

King David Part 3: A New King Rises Up

Turn to Acts 2

In the previous two teachings, we learned about the purpose of the Hebrew Bible. In addition, it needs to be stated that these records regarding the kings of Israel and this teaching series is NOT training or instruction for contemporary leadership of any kind. If you want to find spiritual instruction from the Bible for contemporary Christian leadership, you would do better to study the life of the apostle Paul. Religious and secular corporate leaders have very little in common with the leadership of a monarch in ancient times. Even modern military leaders have little in common with the leadership of an ancient king. Christians serving within the body of Christ certainly have nothing in common with the leadership of a king.

In the previous teaching, David had been selected as the king of Israel. Although the previous king continued to retain power, David was the king that God selected and recognized. As David walked by the spirit, he came to the attention of the king, who took him into his service.

In Acts, there is recorded some additional information about the selection of David. Here in chapter 2, the apostle Peter is preaching on the day of Pentecost.

Acts 2:25

25 For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;

26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope.

27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption.

28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

29 “Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

30 Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne,

31 he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption.

In addition to being selected as the king of Israel, David is also a prophet, a spokesman for God, an Agent of God. Unlike Samuel, basically no one in Israel knows about the selection of David as a king or as a prophet.

Turn to 1 Samuel 17

Therefore, David faces some peculiar challenges. He must take over the reigns of government and consolidate his power over the nation of Israel in order to rule. However, he cannot do this by promoting himself; he would be over-powered and destroyed by the current king. It is not God's will to have a civil war, either. No, David will be established as king as God guides him. This requires David to walk by the spirit and exercise much wisdom; his life and the life of his family depends upon him walking by the spirit.

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1 Samuel 17:1

1 Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle. And they were gathered at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim.

2 And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered, and encamped in the Valley of Elah, and drew up in line of battle against the Philistines.

3 And the Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with a valley between them.

4 And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath of Gath, whose height was six (*four*) cubits and a span (*greater than 6 feet*).

5 He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze (*about 125 pounds*).

6 And he had bronze armor on his legs, and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders.

7 The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron. And his shield-bearer went before him.

8 He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me.

9 If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us."

Goliath was acting as an agent for the army of the Philistines. He challenged the army of Israel to send out an agent to represent them.

1 Samuel 17:10

10 And the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day. Give me a man, that we may fight together."

11 When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

As we learned before, Saul had not endured. He had been defeated by years of chronic evil spiritual pressure brought against him. The result was that he had rejected the word of God and had been rejected as king; he lost the holy spirit and the inspired wisdom which it had supplied. Instead, now the entire army was held captive and enslaved by fear, just by hearing the words of Goliath.

Back in 1 Samuel 10:1, Samuel had told Saul that "...you shall reign over the people of the Lord and you will save them from the hand of their surrounding enemies". The king was to be in the front lines, leading the army into battle against whatever enemy showed up to fight. Saul has lost the ability to do this. Likewise, the army has lost its ability to fend off the attack from one man.

The devil spirits that ruled the Philistines knew that Saul and the army of Israel was weak. Their stated aim was to enslave the entire nation of Israel.

So, the two armies remained in stalemate for some time.

1 Samuel 17:12

12 Now David was the son of an Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah, named Jesse, who had eight sons. In the days of Saul the man was already old and advanced in years.

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1 Samuel 17:13

13 The three oldest sons of Jesse had followed Saul to the battle. And the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

14 David was the youngest. The three eldest followed Saul,

15 but David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

16 For forty days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and evening.

David and his three oldest brothers were all in the service of king Saul. His three brothers were in the army. When he was not serving Saul, David continued to take care of his father's sheep at home; he began to commute between two jobs. In spite of being God's anointed, David did not quit his day job – he had not had any guidance for that yet.

1 Samuel 17:17

17 And Jesse said to David his son, “Take for your brothers an ephah of this parched grain, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to your brothers.

18 Also take these ten cheeses to the commander of their thousand. See if your brothers are well, and bring some token from them.”

19 Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.

20 And David rose early in the morning and left the sheep with a keeper and took the provisions and went, as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the encampment as the host was going out to the battle line, shouting the war cry.

21 And Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army.

22 And David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage and ran to the ranks and went and greeted his brothers.

23 As he talked with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.

24 All the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were much afraid.

David continues to honor his father and to be obedient to him. He makes sure that the sheep are taken care of before setting out to see his brothers. Once he has found his brothers, he hears the challenge of Goliath and witnesses the fear which enslaves the entire army.

