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# The Giant Slayers, Part I (Spiritual Warfare)

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## Vision in The Land of Giants

Pastor Wil Nichols

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***Sermon: Vision in The Land of Giants: The Giant Slayers, Part I (Spiritual Warfare)***

***Lesson Text***

1 Samuel 17:1–4 (AV)<sup>1</sup> Now the Philistines gathered together their armies to battle, and were gathered together at Shochoh, which *belongeth* to Judah, and pitched between Shochoh and Azekah, in Ephesdammim. <sup>2</sup> And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and pitched by the valley of Elah, and set the battle in array against the Philistines. <sup>3</sup> And the Philistines stood on a mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side: and *there was* a valley between them. <sup>4</sup> And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height *was* six cubits and a span. **(9 feet and 9 inches)**

1 Samuel 17:24–26 (AV)<sup>24</sup> And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid. <sup>25</sup> And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, *that* the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father’s house free in Israel. <sup>26</sup> And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who *is* this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

2 Corinthians 10:3–4 (AV)<sup>3</sup> For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: <sup>4</sup> (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

***Introduction***

So far in this series, “Vision in the Land of Giants”, we’ve explored the fact that our Vision and Promises are behind walled up cities to stop us, and possessed by Giants to intimidate us.

We’ve learned that we are “Well Able;” we are “On the Lord’s Side;” we must “Tear Down These Walls;” and we must “Overcome The Dangers of Success (The Seducing Spirits).”

Let’s now take the fight to these Giants; let’s become “GIANT SLAYERS!”

1 Samuel 17: <sup>26</sup> ... **for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?**

To understand this defiance, let’s do a deep dive into the origin of Giants:

- Isaiah 14:12–13 (AV)<sup>12</sup> How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *how* art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! <sup>13</sup> For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:
- When Lucifer was cast out of heaven, he took a third of the angels with him.
- Revelation 12: <sup>4</sup> And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: ...

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- Genesis 6: <sup>1</sup> And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, <sup>2</sup> That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they *were* fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose... <sup>4</sup> There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare *children* to them, the same *became* mighty men which *were* of old, men of renown. <sup>5</sup> And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.
- These Giants were evil abominations with the evil intent of defying the Will of God!

Today we begin our battle against the Spiritual Giants that defy the Will of God for our lives.

Our Spiritual Giants can include wicked people, spiritual strongholds, addictions, works of the flesh, emotional strongholds, anger, bitterness, betrayal, brokenness, sin, doubt, and more.

Now our lesson text shows us three basic tools of Giants: Intimidation, Fear, and Defiance; all of which are unclean spirits.

Most people lose the battle against their Giants because they are fighting the wrong war with the wrong weapons.

But if we use our spiritual weapons against these Giants, we can become Giant Slayers!

### ***Series and Sermon: Vision in The Land of Giants: The Giant Slayers, Part I (Spiritual Warfare)***

“Defeating the Spirit of Intimation, Defeating the Spirit of Fear, and Defeating the Spirit of Defiance”

#### ***I. Defeating The Spirit of Intimidation (Stand Up To Your Giants)***

1 Samuel 17: <sup>4</sup> And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height *was* six cubits and a span. **(9 feet and 9 inches)**

In order to defeat the Giants, we must war against the Spirit of Intimidation.

Intimidation means to frighten or overawe (someone), especially in order to make them do what one wants. It is about Pressuring, Bullying, Coercing, or Terrorizing.

The Spirit of Intimidation is not actually about the fight, it is about defeating you without a fight. Giants, if anything, are nothing but bullies who use intimidation to defy the Will of God.

If you recall when we started this series, we learned how the first generation of the Children of Israel that left Egypt never experienced the Promise Land because they were intimidated.

- Numbers 13: <sup>31</sup> But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they *are* stronger than we... <sup>33</sup> And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, *which come* of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

An entire generation went back into the wilderness and wandered for 40 years until they died.

Mexican revolutionary leader Emiliano Zapata said, “It would be better to die on your feet, than to live on your knees.”

The Spirit of Intimidation in Giants is defeated like any other bully: You Stand Up to them!

Stand Up by Resisting Them: James 4: <sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Stand Up by Putting on God’s Armor: Ephesians 6: <sup>10</sup> Finally my brethren be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

## ***II. Defeating The Spirit of Fear (Don’t React, Respond To Your Giants)***

1 Samuel 17: <sup>24</sup> And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

The second thing we must war against in dealing with Giants is the Spirit of Fear.

