



NSD

NEWSLETTER

Sunday, March 9, 2008

BIBLE STUDY..... 10 a.m.
“Gospel of Luke”

MORNING WORSHIP..... 11 a.m.
“Wrong Place to Be”
Ron Adams

EVENING SERVICE..... 6 p.m.
TBA
Dan Austin

WEDNESDAY MEETING..... 7 p.m.
“World (Kosmos)”

... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. Col 3:16

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

Psalm 91:1-6 (ESV)

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;

Our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;

His craft and pow'r are great, and, armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Martin Luther

News & Notes

Please keep our service men, **Logan Harper** who is in the Middle East and **Sam Barton** who is preparing for deployment to the Middle East, in your prayers.

Also continue to pray for **Martha Holloway**, **Samantha Wilson** and the **Covalt family**.

The handouts for Wednesday's class on "World (Kosmos)" are on the cabinet in the back.

For those of you who would like to send cards to our visitors, completed visitor cards are filed by month in the file box located on the desk in the back. For your convenience, cards and envelopes are also on the desk .

NORTH SAN DIEGO CHURCH OF CHRIST

7090 Miramar Road 102, San Diego, California 92121

P.O. Box 721513, San Diego, CA 92172-1513

858.578.0734

ELDERS: Dan Austin, Robyn Hamilton, Ron Adams **DEACONS:** Matt Wells **MINISTER:** Ron Adams

<http://nsdca.com>

where the Bible is the source of faith, where Jesus is Lord, where Christianity is a way of life!

How to Slay a Giant

by Mike Wilson

The battle of David and Goliath is one of the best-known stories in all the Bible. A champion, Goliath, came out of the Philistine camp every day for 40 days, defying the Israelite army to send him a worthy opponent. This Philistine giant was about 9 feet 9 inches tall and wore at least 150 pounds of armor. Confident in the superiority of his equipment and his extraordinary natural strength, he proposes a winner-take-all contest. There were no takers!

Young David was sent by his father to deliver some roasted grain, loaves of bread and cheese to his brothers and their commander on the battlefield. It was on this battlefield that David's life took a very different turn, and it would never be the same. The ultimate outcome, however, did not occur by accident. David did four things that are timelessly instructive to the young and the *young at heart*.

1. **He took advantage of his opportunity.** We know David as a shepherd, a musician, a psalmist, a warrior and a king. But the doorway to a successful career as a man of God opened up to him in the valley of Elah. Observing firsthand Goliath's psychological warfare and intimidation, David asked, "What will 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 taunt the armies of the living God?" (I Sam. 17:26). No one ever accomplishes anything of note if he doesn't take advantage of his opportunities. The cowardice of the Israelite armed forces, including King Saul, was an open door for David. The same shepherd boy who had slain a lion and a bear would say to the king, "This uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them..." (17:32).
2. **He did not allow his youth to deter him.** David's older brother, Eliab, spoke with disdain: "Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your insolence and the wickedness of your heart; for you have come down in order to see the battle" (17:28). Other detractors might have said, "Oh, he's young and inexperienced. This is just youthful exuberance." Even today, young people in the church will naturally defer to older people who are in positions of influence, but that doesn't mean they don't have anything to offer. A young godly person can make a huge difference!
3. **He saw the victory before the battle was fought.** One can detect no trace of fear in David's voice throughout this episode. On the contrary, his courage is infectious. He informed the king, "Let no man's heart fail on account of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine" (17:32). When the battle finally ensued, Goliath gave him a verbal barrage: "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" (14:43). Just as *trash talking* is an ugly part of modern sports, it was part of ancient battle etiquette. One gets the impression, nevertheless, that Goliath was genuinely offended by the handsome, unintimidating youth who stood before him. *Is this the best the Israelites have to offer?* On the contrary, David stood his ground and engaged the giant verbally, but he did not boast in the deadly marksmanship of his slingshot. "You have come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts... for the battle is the LORD's and He will give you into our hands" (17:45,47).
4. **He was moved by a greater purpose.** David tells his opponent that the immanent victory had a higher aim: "that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel" (17:46). Young David was moved by the vindication of God's name to an ignorant world. Does it pain you to think of how many of your friends and neighbors do not know God? If so, then what will *you* do about it? David wasn't going to sit on the sidelines while an uncircumcised Philistine defied the armies of the living God! When the truth of God moves a person to righteous indignation and absolute trust, as well as concern for the lost souls of other people, he will no longer be able to tremble in silence. Instead, he will rise up and act! Like Isaiah, he will say, "Here am I, send me." How does the story end? "Thus David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and he struck the Philistine and killed him" (17:50). The rest, as they say, is history.