

Key Victory for David in *Waiting for God* *The King and the People Series*

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What We Will Learn

- Victory over Goliath became foundation for recognition of David as future leader of Israel
- Encounter with Goliath resulted from David trying to complete his father's errand
- Errand became God's call to David to kill Goliath and begin mission to king of Israel
- Incremental step toward becoming king
- *Waiting for God* means *Working with God*
- 1 Samuel 17

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Errand for David

- Father Jesse tasked David
- Check on his brothers
- Bring back report on their conditions
- Take supplies to them as he went
- And gifts for the battalion commander
- Brothers were among Israel's army setup for battle against Philistines
- 1 Samuel 17:17–19

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

17 Now Jesse said to his son David, "Take this ephah of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread for your brothers and hurry to their camp.

18 Take along these ten cheeses to the commander of their unit. See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them.

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

19 They are with Saul and all the men of Israel in the Valley of Elah, fighting against the Philistines."

- "See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them" [1 Sam 17:18]
- Detail was critical for the errand to lead to David's encounter with Goliath
- Listening to parent with intent to understand and implement parental guidance

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David Executes Father's Task

- Understood father's errand: what he needed to do to satisfy father's request
- Brothers not at the camp when David arrived
- He went to the battle lines to meet them
- Heard Goliath as he talked with his brothers
- Father's errand led to encounter with Goliath
- And growth of David's reputation in Israel
- 1 Samuel 17:20–23

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

20 Early in the morning David left the flock in the care of a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry.

21 Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other.

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

22 David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and asked his brothers how they were.

23 As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it.

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Motivation Against Goliath

- Motivation grew as he heard Goliath's defiance and observed Israeli response
 - Saw defiance as disgrace to Israel
 - From a person less worthy than they
 - Will fight Goliath to remove the disgrace
 - And confirm Israel's army as army of God
- To advance name and image of God
- 1 Samuel 17:24–26

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

24 Whenever the Israelites saw the man, they all fled from him in great fear.

25 Now the Israelites had been saying, "Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his family from taxes in Israel."

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

26 David asked the men standing near him, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

- Israeli men were dismayed and terrified
- Philistine defiance a disgrace to Israel
- David motivated to remove the disgrace

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Focus On Objective

- Rebuffed an attempt at distracting him through his brother
- Protested mildly but turned away
- Focused on exhortation of the men and campaign against the Philistine
- 1 Samuel 17:28–30

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

28 When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, "Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the wilderness? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle."

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

29 "Now what have I done?" said David. "Can't I even speak?"

30 He then turned away to someone else and brought up the same matter, and the men answered him as before.

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Permission from King Saul

- Saul initially sought to discourage David
- But David persuaded him
- By making a case that God will lead him in battle against the Philistine
- David was driven by faith of God
- But recognized and respected Saul's authority as the king and commander
- 1 Samuel 17:31–37

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

31 What David said was overheard and reported to Saul, and Saul sent for him.

32 David said to Saul, "Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him."

33 Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth."

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock,

35 I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it.

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God.

37 The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."

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Battle Cry, Sermon, and Prayer

- David's declarations as he approached the Philistine accomplished three purposes
- Battle cry to warn the Philistine about what was coming to him
- Sermon to Israel's men and all people
- Prayer to surrender to God
- 1 Samuel 17:45–47

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

45 David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel.

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1 Samuel 17 (NIV)

47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

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Outcome

- David killed Goliath
- Led Israel to victory over Philistines
- Because of the victory, David was recognized as a warrior and potential future leader of Israel

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What We Learned

- Victory over Goliath led to David's recognition as potential future leader of Israel
- Father's errand led David to encounter with Goliath and step toward becoming king
- Motivated to advance the name and image of God through battle with Goliath
- Focused on motivation and faith
- *Waiting for God means working with God*

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