

Three More Giants For David

Introduction. David was a great man of history. He was probably most remembered as the shepherd boy that slew the great Philistine giant, Goliath, in 1 Samuel 17. Others make note of his failure and cover up in the matter of Bathsheba. But in both occasions, many lessons can be learned.

A man after God's own heart can make many serious mistakes in a lifetime. But, really great men always repent and pray for forgiveness (Psalm 51:1-2). Imperfect examples can still teach the less than perfect. At the end of David's life, his love for God was still intact just like it was when in youthful zeal and courageous faith he took on the giant Goliath. At the end of his life he was still taking on giants (1 Kings 2:1-4).

I. ***The Giant Of Death***

- A. David said, "I go the way of all the earth."
 - 1. Face it. Prepare for it. It is coming for all of us (Job 16:22; 30:23; Psalm 89:48).
 - 2. No one escapes, no matter how powerful (Ecclesiastes 3:2; Hebrews 9:27).
 - 3. David shows the same confidence he expressed earlier in life.
- B. Yet, David faced the giant of death with the same confidence as when he faced Goliath.
 - 1. It will take courage to face death, and this can only be found in God (Psalm 23:4).
 - 2. David did not fear because he loved and feared the Lord (Psalm 27:1-4; 46:1-3).

II. ***The Giant Of Responsibility***

- A. Responsibility to God's interests.
 - 1. He wanted the building of the temple to go on (1 Chronicles 22:6-10).
 - 2. He wanted the Messianic promises to have righteous avenues.
 - 3. Our first priority should be the kingdom of God (John 6:27; cf. Luke 17:21).
- B. Responsibility to God's people.
 - 1. Make sure you help God's people by knowing God's will (2 Timothy 2:15).
 - 2. Instruct and exhort them with righteous principles (2 Timothy 4:1-4).
 - 3. Live as an example worthy to be imitated (1 Timothy 4:12; 2 Thesalonians 3:7-8). How can we ever spread the kingdom if it is not in our interest?

III. *The Giant Of Parenthood*

- A. David was not a perfect father.
 - 1. David stole the affections of another man's wife. Adultery and murder were the sad outcomes of these terrible thoughts. Although what David did was totally out of character for an otherwise righteous man, it was still sinful and ungodly (1 Kings 15:5).
 - a) David's job as king would have been demanding, and he was probably often busy.
 - b) However, being concerned is no substitute for time spent with your children.
 - 2. Amnon (2 Samuel 13:28-29, 33) and Absalom (2 Samuel 18:9) were disappointments and were killed, but the rest, Solomon especially, seemed to be respectful and submissive (1 King 3:6; 11:4-6; 1 Chronicles 22:5; 29:24). What could have been the outcome of David's children if David had conducted himself more appropriately?
- B. David had a moment to talk to Solomon and he faced the responsibility of preparing his son for the future. His deathbed plea for his son is one of the most touching ever (1 Chronicles 28:9). From 1 Kings and 1 Chronicles, he informed Solomon of several responsibilities.
 - 1. Know God and His law.
 - 2. Rule by God's judgments.
 - 3. Serve Him with a perfect heart.
 - 4. Serve Him with a willing mind.
 - 5. Know that God knows your heart.
- C. Responsibilities to our children.
 - 1. If parents fail to teach and demonstrate righteousness, and plan for their children's involvement in the work of the church, then they have failed to tackle the responsibilities God has given them (Ephesians 6:4; cf. Romans 15:4; Deuteronomy 6:7-9; Psalm 78:4-7).
 - 2. Young women, if you cannot choose a man who will take the challenge of trying to save your children, then you do not need that man to help influence your children to be indifferent and go to hell.
 - 3. Young men, you need to plan to face your responsibilities. You must be a spiritual head and leader of your household. You need to become qualified to be elders in the Lord's church.
- D. David's last words reflected his life's story, and your story needs to reflect the wisdom and courage that David possessed. Parents, have you prepared your children? Children, have you listened to the counsel of your parents and prepared yourselves?

Conclusion. David faced those three giants just before he died, and thereby left an example that you have not completely failed if you make a mistake. But, if you lose to one giant, you will still have other giants to face.

How do you bounce back from failures? You grab the sword and learn how to face the next giant.