1 Samuel 17:25

25 And the men of Israel said, “Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel. And the king will enrich the man who kills him with great riches and will give him his daughter and make his father's house free in Israel.”

26 And David said to the men who stood by him, “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?”

27 And the people answered him in the same way, “So shall it be done to the man who kills him.”

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As a king, David knows that he must be able to lead and inspire the men of the army to risk their lives and fight for him. Being a young lad there is nothing much inspiring about him, but he is inspired by the holy spirit upon him. These are the first recorded, inspired words of David.

The men of the army are talking among themselves, concentrating on “this man”, his defiance of Israel, and the reward of the king to anyone who can deliver the army out of this one mans hands.

David simply asks two questions which remind the men around him of the spiritual realities of their lives. The Philistine is an unbelieving man who is a reproach to Israel and has no right to defy the armies of the living God. This army is of Israel who is serving the Living God, not idols like these unbelievers. Asking these questions is a simple, effective way of presenting the truth without accusing anyone.

The king will do three things for the man that delivers the army from this enemy. First, the man will be enriched with great riches. Second, the man will become the son-in-law of the king. Third, the man's family will be free from the king's tax and from service to the king. In short, that man and his family will have it made from then on!

David found out that all of this information was known by the army, but it was not enough to motivate anyone to effectively take on Goliath. It did not heal the fear. This army was under two kinds of attacks; a spiritual attack from the spirits that had gained a foot-hold through Saul. These spirits were responsible for weakening and enslaving the army to fear. These spirits were to weaken the army to make them susceptible to the second attack. The second attack was a physical attack from the armies of the Philistines against the weakened, fearful army of Israel.

By his words, Goliath stirred up the spirits of fear throughout the army of Israel. Goliath is the agent who holds the mental doors open to the spirits of fear. David initiates a stand against this spiritual attack, by his words.

1 Samuel 17:28

28 Now Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke to the men. And Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, “Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your presumption and the evil of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle.”

29 And David said, “What have I done now? Was it not but a word?” (*I'm just asking questions!*)

30 And he turned away from him toward another, and spoke in the same way, and the people answered him again as before.

Now his oldest brother gets angry with David and accuses him of having evil in his heart. He knew who David was, but family habits die hard. David did not let this stop him. Most important of all, David knew he was God's anointed. He was not going to let someones anger steal this away from him. He would not succumb to the temptation to fear.

1 Samuel 17:31

31 When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul, and he sent for him.

David's two inspired questions are in such contrast to the common talk of the army, so remarkable, so powerful, that his words travel all the way to the king's ears. Saul's situation is so desperate that he sends for the man who asked the questions. When David arrives, he does not have to wait in line behind

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the others who have volunteered to take on this challenge.

1 Samuel 17:32

32 And David said to Saul, “Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.”

In this verse we have some remarkable insight into David. He is not there before the king to become a hero or to promote himself. He is aware of the needs of the king and soldiers in the army. Their hearts were failing because of their fear of the Philistine. God had given David the inspiration to do something about their needs. So, he was willing to move with spiritual wisdom and believing to accomplish what God directed.

David did not ask for this job, he never asked to be chosen of God or to be the king.

Nevertheless, he laid aside his personal life and took on this awesome challenge.

David understands that the army is so locked down by fear that he will have to be the one to take on Goliath, the army of the enemy and the spiritual fear which has enslaved the army of Israel. This is God's remedy; David is not some fool-hardy youth making an impulsive decision. He is not just being foolishly brave, he is inspired. The spiritual inspiration has enabled him to boldly inform Saul of the solution to the challenge that confronts them.

He addresses Saul and instructs him what to do - “...Let no man's heart fail because of him.”

Next, he tells the acting king why; because he David will go and fight the Philistine. He does not ask for permission, as his heavenly Father has already given him the go-ahead.

Thus David begins to minister deliverance, first to Saul and then to the entire army!

1 Samuel 17:33

33 And Saul said to David, “You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth.”

Saul is incredulous – how could this young impetuous youth battle the hardened giant warrior?

1 Samuel 17:34

34 But David said to Saul, “Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock,

35 I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him.

36 Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God.”

This is the first recorded prophecy with foretelling, by David. It is spoken to the acting king of Israel, to his servants and to the evil spirits which were troubling the army. This is the first foretelling of the death of Goliath.

