

David Heard That Before Part 2

We looked at this story of David this morning, but I want to share a couple of other thoughts this evening about David. I'm assuming that most everyone heard the message from this morning or perhaps last Sunday morning so you have some idea of the background. The condensed version is that David becomes king and looks for a city to make his capital and chooses the city known as Jebus or Jerusalem. The city had never been conquered but David believes this is the place for him. The bible says **“The Jebusites said to David, ‘You will not get in here; even the blind and the lame can ward you off.’ They thought, ‘David cannot get in here.’ Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion, the City of David.” 2 Samuel 5:6-7**

Nevertheless, in spite of the history that told David the city had never been conquered, he believed it could be done. Nevertheless, in spite of the ten foot thick city walls; in spite of the deep Kidron Valley on the east side and the Tyropeon valley on the west, in spite of all the challenges, nevertheless, David took the city and called it the City of David.

The question we asked this morning was how did he have the faith, the confidence, to try to take the city when no one had been able to conquer it before? Why would he even try with the Jebusites so confident that David could not get in? We said that David had heard all of this before. Passed over at his father's house when Samuel came to anoint a new king. He was too young. Eliab was the one that looked like a king, but David learned that God doesn't look on the outward appearance but on the inside. God looks at the heart. Too young. Inexperienced. It couldn't be done. David had heard all of that before. But he knew what God said and if God said it, that settles it!

If God could take a shepherd boy and make him a king, then God could unseat the Jebusites and place the city in David's hands. If God said the city would be called the city of David, then it didn't matter that the Jebusites said to David “You will not get in here.” David was coming in. The city would be his. David had heard plenty of people say, “you can't,” and “it can't be done” but he had also heard God say, “I will.” That's why he pressed on. Nevertheless.

We talked briefly this morning about David and Goliath and the fact that once again, David's brothers, King Saul, and even Goliath himself told David it couldn't be done. You can't

get in here. You can't win this battle. The giant is too big, the battle is too great, the odds are against you. You are too young, too inexperienced, too weak, too small. David had heard it before, but he had an assurance that the Lord was with him. Things were about to change.

We pointed out a couple of things David knew that enabled him to overcome the obstacles before him this morning. The first was: **David faced every circumstance knowing there was more to it than outward appearance.** This wasn't simply about who was the biggest or the strongest, this was about God's purpose and plan. I said this morning this wasn't about equipment it was about anointing. It wasn't about experience or age, it was about obedience. David remembered what the Lord told Samuel, "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7.

We are so focused on the external, on the outward aren't we? In every aspect of our lives. It's about looking good, it's about how we dress, how we fix our hair, what car we drive. It's about appearance more than integrity, celebrity more than character, fame more than faithfulness but notice that passage again. "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at." God doesn't look at things the way we look at them. We need to give some thought about what we look at and the things upon which we place value and importance. God has an entirely different sense of value than what American culture has.

David could face the city believing God was going to deliver the city into his hands because he believed there was more to it than outward appearance. It looked impossible, but God would make a way when there seems to be no way. There is a way forward or a way through or a way over, under or around. He will see us through. Look with eyes of faith.

I said this morning, while others saw a giant wearing 125 lbs of armor, David saw a vulnerable place on his forehead where he could land a smooth stone and bring down a giant. While others saw a walled city, David saw a spring with a water shaft hewn into it that a man could climb up and open the gates to the city. There is more to it than outward appearance. Trust and believe and look with eyes of faith.

The second thing we said this morning was that **David faced every circumstance knowing God had a purpose for his life.** David knew the Lord had laid his hand upon him. Look at Psalm 139:5. God knew David and was going to lead him and fulfill the plans he had for

his life. His steps and your steps – our steps are ordered of the Lord. Trust him. Rest in him.

The third thing I believe that enabled David to take the city although he had heard “you can’t get in” before: **David faced every circumstance knowing God would honor his word.**

David faced more than his share of difficult days, but in every circumstance, whether he was facing military giants like Goliath or personal giants in his life, David knew that God’s word was true and that he would bring that word to pass. David declared **“For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does... the plans of the Lord stand firm forever.” Psalm 33:4,11.** David knew it and stood upon God’s word. **“Forever O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.” Psalm 119:89**

There were plenty of opportunities to wonder when and how God would make it all come to pass. Nearly twenty years passed between the day when Samuel secretly anointed David and told him someday he would be king and his public anointing as king of Judah in 2 Samuel 2. And it would be another seven years before he became King over all of Israel as God had promised. But David had learned that God was faithful and that he would honor his word. It was settled in heaven and it was settled in David’s heart and mind as well so David could write, **“I wait for the Lord, my soul waits and in his word I put my hope.” Psalm 130:5**

Whatever you are facing, continue to put your hope in God’s word and trust him. He will honor his word. He is not a man that he would lie. It is as we rest in God’s word, standing on his promises that we can declare, “nevertheless.” We will see it happen, in God’s timing, in God’s way, with our hope in God’s character, his nature and his word.

