

First – You MUST Defeat The Lion

“ You’ll never defeat the giant, unless you first conquer the lion and the bear.”

1 Samuel 17:32-51 -

Everyone here surely has heard the story of “David and Goliath.” Probably more than once.

It’s a pretty good book to read to our children, It teaches them that **no matter what** comes up **Gods able to bring them through.**

It also teaches us ***That, the God that we serve, the battle belongs to him.***

Consider David - This young man that **came off of the shepherds field, didn’t come off of the field unprepared.**

While he was there probably **not doing what he wanted** to do, while ***he was tending to the flock*** his brothers were out in the war.

- He probably had **rather been a soldier.**
- ***His brothers*** were hiding, but **David was ready to fight!**
- This is probably **because of what happened** while he was tending sheep.

1. David had Confidence!

The confidence David had came **by what God helped him do** while taking care of the sheep.

The Bible says that there came out **a lion & a bear** and it took one of the sheep!
- ***The enemy*** is **not afraid of the flock!!!**

2. The lion

The lion came and **took a lamb out of the flock, not away from the flock!**

- Also he took the lamb **while the Shepherd was still present!**
- **The enemy don’t stop** at the backdoor of the church!
- ***The enemy doesn’t stop*** just because we're **The Church**, or because we're saved or because **we're filled with the Holy Spirit.**

1 Peter 5:8 NKJV

Be sober (***self-controlled***), be vigilant (***watchful***); because your adversary the devil walks about **like a roaring lion**, seeking whom he may devour.

*****A lion is a Fierce Beast, and a tremendous beast but the thing that is so fearful about the lion is its roar!**

- Well isn't that just like the Devil?
- He makes us Fearful...
- He talks to us and persuades us that we cannot conquer.

So we find that the lion came in the presence of the flock also in the presence of the shepherd.

Vs 35 - I went out after it and struck it- ***“and I went after him”***
I've heard people say ***“I've been running from the devil all day long.”***
Well maybe that's the problem, **why don't you go after him!!**

You'll never get anywhere running from your problems.

- Nor your situations, nor your burdens....
- You'll never conquer anything by running from them
- But the best thing to do is run to them and **conquer them!**

Proverbs 30:30 NKJV - ³⁰ A lion, *which is* mighty among beasts And does not turn away from any;

- **The lion** is the strongest among the Beast. It also tells us that he is destructive.
- **The enemy** is out to destroy you, he is out to kill you!
- **He is Strong, and destructive**

You will never be able to stand against the greatest offence until you first conquer these small battles in your life.

- Because every battle you go through,
- it prepares you for a bigger and greater one.

Somebody said preacher ***I want to live a life for God*** where there are no problems or sorrows and no troubles, well **me too!**

- **I haven't found that yet!**
- But every battle, every hardship, it makes me look over my shoulder and say **the same God That brought me through** that...
- **Will** bring me through this one - And **David** was able to say that!!!

The objective of the enemy is to plant fear in your heart.

“I’m going down”, “I’m not going to make it”

I come to tell you today - “greater is he that is in me than he who is in the world!

- You Gotta conquer your lion!
- You Gotta conquer your bear!
- Or you’ll never win the battle with the Giant!!

And sooner or later your gonna face a giant, and if you quit every time those lion or bear problems come then you’ll never make it

- We can’t turn and run!!!!
- David said “I’m able’. - I’m qualified and ready” To take down the Giant.

David tells Saul about the lion and bear!

- It was confidence!

And I’m confident to know that what God said he’ll do he’s going to Do!

- There’s no place to stop!

- Just keep on marching!

- keep on praying!

- put your hand in God’s hand

- Gods going to give you victory, Gods going to reign triumph upon you.

And you’ll be able to stand against the adversary the devil!

I’ve watched MMA and UFC fighters -where they got knocked down in the fight but got up and ended up winning the match.

I’ve watched basketball and football games where a team came out and dominated them for the first half but they didn’t quit or give up and come back and win the second half. *Some of the Greatest Moments ever!!!*

You will never face down your giant if first you don’t face down your lion.

We might as well stand up and say “*If God be for me, who can be against me*”

- Stand your ground and fight for God
- Don’t you be a quitter but be a winner for Jesus.
- A winner never quits, and a quitter never wins!

Be like and ostrich

- when an ostrich is fearful, **he just runs around in circles.**
- but **don't quit running....**

We have got to learn that - **If we stop at every hindrance** we come to then **we will never be nothing for God.**

I know **who my God is**, I know who **my redeemer is** , and I'm not going to run just because **the devil has roared** against me.

I heard someone say once, **the people out in the world, they have so many problems** but **they don't quit the world!**

They keep on sinning they keep on **working for the devil!**

But as soon as they come to God and **they have problems** they say **I am not going to take no more** of this **if this is how Gods going to treat his people** - **Grow up!!!!!!**

Bible talks about running the race, carrying your cross.

If you **run a race** **it takes strength from you!**

If you **pick up a beam** **it pulls strength from you!**

If you're going to live for God,

Then you better be ready to give up some of you!!!

Its gonna cost you **some time,**

its gonna cost you **some prayers,**

its gonna cost you **some dedication,**

Its gonna cost you **standing** in the midst of your "fiery trials"

And let it be known today, **Were not gonna stop!!!**

Were not gonna bow, we will not burn!

Our God is able to deliver us out.

Close:

Somewhere in your Christian walk you're going to meet up with an **9 foot 9 inch Giant**

- **Unless Gods brought you through some victories,**
- **You'll never stand before him!**

The giant told David that he was going to feed him to the fowls of the air!

note* finish the David & Goliath story

-tell about **knocking our problems down** but not completely getting rid of them!!

Praise team - Before you can ever be a great warrior for God, you have got to completely kill some things in your life.

Flesh - " the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak!"

I believe in the Holy Spirit and i believe in complete dedication, and just giving everything up to him...

Everyone of us here has some things that we just won't completely give up to God. And we wonder why we struggle with this or with that.

"You'll never defeat the giant, unless you first conquer the lion and the bear."

1 Samuel 17:32-51 – NKJV - ³² Then David said to Saul, “Let no man’s heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.”

³³ 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.” ³⁷ Moreover David said, “The LORD, who delivered me 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!”

³⁸ So Saul clothed David with his ^[a]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 *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. 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^[b] him; for he was *only* a youth, ruddy and good-looking. 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. 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!”

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. 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. 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.”

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. ⁴⁹ 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. 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.