

Confrontation!

*And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, from Gath, whose height **was** six cubits and a span. And the Philistine said, "I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together." When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.*

1 Samuel 17:4, 10, 11 NKJV

Have you ever been confronted with an emotion or a circumstance so large that you didn't know what to do? Have you ever been ready to throw in the towel? Have you ever found yourself in that place of despair? If so, you are not the only one! This story of Goliath is a picture of the giants that we all face in life. We don't know much about this person: he was called the champion of the Philistines. That means he had never lost a battle! He was the champion. And he was a giant of a man! That does not mean that he was the offspring of extra-terrestrials like some "experts" have suggested. In the book of Genesis we are told that giants were in the land...many generations later the flood of Noah occurred. And the bible says that all human existence was removed except for Noah's family. Generations after the flood, once again it is written, '*and there were giants in the land*'. None of this is explained, but God is trying to tell us something: *There are giants in the land!*

There are things in life that you will face that are bigger than you, stronger than you, things that have never been defeated. But God would not have made mention of these things in His Word just so we would know in advance, 'Guess what, you are going to be defeated!' This is not the case! God declares that there are giants in the land so that we understand, with God's help, every giant that I may have to face can be defeated!

When the Philistine Champion appeared he brought fear and dismay into the hearts of all of the army of Israel and the king. None of them knew what to do. And for forty days and nights, the two opposing armies faced each other in a stand-off. The challenge had been made, and King Saul and the army of Israel had not yet responded. Goliath's challenge exposed the INNER giant which was looming within their hearts. And that was the giant of despair. When despair comes, it prevents you from doing anything. And in that place of desperation we typically prepare for the worst. We freeze up. We do nothing.

But you must know, there is a way to defeat every giant that you face. Today we begin a journey of hope. And I believe, if you continue through to the end of these messages, you're life will never be the same! So get ready!

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