

1 Sam 17:1-11
"Faith Is Greater
than Fear"

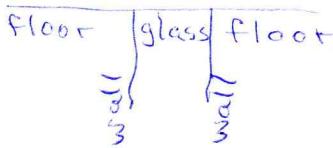
Sun School
2-12-2023

1. Introduction

- a. Math constant $\text{Faith} \propto \frac{k}{\text{Fear}}$
- b. Goliath is champion of Philistine army
- c. Battleground is Valley of Elah between Philistines & Israel
- d. Goliath was a giant of a man
 - height = 6 cubits + 1 span (over 8 feet)
 - coat of mail = 5000 shekels (122 LB)
 - iron spearhead = 600 shekels (15 LB)
- e. Fear has elements of worry & anxiety
 - human body response = fight/flight
 - fear can overrule logic or reasoning in your mind
 - fear can bring person to feel hopeless and/or paralyzed in mind
 - Heb 13:6 I will not fear. What can man do to me? The Lord is my Helper
 - Other Scripture verses = Ps 56:3; Deut 31:6-8, 23; Josh 1:5-6
- f. Both King Saul & his army dismayed (filled with trepidation) and greatly afraid

2. Faith & Fear

- a. Proper balance between the two
- b. Fear is a natural reaction built into human body
 - famous experiment with crawling babies
 - * babies would not cross the "canyon" under the glass
 - * natural fear of "falling" for self preservation
- c. God calls Christian to trust Him for the future, for guidance in moral law, for human courtesy & kindness



2d. Problem of fear for evil or good

a. Excessive fear/unnatural fear

- * fear of the future
- * fear of the present
- * fear of feeling helpless

b. Normal fear response

- * alerts body to possible danger
- * important survival to stay alive
- * fight or flight

c. Prov 29:25 Fear of man brings a snare into your life

- * what will people think of me?
- * I can't do anything - fear of self
- * but putting your trust in God is a place of safety

3. God's Blessings against fear

a. God's gifts

- Is 26:3 God will keep you in perfect peace
 - * when your mind stays on God
 - * God has everlasting strength
- 1 Jn 4:4 Greater is He [God] who is in you than anyone in the world
- 1 Tim 1:7 God gave us the spirit of power, love, & a sound mind (not fear)

b. Christian's actions against fear

- Ps 9:10 Person who knows Jesus' name will put their trust in God
 - * God has not forsaken His people (leaving Christian)
- 1 Tim 6:6-8 Godliness with contentment is great gain
 - * opposite of fear = contented restful mind
 - * be content with food & clothing (necessities of life)
- you brought nothing into this world when born
- you cannot carry anything with you when you die

Prov 29:25
Is 9:2

1 Jn 4:4
Rom 10:17
Lk 16:10

Is 26:3-4, 1 Tim 1:5, 6-8, 2 Tim 1:6-7