Bible Study 32

March 9th, 2022

The Book of Samuel

Chapter 17 of the Book of Samuel describes in detail how David the young warrior defeats and kills Goliath the champion of the Philistines. The story slips into legend and David instantly becomes the hero of all Israel.

Immediately King Saul becomes jealous of the young hero and takes everything written about David as a personal insult to him as king.

“Saul has slain his thousands; but David has killed his tens of thousands.”

Twice Saul attempts to kill David with a spear, but David eludes him. The writer takes great pains to explain that an evil spirit has entered Saul while the spirit of God rests upon David. David takes one thousand men and leaves Saul’s camp to fight Israel’s enemies and his fame spreads.

Saul begins to plot David’s death . Twice he attempts to marry David off to one of his daughters but David resists. Saul hopes that the Philistines will kill the boy and sends him to do battle for the hand of his youngest daughter Michal. David kills many and returns to wed Michal who is in love with him. She will not obey her father and help betray David. Saul’s hate grows.

Jonathan, Saul’s son is ordered to kill David, but they have become friends. Instead, he sends David into hiding. It is Jonathan who reconciles David and Saul and once more brings them together. Again, David defeats the Philistines and again Saul attempts to kill him with a spear. David escapes.

Saul sends his men to David’s house to kill him but David is saved by is wife Michal and escapes.

David next goes to see Samuel at Ramah. David falls under the protection of Samuel and the prophets and none of Saul’s men can touch him. Even Saul traveling to Naioth cannot reach the young warrior.

Chapter 20. David attempts to get help from his friend Jonathan but the latter refuses to believe his father means David harm. It is Jonathan who makes a plan to warn David if Saul still has murderous intent against him. Saul’s anger rages against Jonathan. Jonathan warns David and they have this long last parting before David Flees.

Read Chapters 17 through 21