Finally, the fourth thing that enabled David to take the city even though he had heard, “you can’t get in before”: **David faced every circumstance of his life relying upon the Holy Spirit.**

David grew up with a heart after God, looking to the Lord as his help, his strength, his resource in every situation. After Samuel anointed David, the Bible says, **“...and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came upon David in power.” 1 Samuel 16:13.** It didn’t matter if it was a giant or a walled city, David knew that it was not by his might, nor his power, but by the Spirit of the Lord. That’s how the victory would be won.

David knew not to take credit for these things. It was his reliance upon the power of the Holy Spirit that made the difference. When he was convincing Saul to allow him to face Goliath,

he told him about killing both a lion and a bear. He wasn't testifying to his might or his strength, he was testifying to the anointing of the Holy Spirit and the faithfulness of God. David told Saul, **"The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."** 1 Samuel 17:37 God was his source, his deliverer.

When Goliath taunted David and said, "Come here and I will feed you to the birds," David didn't testify to his accuracy with a sling shot or his cunning as a soldier. David didn't face these things wondering if he was adequate enough or if he was up to the task. He knew he wasn't on his own. He faced them relying upon the Spirit of the Living God. In response to Goliath's threat, David said, **"You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air...and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's and he will give all of you into our hands."** 1 Samuel 17:45-47

It was the Holy Spirit's anointing that made the difference for David. With Goliath, with Saul, with the Jebusites, with every event in his life. He relied upon the Spirit's work and power and direction in his life. That's why David wrote, **"Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me."** Psalm 51:11 David knew that every step of the journey, the Holy Spirit had been with him. That's why he had such favor with the people. That's why he triumphed over his enemies. That's why he killed a lion and a bear and a giant. The anointing of the Holy Spirit made the difference and David knew it.

After David took the city of Jerusalem from the Jebusites, the Bible says, **"David then took up residence in the fortress and called it the City of David.... And he became more and more powerful because the Lord God Almighty was with him... And David knew that the Lord had established him as king over Israel and had exalted his kingdom for the sake of his people Israel."** 2 Samuel 5:9-12

David relied upon the Lord because he knew it was all the Lord's doing. It wasn't about David. It was about the Lord. It's just that simple. Regardless of the circumstances, David was trusting in the Lord, relying upon the Holy Spirit to enable him, strengthen him, see him through.

1 Samuel 30 tells of David and his men coming home to the city of Ziklag and discovering that the Amalekites had attacked the city, burned it, and carried off their wives, sons and daughters. Two of David's wives were taken. The bible says, "David and his men wept aloud until they had no strength left to weep." They couldn't cry anymore. And then the men blamed David and started talking about killing him they were so angry. What could David do? Where could he turn? The Bible says, in the face of David's grief and fear, in spite of the circumstances, **"But David found strength in the Lord his God."** 1 Samuel 30:6 David had been there before. He had heard all this before. And He knew where to turn.

Once again, David stands alone and once again, he knows to lean upon the Lord. David had been there before. No wonder he would write, **"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way."** Psalm 46:1.

When the world crumbles beneath you, you turn to the Lord. David knew where to turn. It really didn't matter to David who believed in him and who didn't. It didn't matter if his Dad considered him to be "kingly" material or not. It didn't matter if Eliab was jealous or if he questioned David's motives and his integrity. It didn't matter that Saul questioned his age and experience and that Goliath doubted his ability. What mattered is that David trusted the Lord with all of his heart. What mattered is that in every situation, David saw beyond the external, the outward – and with eyes of faith he saw what could be if he believed God.

What matters is that in every impossible situation, David believed that he was walking according to God's purpose and with God's direction it would be all right. What matters is that in the face of every obstacle, David knew he could rest in the faithfulness of God's word. God's promises are true. What matters is that in every ordeal, David knew it wasn't about David, it was about the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit of God. The battle wasn't his, it was God's.

It didn't matter what others thought, David knew God was in control and it was going to be all right. **"David cannot get in here."** That's what the Jebusites said and David had heard that before, plenty of times, but it had never stopped him. God is with us and we're on our way to victory. **David had heard that before, "Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion, the City of David."** 2 Samuel 5:7

Some of you, the devil is dragging up old excuses why you can't succeed, why you can't serve God, why you can't be healed, why you cannot be victorious over the giants and Jebusites in your life. The same Spirit that was with David is with you today. The same power at work in

his life is available to you today. Look with eyes of faith. There is more there than what you see. Look again and believe God. You've heard that before, but it's not going to stop you. You've heard that before, nevertheless, it's time for you to move on in faith and obey God. Now is the time. Believe and trust God. God has made a way. It's time!