

## **What is Real Freedom?**

Taffi Dollar

Broadcast Dates: 11/16/20 – 11/17/20

Message Date: 7/4/20 • 6:00 P.M.

### **Scripture References**

1 Samuel 17:25, 28-36

1 Samuel 17:20-25, *NLT*

Proverbs 23:7

John 8:31, 32

John 8:31, 32, *AMPC*

James 1:23-26

James 1:26, *AMPC*

*Freedom can be defined in a number of ways, but in today's splintered, divided society, real freedom is found only through a covenant with God. When David went against Goliath and triumphed over him, he had a real cause to fight for the Israelites' freedoms; he was not afraid to do so because of his faith in the covenant he had with God. This applies to us even today. There are plenty of Goliaths in the world that would keep us fearful and in bondage to thinking small, but we must stand up to them. If we are in Christ, we are free from the power of guilt, shame, and insecurity. We only lose the fight if we are afraid to lean in and accept who God made us to be. We win when we are willing to step out and carry out the task He has given each one of us.*

#### **A. David was not afraid of Goliath because he believed in the covenant he had with God.**

1. And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel... And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spake unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, Why camest thou down hither? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy pride, and the naughtiness of thine heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle. And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause? And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner. And when the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him. And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth. And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God (1 Samuel 17:25, 28-36).
  - a. The word "cause" in this context can be defined as that which produces a change, or impels one to act, decide, or respond. When cause goes into effect, things change.
  - b. Our freedoms today are being attacked. We must ask ourselves if there is a cause for us to protect those freedoms, and to walk in the liberty and deliverance Jesus came to provide.

- c. For David, the cause to go against Goliath was to protect the covenant of almighty God.
- d. David had no doubt about what he needed to do and was not afraid to get involved. However, Eliab was trapped in self-doubt and fear, and rejected David's presence.
- 2. So David left the sheep with another shepherd and set out early the next morning with the gifts, as Jesse had directed him. He arrived at the camp just as the Israelite army was leaving for the battlefield with shouts and battle cries. Soon the Israelite and Philistine forces stood facing each other, army against army. David left his things with the keeper of supplies and hurried out to the ranks to greet his brothers. As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, came out from the Philistine ranks. Then David heard him shout his usual taunt to the army of Israel. As soon as the Israelite army saw him, they began to run away in fright. "Have you seen the giant?" the men asked. "He comes out each day to defy Israel. The king has offered a huge reward to anyone who kills him. He will give that man one of his daughters for a wife, and the man's entire family will be exempted from paying taxes!" (1 Samuel 17:20-25, *NLT*).
  - a. Israel's freedom was on the line. Unlike the soldiers, David was not afraid to stand up and fight for it.
  - b. We all have a Goliath in our lives. We must be covenant-minded like David, and declare our authority over whatever threatens our freedom.
  - c. David knew who he was. He did not see himself as less than anyone else, but as a man who was anointed by God to carry out a task.

**B. We can either keep ourselves in bondage or break free, depending on our mindset.**

- 1. Whether or not we are free depends on our mindset.
  - a. The world is full of people who are worried about what others think, who are afraid to step out and do anything because of others' opinions. These people have a "less-than" mentality. They believe they are inferior, too small, and too inadequate.
  - b. To fight this kind of thinking, we need to stay full of the Word and spend time with others who have a positive influence on us.
  - c. To be truly free, we must face our fears and refuse to let them conquer us.
  - d. When we suffer from negative thinking and a mindset that tells us we are not as good as others, we limit ourselves and put ourselves in bondage.
  - e. For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he... (Proverbs 23:7).
- 2. We find freedom and liberty when we continue in the truth we find in the Word of God.
  - a. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (John 8:31, 32).
  - b. So Jesus said to those Jews who had believed in Him, If you abide in My word [hold fast to My teachings and live in accordance with them], you are truly My disciples. And you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free (John 8:31, 32, *AMPC*).

**C. We can have faith in God's Word. It frees us and allows us to fulfill His mission for us.**

- 1. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man

- shall be blessed in his deed. If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain (James 1:23-26).
- a. We need to put the Word into action for it to be effective in our lives.
  - b. God's Word is the law of liberty, not the law of sin and death.
  - c. When we are thinking in line with the Word, we will not be afraid to step out in faith and trust God. David was not afraid to go forth; we can follow his example.
2. If anyone thinks himself to be religious (piously observant of the external duties of his faith) and does not bridle his tongue but deludes his own heart, this person's religious service is worthless (futile, barren) (James 1:26, *AMPC*).
- a. People do not want to hear about what we know; they want to see what we are willing to do. We must not simply speak empty words, but instead demonstrate our faith by stepping out and acting on what we believe.
  - b. Our private victories position us for public victories. How we see ourselves internally is what becomes visible to others.

For more on biblical freedom and how it fits in with God's will for us, click on the link below for the DVD, *What is Real Freedom?*

<https://bit.ly/WhatisRealFreedomDVD>

Category: spiritual growth

Keywords: freedom, David, triumphed, Goliath, fearful, bondage, fight, win