



## *bloodline* network newsletter

Mark Hanby Ministries P.O. Box 8093 Chattanooga, TN 37414 E-Mail Address:  
[junioryp@aol.com](mailto:junioryp@aol.com)  
423-622-5180

### DEFINING MOMENTS

Confrontation has the ability to revolutionize our lives by creating breakthrough moments that not only define our character but also refines our purpose. These deciding moments witness of who we are in Christ—the culmination of many personal victories along the way. David had such a breakthrough point when he was still a youth. This one moment transformed his life from shepherd boy to a mighty man of war.

*“ The Philistines stood on a mountain on one side, and Israel stood on a mountain on the other side, with a valley between them. And a champion went out from the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath ...He stood and cried out to the armies of Israel, and said to them, “ Why have you come out to line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine and you the servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves and let him come down to me. 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 ... I defy the armies of Israel this day: give me a man, that we may fight together.” 1 Sam 17:3-10.*

God drew a striking illustration for understanding the necessity of confrontation. Using the palette of human emotions and fears, He paints the struggles and dramatically accentuates the glorious victory. Similar mountains frame the silhouettes of competing armies, but one contender seems drawn out of perspective—Goliath stands well above the height of any Philistine. Yet in comparison, we know another man (if he ever came out of his tent) is also drawn above measure. Of King Saul it is written, *“there was not a more handsome person than he among the children of Israel. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people.”* We can only imagine the visual contrast of handsome King Saul against the fearsome Goliath.

With the backdrop of weakness and limitation contrasted by the stature and strength of its leaders, the armies of the both sides array for battle—army against army. The champion Goliath challenged one man to fight for the fate of a nation. No one comes

forward and when Goliath spoke again, *the men of Israel fled from him and were dreadfully afraid*. Goliath was a formidable opponent and there was not a man there that dared face him alone—an entire army maybe, but not one man.

Into the composition walks a young man whose purity and innocence significantly contrasts the men of war. The creative brush of the divine already balanced Saul and David by anointing them both as kings. The ruling king felt inadequate to fight against Goliath and it was the young, privately anointed king that fearlessly overcame all shortcomings and tall obstacles because he had just cause—*for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?*

Young David came up to the war camp to bring provisions for his brothers and witnessed the threats of Goliath against the armies of Israel. His angry brother tried to darken the stirring brightness David's hopeful words painted by creating a picture of comparisons—a youth boasting the courage of a seasoned soldier yet not reliable enough to take care of a few sheep. Questioning his motives actually heightens the extraordinary differences of the composition. We see a balance drawn that weighs the scale of a large army against the number of a few sheep and the highlighted character of an unassuming youth against the proud and insolent.

Young David visited the camp by his father's request but after hearing the defiant Goliath, he spoke out in righteous indignation saying, *"Is there not a cause?"* David was fearless in his pursuit of righteousness and speaks to King Saul, *"Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."* He did not see Goliath as a giant but considered the uncircumcised Philistine an animal. Since God already helped him kill a lion and a bear—why not this dog!

Saul's battle raiment was offered to David but declined because he had not personally tested it. David knew he could kill Goliath with a stone—a weapon his hands had already proven. *"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might."* David recognized the moment and what he could do in it—and fervently seized it. He held possibility in his bare hands and fearlessly ran to meet it, declaring:

*"You come to me with a sword, 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 defiled. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. Then all the assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with the sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give it into our hands."* 1 Sam 17:45-47.

So passionate is David in his desire to kill the heathen Goliath that King Saul and his armies are willing to lay the providence of a nation in his hands. Who would send a boy into harms way unless totally convinced he could succeed? Why is young David so fearless when it naturally looks so hopeless? David's fearlessness came from focusing

his eye on principle. He wisely responds to what was spoken—not measuring opposition by outward appearance but by the Word of God.

Confrontation revolutionizes us. Therefore when his zeal was ignited, the young lad stood in the valley (the gap) empowered with divine courage to defeat Goliath. He was not conscious of the insurmountable odds against him—never saw himself as too young and inexperienced to kill Goliath but rather Goliath too big a target to miss! If God helped him kill a bear and a lion that threatened his little flock, then surely God would empower him to prevail over a fearsome ‘dog’ attacking the sheep of the House of Israel!

The scripture portrays the giant Goliath with a sword, spear and javelin fighting against a boy racing towards his destiny with only a sling and five smooth stones. It was the unseen arsenal of the divine that secretly tipped the scales into young David’s favor. The substance of his heart made him victorious—he ran in *the Name of the Lord of Hosts, the God of the armies of Israel* and prevailed mightily!

This was David’s defining moment. His fearlessness caused a tremendous breakthrough and spilled over into a new life for him. David never went back to his few sheep but instead *Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people*—women sang and danced over his great accomplishments.

What is your defining moment? Did you have a breakthrough that revolutionized your life—propelling you into your future in a new way or are you hiding in your tent because you feel inadequate? God portrayed our future possibility in a vision. In a fiery furnace there were many joyously anticipating a breakthrough moment—instinctively knowing that a precise degree or temperature has to be reached in order to yield a transformation. Even nature confirms this breakthrough in what we call ‘boiling point’—liquid boils at a precise temperature, at a precise moment it changes form. This is what was happening in the vision. We all have a breaking point or defining moment if we fervently (boiling point) pursue God and allow trials to have its perfect work. David’s defining moment changed the way he lived—going into battle as a youth but emerging as a victorious warrior in Israel.

It is in the breakthrough moments that we are transformed—the divine moment when we fearlessly endeavor to stand in the gap regardless of consequences. At this moment the vision portrayed the Spirit as a hand reaching into the fire—drawing man’s heart like a handle of a sword. God dwelling within us ... holding the handle of our heart ... and His sword’s blade extended from the back. We move by His Spirit. He is the guiding force in our courageous acts. Like David, we are weapons of His righteousness fearlessly accomplishing His will in the earth. We recognize the cause and know *the battle is the Lord’s and He will give it into our hands*.

David was fearless because he relied on God and his relationship with God made him mighty. We witnessed his passion for life in his fearless zeal for principle as evidenced in the Psalms. “*Zeal for Your House has eaten me up.*” The Son of David has similar zeal causing His disciples to remember this quote when they witnessed Jesus’ passion in

establishing His Father's House. And like His father David, Jesus also stood in the gap as one man to save the destiny of a nation. *It was Caiaphas who advised the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people.*

Spread before us is not only a new canvas, but another page in his-story. God has boldly drawn on the horizon contrasting lines between godliness and lawlessness. Yet in the dawning of this new day we glimpse the many-membered Body of Christ emerging with each distinct brush stroke—the full measure of a man breaks through the first light and 'who we are in Christ' not only stands in the gap but also defines the moment.

We may consider what we have to offer as trivial as David's small stone compared to the weapons of the enemy, yet in God's artistic eye what He is highlighting in the composition is His strengths and not our weaknesses—drawing us as His Mountain. The prophet Daniel saw a stone cut without hands from the Mountain of the Lord and it struck the Image—destroying the lawless kingdoms, structures and methods of the world. That Rock was Christ and collectively we are 'His Christ.' We courageously stand in the gap to establish His House in the Kingdom. He already painted us—His Christ—in brilliant hues ... and glistening in His hand is His Sword is raised up in glorious victory!