

100 Bible Stories
37. David is Chosen

1 Samuel 16-17 (NKJV)

^{16.1}Now the Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons. . . .”

¹⁴But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and a distressing spirit from the Lord troubled him. . . . ²³And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play it with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him.

^{17.1}Now the Philistines gathered their armies together to battle, and were gathered at Sochoh....⁴And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, from Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. ⁵He had a bronze helmet on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. ⁶And he had bronze armor on his legs and a bronze javelin between his shoulders. ⁷Now the staff of his spear was like a weaver’s beam. . . .

⁸Then Goliath stood and cried out to the armies of Israel, and said to them, “. . . Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. ⁹If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us. . . .”

¹¹When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid. . . ¹⁶And the Philistine drew near and presented himself forty days, morning and evening. . . .

²⁰So David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, and took the things and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the camp as the army was going out to the fight and shouting for the battle. . . ²³Then as David talked with his brothers, there was the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, coming up from the armies of the Philistines; and he spoke according to the same words. So David heard them. . . ²⁶Then David asked. . . , “. . . Who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?” . . .

³¹Now when the words which David spoke were heard, they reported them to Saul; and he sent for him.

Who chose David as Saul’s successor? What problems would this cause?

How does Saul meet David? What’s their relationship? How is God treating Saul, as one God is rejecting as King?

What’s Goliath to Israel? How does Israel receive him? Are there “Goliaths” in your life?

See how his brothers receive his words...

Why does Saul send for him?