
With Nothing but a Sling

The Philistines got ready for war and brought their troops together to attack the Israelites. The Philistine army had a hero named Goliath. He wore a bronze helmet and had bronze armor to protect his chest and legs. The chest armor alone weighed about one hundred twenty-five pounds.

Goliath went out and shouted to the army of Israel, “Choose your best soldier to come out and fight me!”

Goliath came out and gave his challenge every morning and every evening for forty days. When the Israelite soldiers saw Goliath, they were scared and ran off. They said to each other, “Look how he keeps coming out to insult us. The king is offering a big reward to the man who kills Goliath.”

David asked some soldiers standing nearby, “Who does that worthless Philistine think he is? He’s making fun of the army of the living God!”

Some soldiers overheard David talking, so they told Saul what David had said. Saul sent for David, and David came. “Your Majesty,” he said, “this Philistine shouldn’t turn us into cowards. I’ll go out and fight him myself!”

Saul had his own military clothes and armor put on David, and he gave David a bronze helmet to wear. David strapped on a sword and tried to walk around, but he was not used to wearing those things.

So David took off the armor and picked up his shepherd’s stick. He went out to a stream and picked up five smooth rocks and put them in his leather bag. Then with his sling in his hand, he went straight toward Goliath.

When Goliath saw that David was just a healthy, good-looking boy, he made fun of him. “Do you think I’m a dog?” Goliath asked. “Is that why you’ve come after me with a stick?”

David answered, “You’ve come out to fight me with a sword and a spear and a dagger. But I’ve come out to fight you in the name of the LORD All-Powerful. He is the God of Israel’s army, and you have insulted him too! Today the LORD will help me defeat you.”

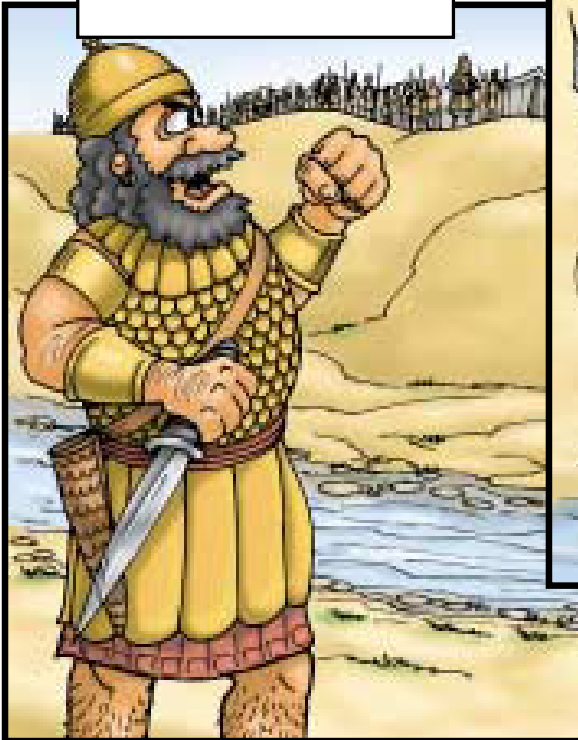
When Goliath started forward, David ran toward him. He put a rock in his sling and swung the sling around by its straps. When he let go of one strap, the rock flew out and hit Goliath on the forehead. He fell facedown on the ground. David defeated Goliath with a sling and a rock.

Based on 1 Samuel 17.1-50

KEY VERSE 1 Samuel 17.46

David told Goliath, "Today the LORD will help me defeat you."

Goliath and his army
came to attack Israel.



Day after day Goliath made
fun of Israel's God.



The Israelites were afraid
of the giant Goliath.



David was not afraid.



David could not move.



David used his sling to kill Goliath.



God helped David defeat Goliath.

