

David - The Ex-Giant Killer

2 Timothy 2: 3 & 4

If you were to study people in the Bible, are there any groupings that generally summarize their lives.

Some start good, and end good.

Some start good, and end bad.

Some start bad, and end good.

Some start bad, and end bad.

I'll give you some names, and see if you can figure out what heading they go under. Job, John the Baptist, King Saul, Demas, King Manasseh, Mary Magdaleine, King Belshazzar, Judas Iscariot.

However, to-day we will look at David.

While he generally fits into the good and good group; like most modern believers, he had many bumps on the way. You can find the life of David starting in 1 Samuel 16. You can check out the whole account later; but why don't we look at the highlights now?

In his youth, he would kill lions and bears to defend his family's sheep.

1 Samuel 17: 31 to 37 - And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him. And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth. And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God. David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.

And for some recreation, he would slay any giant in his way.

1 Samuel 17: 40 to 54 - And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine. And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him. And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance. And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog,

that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field. Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands. And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth. So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David. Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled. And the men of Israel and of Judah arose, and shouted, and pursued the Philistines, until thou come to the valley, and to the gates of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell down by the way to Shaaraim, even unto Gath, and unto Ekron. And the children of Israel returned from chasing after the Philistines, and they spoiled their tents. And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem; but he put his armour in his tent.

Now David was a valiant warrior, conquering much territory for Israel.

And he had a special relationship with the Lord God. Acts 13: 22 - And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

But later on in his career, he was almost killed by the giants.

2 Samuel 21: 16 - And Ishbibenob, which was of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose spear weighed three hundred shekels of brass in weight, he being girded with a new sword, thought to have slain David.

And then there's Samson, Israel's one man anti-Philistine demolition team.

Judges 16: 20 - And she said, The Philistines be upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself. And he wist not that the LORD was departed from him.

What happened? Was it only ageing, or was something else involved? Joshua and Caleb were also warriors, and were going strong right up to the end.

Joshua 14: 8 to 11 - Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God. And Moses swore on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God. And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old. As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in.

Were there any other giant killers around?

2 Samuel 21: 15 to 22 - Moreover the Philistines had yet war again with Israel; and David went down, and his servants with him, and fought against the Philistines: and David waxed faint. And Ishbibenob, which was of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose spear weighed three hundred shekels of brass in weight, he being girded with a new sword, thought to have slain David. But Abishai the son of Zeruiah succoured him, and smote the Philistine, and killed him. Then the men of David swore unto him, saying, Thou shalt go no more out with us to battle, that thou quench not the light of Israel. And it came to pass after this, that there was again a battle with the Philistines at Gob: then Sibbechai the Hushathite slew Saph, which was of the sons of the giant. And there was again a battle in Gob with the Philistines, where Elhanan the son of Jaareoregim, a Bethlehemite, slew the brother of Goliath the Gittite, the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam. And there was yet a battle in Gath, where was a man of great stature, that had on every hand six fingers, and on every foot six toes, four and twenty in number; and he also was born to the giant. And when he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimea the brother of David slew him. These four were born to the giant in Gath, and fell by the hand of David, and by the hand of his servants.

Would there be any similarities between David and Samson? The lust of the eyes lead to the lusts of the flesh. David has one notable event; his relationship with Bathsheba. How did it all start?

The accounts can be found in 2 Samuel 11 and 1 Chronicles 20.

The pivotal moment came when David refused to go out to battle, and stayed home. What happened after this was not a simple result of happy hormones; there was a number of deliberate choices that were made.

So let us look at what transpired.

David was derelict in his duty, and not in battle.

Bathsheba was openly bathing, for anyone to see.

David seeing her, lusted after her in his heart.

Instead of fleeing youthful lusts, he violates his privileges as king in summoning her. When a beautiful woman's husband has gone away, and a powerful man calls for her at midnight; it's not for choir practise.

Where were the king's advisers? Did none of them object?

Bathsheba becomes pregnant.

She hides it from her husband, and confides in the king.

David tries to cover it up, and involves others in the conspiracy to kill Uriah, one of his mighty men. And other soldiers are killed along with Uriah.

David marries Bathsheba, trying to legitimize his actions.

David, like Saul refuses to seriously repent. After David still refuses to seriously repent, God sends Nathan to challenge him.

David pronounces judgement on himself. When Nathan states in 2 Samuel 12:7, "Thou art the man", David is convicted, and repents. Psalm 51

His sins are forgiven, but his punishment travels down the family line.

And the child dies.

Not seriously repenting is only a religious game that impresses people, but does nothing with God.

1 Samuel 28: 6 - And when Saul enquired of the LORD, the LORD answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by Urim, nor by prophets.

1 Chronicles 10: 13 & 14 - So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, even against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it ; And enquired not of the LORD: therefore he slew him, and turned the kingdom unto David the son of Jesse.

Saul played the game and it didn't get him anywhere, because his heart was not right before God.

Our Lord exposes the same thing later on.

Luke 18: 11 to 14 - The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are , extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Later David has Israel enumerated against God's law. For punishment, the option he chooses has at least 70,000 die. However God in mercy spares

the rest. Now some would say that the devil made them do it.

And even quote 1 Chronicles 21: 1 - And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

But that's a cop-out. Human beings are supposed to have brains, and the ability to use them. However it's amazing how many refuse to use their intellect, and are provoked into action by their emotions.

James 1: 13 to 15 - Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

James has a good chronology of events, and it behooves believers to study it seriously. Then we will be aware of when it is happening to us. Then, as the Holy Spirit warns us, we can stop before it goes too far. But it requires a strong character or integrity, like Joseph, to refuse the devil's advances. How much more would have Samson have accomplished if he had stayed away from brothels?