Fear is a powerful emotion that causes us to enter into the “Fight or Flight” response. For most people, like the men in our lesson text, they react to fear by running. But for others, they respond to it like David by fighting.

Now fear, in and of itself, is not a negative thing; it is actually a natural reaction to something that is threatening. And Giants use their threat of danger to cause us to react and run.

But generally, the reaction to fear is based on something that has actually not happened. Therefore, their reaction is literally the acronym F.E.A.R: False Evidence Appearing Real.

2 Timothy 1: <sup>7</sup> For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

We must not let the Spirit of Fear cause us to React by Running, but to Respond by Fighting; and the way we fight is through the Spiritual Weapon of Faith. (Don’t React, Respond)

Courage is not the absence of Fear; it is Fear that has said its Prayers!

Matthew 17: Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? <sup>20</sup> And Jesus said unto them, **Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.** <sup>21</sup> Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

1 Timothy 6: <sup>12</sup> (AV) <sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

### ***III. Defeating The Spirit of Defiance (Defy Your Giants)***

1 Samuel 17: <sup>26</sup> And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? **for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?**

To War Against our Giants, we must:

- Defeat The Spirit of Intimidation by Standing up to our Giants
- Defeat The Spirit of Fear by Responding to our Giants
- Defeat the Spirit of Defiance by Defying our Giants.

To defy means to openly resist, refuse to obey. Our Giants want us to be intimidated, to run in fear, and defy the will of God for our lives. But we must be like David who defied the Giants defiance: “Who is the Uncircumcised Giant that he should defy the armies of the living God?”

I’m reminded of a story that I heard from Prophetess Janet Floyd. She told of a client of hers who had turned state’s evidence against a gangster. The gangster put out word that he was coming to kill her client. But he wasn’t intimidated, nor did he run into hiding out of fear.

Instead, he defied the gangster by sending word back to him saying, “I’m a killer too!”

As Christians, we must tell every Giant that defies us, “I’m a killer too!” “I’m a Giant Slayer!”

Our Giants come with F.E.A.R., False Evidence Appearing Real; but we come with F.A.I.T.H., “Full Assurance In Trusting Him!”

“Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine. Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine. Heir of salvation, purchase of God. Born of His spirit, washed in His blood.”

We Defy our Giants because we have Full Assurance In Trusting Him.

- Job 13: <sup>15</sup> Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: but I will maintain mine own ways before him.
- 1 John 4: <sup>4</sup> Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.
- 2 Kings 6: <sup>16</sup> And he answered, Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they that *be* with them.
- Philippians 4: <sup>13</sup> I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.
- Rom 8: <sup>37</sup> Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.
- Isaiah 54: <sup>17</sup> No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue *that* shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* of me, saith the LORD.

“I’m A Killer Too!” “I’m A Giant Slayer with FAITH!”

# The Giant Slayers, Part I (Spiritual Warfare)

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## Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: The Giant Slayers, Part I (Spiritual Warfare))

### Lesson Text

- 1 Samuel 17:1–4, 1 Samuel 17:24–26, 2 Corinthians 10:3–4

### Sermon Outline (Notes)

#### I. *Defeating The Spirit of Intimidation (Stand Up To Your Giants)*

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#### II. *Defeating The Spirit of Fear (Don't React, Respond To Your Giants)*

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#### III. *Defeating The Spirit of Defiance (Defy Your Giants)*

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### Questions (What was your main takeaway from Sunday's Sermon?)

#### I. Getting to Know "Me"

1. What emotions have you experienced during the pandemic? a) anxiety; b) stressed; c) isolated; d) apprehensive; e) none of the above, if so what emotions have you experienced?
2. During the pandemic, I have: a) spent more time with the Lord; b) decluttered my entire house; c) taken up a new hobby; d) learned more technology; e) none of the above.

#### II. Into the Bible

1. In 2 Corinthians 10:4, the Greek word translated as "holds" [strongholds], is defined as the arguments and reasonings on which a disputant endeavors to fortify his opinion and defend it against his opponent. How had the Israelites fortified their opinion of Goliath?
2. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 tells the believer, 1) that our weapons are not carnal and 2) how to pull down strongholds. Where is the battle for the believer today? Does today's believer have an advantage over the Old Testament Israelites? What are those advantages? Are believers guaranteed to win?

#### III. Life Application

1. Which tactic has the giant opposing you been using, intimidation, fear or defiance of God's will? Use the sermon to create your response plan including supporting Scripture.
2. What Scriptures will you rely on to let your adversary know that in Christ you are a giant killer?