

1 Samuel 17:45-47

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. 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. 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."

We all know of the story of David and Goliath, but let's go back several verses and read what was promised by king Saul to the one who would defeat Goliath.

† **1 Samuel 17:25-26** *So the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel; and it shall be that the man who kills him the king will enrich with great riches, will give him his daughter, and give his father's house exemption from taxes in Israel." Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, "What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"*

Get a bunch of money. Have the king's daughter as your wife (You would be sitting on easy street) and your parents would never have to pay taxes again. That was the motivation that king Saul was giving his mighty men of war, and all they had to do was defeat Goliath. But that was a physical reward for what they would very likely fail to do. Because when your motives are for your own gain, and not God's glory, then you will fail.

Yet if you read the last sentence of David's response, we see David's heart, and why God chose him to be king to replace Saul, and as God's warrior to kill Goliath.

† **"For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"**

David could care less about the money, a beautiful woman to marry, or even taxes. His one and only concern was how God was being spoken of, and how no one was willing to defend God. Now we know God does not need to be defended by us, but it shows a man's or woman's heart when they cringe and can't stand those who speak against the Lord, use His name as a curse word, or is belittled by others.

Now go back and read today's devotional verses again.

Now that you have, did you notice David never said, “*I am going to kill you Goliath because I’ll get a bunch of money, I’ll have a hot looking babe to be my wife, and I will bless my parents by having them exempt from paying taxes.*” No, David never mentions any of those things, once again, David is defending God and wanting to show how awesome God is in his life, as well as the lives of the Israelites.

† ***“But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 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.”***

This should make us all stop and look at our own lives and even motives for what we do for the Lord. Do we do for prosperity, or simply because we have an awesome GOD, who is worthy of our praise?

† ***Psalm 113:1-5 Praise the LORD!
Praise, O servants of the LORD,
Praise the name of the LORD!
Blessed be the name of the LORD
From this time forth and forevermore!
From the rising of the sun to its going down
The LORD'S name is to be praised.
The LORD is high above all nations,
His glory above the heavens.
Who is like the LORD our God,
Who dwells on high,***