CCF 13/1/19

1 Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle; and they were gathered at Socoh which belongs to Judah, and they camped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim. 2 Saul and the men of Israel were gathered and camped in the valley of Elah, and drew up in battle array to encounter the Philistines. 3 The Philistines stood on the mountain on one side while Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with the valley between them.

4 Then a champion came out from the armies of the Philistines named Goliath, from Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. 5 He had a bronze helmet on his head, and he was clothed with scale-armour which weighed five thousand shekels of bronze. 6 He also had bronze greaves on his legs and a bronze javelin slung between his shoulders. 7 The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and the head of his spear weighed six hundred shekels of iron; his shield-carrier also walked before him.

Height 9 feet 9 inches – 3 metres Armour weighs 156 lb (71kg) Spear shaft diam 2 to 2.5 inches (5 to 7 cm). Length about 26 feet (8m) Spear head weighed 17 lb (8kg)

8 He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel and said to them, "Why do you come out to draw up in battle array? Am I not the Philistine and you 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 become your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall become our servants and serve us." 10 Again the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks 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 and greatly afraid.

12 Now David was the son of the Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah, whose name was Jesse, and he had eight sons. And Jesse was old in the days of Saul, advanced in years among men. 13 The three older sons of Jesse had gone after Saul to the battle. And the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and the second to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. 14 David was the youngest. Now the three oldest followed Saul, 15 but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's flock at Bethlehem. 16 The Philistine came forward morning and evening for forty days and took his stand.

17 Then Jesse said to David his son, "Take now for your brothers an ephah of this roasted grain and these ten loaves and run to the camp to your brothers. 18 Bring also these ten cuts of cheese to the commander of their thousand, and look into the welfare of your brothers, and bring back news of them. 19 For Saul and they and all the men of Israel are in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines."

20 So David arose early in the morning and left the flock with a keeper and took the supplies and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the circle of the camp while the army was going out in battle array shouting the war cry. 21 Israel and the Philistines drew up in battle array, army against army. 22 Then David left his baggage in the care of the baggage keeper, and ran to the battle line and entered in order to greet his brothers. 23 As he was talking with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine from Gath named Goliath, was coming up from the army of the Philistines, and he spoke these same words; and David heard them.

24 When all the men of Israel saw the man, they fled from him and were greatly afraid. 25 The men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who is coming up? Surely he is coming up to defy Israel. And it will be that the king will enrich the man who kills him with great riches and will give him his daughter and make his father's house free in Israel."26 Then David spoke to the men who were standing by him, saying, "What will 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 taunt the armies of the living God?" 27 The people answered him in accord with this word, saying, "Thus it will be done for the man who kills him."

This was the 81st time this had happened.

Why were the men afraid?

Who should have been leading them? King Saul

BUT Saul, the king (and the best looking and tallest man by a head and shoulders in all Israel (1 Sam 9:2)), was watching from up on the mountain and hoping that his promise of a reward would make them brave.

Saul was no longer the anointed King – God had rejected him and Saul knew it (1 Sam 15:26)

God did not want Israel to have a king but they insisted so He gave them Saul.

Now the army was facing a crucial battle WITH NO anointed King.

This is the spiritual reason why the men were afraid.

Who was now the anointed King?

David (1 Sam 16:13)

Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed (David king) in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.

31 When the words which David spoke were heard, they told them to Saul, and he sent for him. 32 David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail on account of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." 33 Then Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are but a youth while he has been a warrior from his youth." 34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant was tending his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and took a lamb from the flock, 35 I went out after him and attacked him, and rescued it from his mouth; and when he rose up against me, I seized him by his beard and struck him and killed him. 36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, since he has taunted the armies of the living God." 37 And David said, "The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."

David has confidence because of his training and experience Notice that David DOESN'T say that the Lord will kill Goliath, just that He will protect David.

And Saul said to David, "Go, and may the Lord be with you." 38 Then Saul clothed David with his garments and put a bronze helmet on his head, and he clothed him with armour. 39 David girded his sword over his armour and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. So David said to Saul, "I cannot go with these, for I have not tested them." And David took them off. 40 He took his stick in his hand and chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in the shepherd's bag which he had, even in his pouch, and his sling was in his hand; and he approached the Philistine.

David took what he knew had worked before:

His stick

His bag

His sling

Some stones (Btw Goliath had 4 brothers...)

He didn't take his own sword. He knew it would be useless against Goliath. He already had a plan.