David is not totally without fighting experience. He has had hand-to-hand combat with the wild beasts of the field who came against the flock. Have you ever tried to take food out of the mouth of a hungry dog or cat? It is not a pleasant experience! Well, David took the food out of the mouths of these hungry lions and bears. If the wild beast rose up against him, David attacked the animal, killing it with just his hands. To him, this unbelieving Philistine is another wild beast. David will deliver the army, unscathed, from this wild beast.

Note that David said that he USED to keep sheep. Mentally, he is no longer a keeper of sheep, he is

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now taking on his calling as God's anointed King.
His prophecy continues.

1 Samuel 17:37

37 And David said, "The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you!"

Not only will David fight with and kill the Philistine, the Lord will also deliver David from the hand of the Philistine. This is David's second prophetic foretelling. This prophecy overcame Saul's objections and he permitted David to go. This is a highly significant and risky decision for the king to make, because in effect, David becomes the agent of the acting king and the army.

1 Samuel 17:38

38 Then Saul clothed David with his armor. He put a helmet of bronze on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail,

39 and David strapped his sword over his armor. And he tried in vain to go, for he had not tested them. Then David said to Saul, "I cannot go with these, for I have not tested them." So David put them off.

40 Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch. His sling was in his hand, and he approached the Philistine.

Remember the armor that Goliath was clothed with? All David has is a few rocks, a leather sling and his wooden staff. Yet he approached the Philistine without fear.

1 Samuel 17:41

41 And the Philistine moved forward and came near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. (*Not only is there this large man, but there is the shield-bearer. It's two against one!*)

42 And when the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was but a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance.

43 And the Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.

44 The Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field."

Goliath was highly insulted by the appearance of this youth who had no armor or sword or spear. Dogs were regarded as one of the lowest animals in their culture. Then Goliath proceeded to attempt to invoke evil spiritual power against David; he attempted to put David under a curse. Next Goliath foretold David's future.

Now, David speaks this remarkable prophecy to his enemies.

1 Samuel 17:45

45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and 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.

The prophecy makes a distinction between this enemy which is attacking with overwhelming physical

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resources and David, the believer, an agent of God, the anointed king of Israel, and an agent of the acting king of Israel. David is attacking the Philistine in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel.

1 Samuel 17:46

46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head.

(This is the second time the defeat and death of Goliath is prophesied. This defeat is established and it will happen in a short period of time. Isn't this what David came to do? Isn't this enough? No, there is more!)

And I will give the dead bodies (*plural*) of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, (*why?*) that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel,

47 and that all this assembly may know that (*I am king or I am a great one? NO!*) the Lord saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hand.”

What David is doing is all about God and HIS deliverance. It is not about David, who is just the ministering agent.

David is quickly acquiring the vision that God has for the nation of Israel. He now has a working knowledge of the vision for the immediate situation, a national vision and an international vision. The vision for the immediate situation is the death of Goliath which closes the door to the spirits of error and fear. Then the utter annihilation of the Philistine army.

The vision for the army of Israel is that they know and understand that the battle is the Lord's. Whether there is an abundance or lack of physical resources God fights for and delivers his people. This knowledge corrects the damage done by the spirits of error and fear.

The national and international vision is that the entire earth will know and understand that there is a living, effective, powerful God in Israel.

Since he is God's anointed, an agent of God and an agent of the acting king, he can say that “...he (God) will give you (Goliath and his army) into OUR (*plural*) hand”.

That is the third time that Goliath's defeat is prophesied and the second time that the annihilation of the Philistine army is prophesied.

Remember, all this is going on in public view of the two armies gathered there to fight.

1 Samuel 17:48

48 When the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine.

Note the difference in the actions of David in comparison with the actions of the soldiers in verse 24; if they simply saw Goliath, they ran away in great fear. David did not run away from his enemies, he ran towards them.

1 Samuel 17:49

49 And David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine on his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the ground.

Some say that the stone hit Goliath in the knee, which is why he fell forward, on his face. Whichever it

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was, the rock put him on the ground, unable to resist David.

1 Samuel 17:50

50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. There was no sword in the hand of David.

51 Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him and cut off his head with it. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.

Although David had no weapons, all the physical resources he needed to follow through with the will of God were there at hand, supplied by the enemy.

So, the Philistine lied! (*imagine that!*) He said that the Philistines would be the slaves of Israel if someone could kill him (Goliath). Instead the enemy panicked and ran.