To-day, people run the whole gamut; from denial to going hog-wild.

In the world, mental health practitioners tell people that they are alright; everyone else is the problem.

In the Church, they tell them that because they are born-again, their new man can't sin. And when you combine that with hyper-faith; there is nothing they won't do to satisfy their sinful nature; claiming its OK, because God understands.

Psalms 19: 13 - Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins ; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

Romans 6: 1 & 2 - What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

Actually, the entire chapter of Romans 6 should be studied, and prayerfully reflected on.

There are also many good books to help you. I've recently finished 2 excellent ones. "Mortification of Sin in Believers" by John Owen, and "Except Ye Repent" by Harry A. Ironside

What exactly does the Bible say about our new man?

Ephesians 4: 17 to 32 - This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto

lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. But ye have not so learned Christ; If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Colossians 3: 8 to 11 - But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.

Doesn't Paul make it sound so simple? How did he do?

Romans 7: 14 to 25 - For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Then there's original sin and actual sin.

Hebrews 8, 9 & 10 are excellent chapters dealing with sin and what Our Lord Jesus Christ did with His Shed Blood.

A quick summation is in Colossians 1: 12 to 18 - Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

So the penalty for sin was paid in the shedding of the Blood of the only sinless and perfect man ever alive; The Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, on Calvary's Cross. And His sacrifice was accepted by Our Heavenly Father. Hebrews 10: 12 - But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

But everyone born has this sin nature. What can be done to attain the benefits of Christ's Sacrifice. Our Lord Jesus explains this to Nicodemus in John 3: 3 - Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

In fact, I would encourage you to re-study the whole chapter as well.

So becoming born-again, by confessing our sins and accepting Jesus Christ as Our Lord and Saviour, does away with the effects of original sin on us.

1 Peter 2: 9 & 10 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

Acts 26: 18 - To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, & from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, & inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

So the problem is not with our new man; as our spirit is cleaned up and sealed. Ephesians 1: 13 & 14 - In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Under the Old Covenant, when people had problems, like David; what could they do? They had the Scriptures to guide them; so if they could only walk them out in faith.

1 Samuel 15: 22 - And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

How successful were God's people in obeying God's Law?

And what help was there for them, when they were assailed by demons?

1 Samuel 16: 23 - And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

As Saul wanted help, he got some relief, if only temporary.

But when people do not want help, what happens?

1 Samuel 19: 9 & 10 - And the evil spirit from the LORD was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand. And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.

2 Samuel 11: 4 - And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house.

So what happens when sins are committed? We first have to realize what has happened, and not to be in denial. Romans 6: 15 - What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

1 Thessalonians 5: 19 - Quench not the Spirit.

Ephesians 4: 30 - And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

If people continually ignore the Holy Spirit, soon He will not be noticeable in their lives.

So how often do sins need to be confessed? Basicly, as soon as they are realized. And believers need to have the attitude of the publican.

Luke 18: 13 & 14 - And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Our Lord Jesus did leave us an example.

Matthew 6: 12 - And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Under the New Covenant, things are a lot better for us.

1 Corinthians 10: 13 - There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted

above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it .

Pastor Win had a comparison between being tempted, and sinning.

Whereas, we can't stop the birds from flying over our head; we don't have to let them build nests in our hair.

So the question is; is our love for Our Lord Jesus Christ fervent enough to keep us out of trouble?

James 4: 1 to 10 - From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord & he shall lift you up. There is an example in the New Testament, of someone who desperately wanted to get free. Luke 8: 26 to 33 - And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee. And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not. (For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.) And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him. And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep. And there was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they besought him that he would suffer them to enter into them. And he suffered them. Then went the devils out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked.

Now there is another aspect that we need to watch out for.

And John the Baptist brings it to our attention.

Matthew 3: 7 to 9 - But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

Luke 3: 7 & 8 - Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance. What an interesting concept. There is supposed to be a difference between Christians and the world. Remember Pastor Win used to say, "No change; no salvation".

Also Finney in his revival meetings used to preach on repentance often.

Sometimes people would complain about it, and he would answer, that when they got that correct, he would move on to other issues.

Peter had an encounter with such a person at Samaria. Acts 8: 9 to 22 - But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries. But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be

forgiven thee.

Did you catch the key verse? Acts 8: 21 - Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

You see; Simon Magus went through all the motions; he believed, and he was baptized; but his heart was not right before God.

That's why Paul's statement in Romans 10 is so important.

Romans 10: 9 & 10 - That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

So there has to be a change in heart attitude, combined with a verbal profession; or no salvation. Watch out; because talk is cheap.

And if there's no change in behaviour; there's no salvation.

Did Our Lord Jesus Christ say anything about it?

Matthew 22: 11 to 14 - And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.

Matthew 25: 1 to 13 - Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, Not so ; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

Doesn't it reinforce what Our Lord Jesus says in Matthew 7: 21 - Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

But aren't we a lot better off under the New Covenant?

Whereas under the Old Covenant, Davids and Samuels were few and far between; under the New Covenant, every believer is expected to be like them.

Revelation 1: 6 - And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 2: 9 to 12 - But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

Again, every believer is expected to be a giant killer; not just a chosen few.

So how do we do it?

Mark 16: 15 to 18 - And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Most of the Church world, like Saul and his army, don't accept this; and so they stand around paralysed with fear, and living defeated lives.

And the devil will try everything he can to trip you up; so you will be relegated to the ranks of the ex-giant killers.

And Paul's final advice to Timothy, is just as applicable to us to-day.

2 Timothy 2: 3 & 4 - Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

Pastor T. John Franklin

Church of Salvation, Healing, and Deliverance

COS-HAD.org