41 Then the Philistine came on and approached David, with the shield-bearer in front of him. 42 When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him; for he was but a youth, and ruddy, with a handsome appearance. 43 The Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. 44 The Philistine also said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the sky and the beasts of the field."

This is the 82<sup>nd</sup> challenge by Goliath! Probably the first one that had been met.

He feels insulted that little David (a ginger kid no more than 5foot 6inches tall and not even shaving yet) is the one to challenge him!

45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, a spear, and 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 taunted. 46 This day the Lord will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down and remove your head from you. And I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, 47 and that all this assembly may know that the Lord does not deliver by sword or by spear; for the battle is the Lord's and He will give you into our hands."

David's words spoken in the anointed power of the Holy Spirit and with complete trust in God based on his previous experience with the lion and the bear.

Note that David again does not say that God will kill Goliath, just that God will deliver Goliath into David's hands and the enemy army into the hands of God's army. The battle is the Lord's!

48 Then it happened when the Philistine rose and came and drew near to meet David, that David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. 49 And David put his hand into his bag and took from it a stone and slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead. And the stone sank into his forehead, so that he fell on his face to the ground.

Is Goliath dead?

Yes/No/Don't know.

Don't know – but he has been delivered into David's hands.

50 Thus David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and he struck the Philistine and killed him; but there was no sword in David's hand. 51 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.

David makes sure. He seizes the opportunity and finishes the job.

the Philistines When saw that their champion was dead, they fled. 52 The men of Israel and Judah arose and shouted and pursued the Philistines as far as the valley, and to the gates of Ekron. And the slain Philistines lay along the way to Shaaraim, even to Gath and Ekron. 53 The sons of Israel returned from chasing the Philistines and plundered their camps. 54 Then David took the Philistine's head and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his weapons in his tent.

The enemy flees!

David's success — the reasons A man after God's own heart (1 Sam 13:14, Ac 13:22)

Anointed and full of the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Sam 16:13)

Trained in the use of the sling and experienced in the power of God and in the killing of lion and bear. (1 Sam 17:34-37)

Seized the opportunity to kill Goliath and show the enemy army that Goliath was defeated (1 Sam 17:51)

A man after God's own heart (1 Sam 13:14, Ac 13:22)

It is essential for us to be saved.

8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (Ro 10:8-10)

Anointed and full of the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Sam 16:13)

It is essential for us to receive the baptism and the power of the Holy Spirit.

He (Jesus) commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. 8 You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Ac 1 4b,5,8))

Trained in the use of the sling and experienced in the power of God and in the killing of lion and bear. (1 Sam 17:34-37)

#### It is essential for us to be disciples

18 And having come near, Jesus spake to them, saying, 'Given to me was all authority in heaven and on earth; 19 having gone, then, disciple all the nations, (baptizing them -- to the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all, whatever I did command you,) and lo, I am with you all the days -- till the full end of the age.' (Mt 28:18-20 YLT)

It's no good having a church made up only of believers! The demons believe too. (Jas 2:19)
We need to be disciples and to make disciples.
Disciples learn by doing and by serving.
Small groups/house groups.
Friendships.
Accountability.
We are all learning all the time!
More to come on this.
Baptism service soon.

Seized the opportunity to kill Goliath and show the enemy army that Goliath was defeated (1 Sam 17:51)

It is essential that we seize God-given opportunities and complete them so that the enemy flees.

"whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have <u>received\*</u> it and it will be yours." Mark 11:24 (ISV)

\*Greek – *lambano* – to take, get hold of. Resist the devil and he will flee from you (Jas 4:7)

Receiving is active! Postman example.

The enemy wants to prevent us receiving what we have prayed for. He aims to steal, kill and destroy all that is good.

We need to do more than just knock him down then stop, because he'll get up and fight again.

We need to press home the victory and completely defeat him as David did Goliath. God has no hands, no mouth, no money. He chooses us as His agents on the earth to work in His victory, and blesses what we do.

House example

Do you have recurrent attacks or something that you can't get free of?

# So why?

2019 will be a year of continuing harvest.

Much has been sown.

Now comes the time to reap.

Harvesting is harder work than sowing and will be opposed by the enemy.

The harvest is in two areas:

- 1. Personal breakthrough into victorious living
- 2. Corporate new believers and disciples
  "For the battle is the Lord's and He will give

"For the battle is the Lord's and He will give you into our hands." (1 Sam 17:47)