1 Samuel 17:52

52 And the men of Israel and Judah rose with a shout and pursued the Philistines as far as Gath and the gates of Ekron, so that the wounded Philistines fell on the way from Shaaraim as far as Gath and Ekron.

This act of David not only killed the Philistine champion, it resulted in the expulsion of the spirits of bondage and error that had infected the army of Israel. The mental doors to the spiritual attack were completely closed! The army was finally unbound, delivered from bondage and able to move; and move they did. The army of Israel did their best to finish the job and annihilate the enemy.

1 Samuel 17:53

53 And the people of Israel came back from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their camp.

54 And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent.

David, as God's anointed has a problem. There is already an acting king of Israel who was still in charge. If David is ever going to take over the kingdom of Israel and take on the responsibilities of his calling, the children of Israel will have to believe that God has chosen him to be king. How to proceed without causing a civil war or his own death? David dared not promote himself.

This event demonstrates God's solution. It shows how God would work with David and the nation to make David known as king. It is the works that David would do that would authenticate his calling as king and as a prophet.

David's calling by God is accompanied by the enablements of God to perform His calling. Holy spirit upon David included the authority, permission and the power to carry out what God had called him to do.

Turn to Ezekiel

Today, in the same manner, the gift of holy spirit from God, born within a man, woman, boy or girl embodies the authority, permission and power to carry out our calling as agents of Jesus Christ who is

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the only begotten son of God. We have been given the authority, permission and power to carry out His will, His solutions as he guides and instructs us.

That having been said, do not get the idea that you have to do notable deeds worthy of a “Hollywood” movie in order to validate your calling. We carry out God's solutions as God guides and directs, whatever that may be.

In Luke 7, Jesus is speaking about John the baptist.

Luke 7:26

26 What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

27 This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.”

28 I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

Jesus declared that John was the greatest of the old testament prophets.

John 10:41

40 He (*Jesus*) went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained.

41 And many came to him (*Jesus*). And they said, “John did no sign (*or miracle*), but everything that John said about this man was true.”

42 And many believed in him there.

John was the greatest of the old testament prophets and yet he did not do any signs or miracles. However, John did what God directed him to do by way of holy spirit that was upon him. John obeyed the spiritual instructions by spiritual believing.

Lets examine another record of a man of God, a prophet who is to speak as God's Agent to the house of Israel. In chapters 2 and 3, Ezekiel is called of God. God is informing him of his mission; we will look at just a couple of verses here.

Ezekiel 2:1

1 And he said to me, “Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you.”

2 And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.

3 And he said to me, “Son of man, I send you to the people of Israel, to nations of rebels, who have rebelled against me. They and their fathers have transgressed against me to this very day.

When he was called, he received holy spirit upon him so that he could receive the spiritual guidance and carry out the guidance with spiritual believing and power. He was sent to the believers of that day, God's people who were rebelling.

Ezekiel 2:7

7 And you shall speak **my words** to them, whether they hear or refuse to hear, for they are a rebellious house.

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Ezekiel was to speak God's Words to the believers, regardless of their response.

Ezekiel 3:22

22 And the hand of the Lord was upon me there. And he said to me, "Arise, go out into the valley, and there I will speak with you."

23 So I arose and went out into the valley, and behold, the glory of the Lord stood there, like the glory that I had seen by the Chebar canal, and I fell on my face.

24 But the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and he spoke with me and said to me, "Go, shut yourself within your house.

25 And you, O son of man, behold, cords will be placed upon you, and you shall be bound with them, so that you cannot go out among the people.

26 And I will make your tongue cling to the roof of your mouth, so that you shall be mute and unable to reprove them, for they are a rebellious house.

27 But when I speak with you, I will open your mouth, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God.' He who will hear, let him hear; and he who will refuse to hear, let him refuse, for they are a rebellious house.

Ezekiel was sent to the house of Israel to speak the revealed Word of God to them, as he was directed. Yet, here in chapter 3, Ezekiel is directed to shut up; in fact as he follows the guidance, he will be mute, unable to speak for a time.

The point is this – when Ezekiel was directed to speak, he spoke with spiritual believing and power. When Ezekiel was told to shut up, he shut up by spiritual believing and power. Both actions had a powerful spiritual impact, both actions carried out the will of God.

Walking by the spirit is done for the purpose of carrying out God's will, not your will or my will or someone else's will. Whatever it is that you are guided to do, regardless what you or the world thinks of it, it is highly important. So, carry out your calling, your assignments with spiritual believing and power. That is what will bring about God's will.