdom. This is the assurance of the Lord - "And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life" (Matt 19:29).

V5 VERSE 5

David became a trusted messenger in the court of Saul. He was given a high rank in Saul's army. He was popular with the people. But tragically as David's popularity increased, so Saul became increasingly jealous.

BEHAVED HIMSELF WISELY

The word "wisely" is used 4 times of David in this chapter (1 Sam 18:5, 14, 15, 30). "Wisely" is translated from the Hebrew *sakal* meaning to be circumspect and hence intelligent (Strong 7919). It can convey the idea of "prudently". TWOT (2263b) says "*sakal* relates to an intelligent knowledge of the reason. There is the process of thinking through a complex arrangement of thoughts resulting in wise dealing..... Another end result is the emphasis upon being successful". *Sakal* has a wide range of meanings including prosper; prudent; wise; understanding.

AND HE WAS ACCEPTED IN THE SIGHT OF ALL THE PEOPLE

Jer B "he stood well in the people's eyes and in the eyes of Saul's officers too". So David is increasing in stature - compare the Lord (Luke 2:52).

1 Samuel 18

V8 AND SAUL WAS VERY WRATH

Rotherham "Then was Saul exceeding angry". Here Saul displays the exact opposite of the attitude manifested by Jonathan. This anger was the outworking of envy, jealousy and hatred. These things are the works of the flesh (Gal 5:19-21) which have no place in the life of the servant of God (Titus 3:3). Saul types Israel after the flesh, who for envy delivered the Lord to be crucified (Matt 27:18). David is a type of Christ as he suffers the abuse and persecution of Saul.

AND THE SAYING DISPLEASED HIM

N.I.V. "this refrain galled him". Jer B "the incident was not to his liking". Roth "this saying was offensive in his eyes".

WHAT CAN HE HAVE MORE BUT THE KINGDOM

The Jer B renders it "he has all but the kingship now". Saul now begins to see David in a different light. He is beginning to look on David with the greatest suspicion. All along Saul has been haunted by the words of Samuel "And Samuel said unto him, Yahweh hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou" (1 Sam 15:28). The question now in Saul's mind was Could David be the one to whom Samuel referred?

V9 AND SAUL EYED DAVID FROM THAT DAY AND FORWARD

Jer B "And Saul turned a jealous eye on David from that day forward." The N.I.V. gives the same sense. So as Jonathan and David grew closer and closer together, Saul and David grew further and further apart. Saul and David were going in two different directions with two different motivations. Saul was motivated by the flesh; David by faith. David is like the Lord Jesus Christ - hated without a cause (Psa 35:19; John 15:25).

ERRATUM

Please amend the scriptural references shown under the following headings -

Page 23 1 Samuel 17:42 "FOR HE WAS BUT A YOUTH"

"1 Sam 17:11 - page 9" should read "1 Sam 16:11 - page 9".

Page 23 1 Samuel 17:42 "AND RUDDY"

"1 Sam 17:12 - page 10" should read "1 Sam 16:12 - page 10".