

Arise & Conquer Your Giants

1 Samuel 17

23rd August 2026

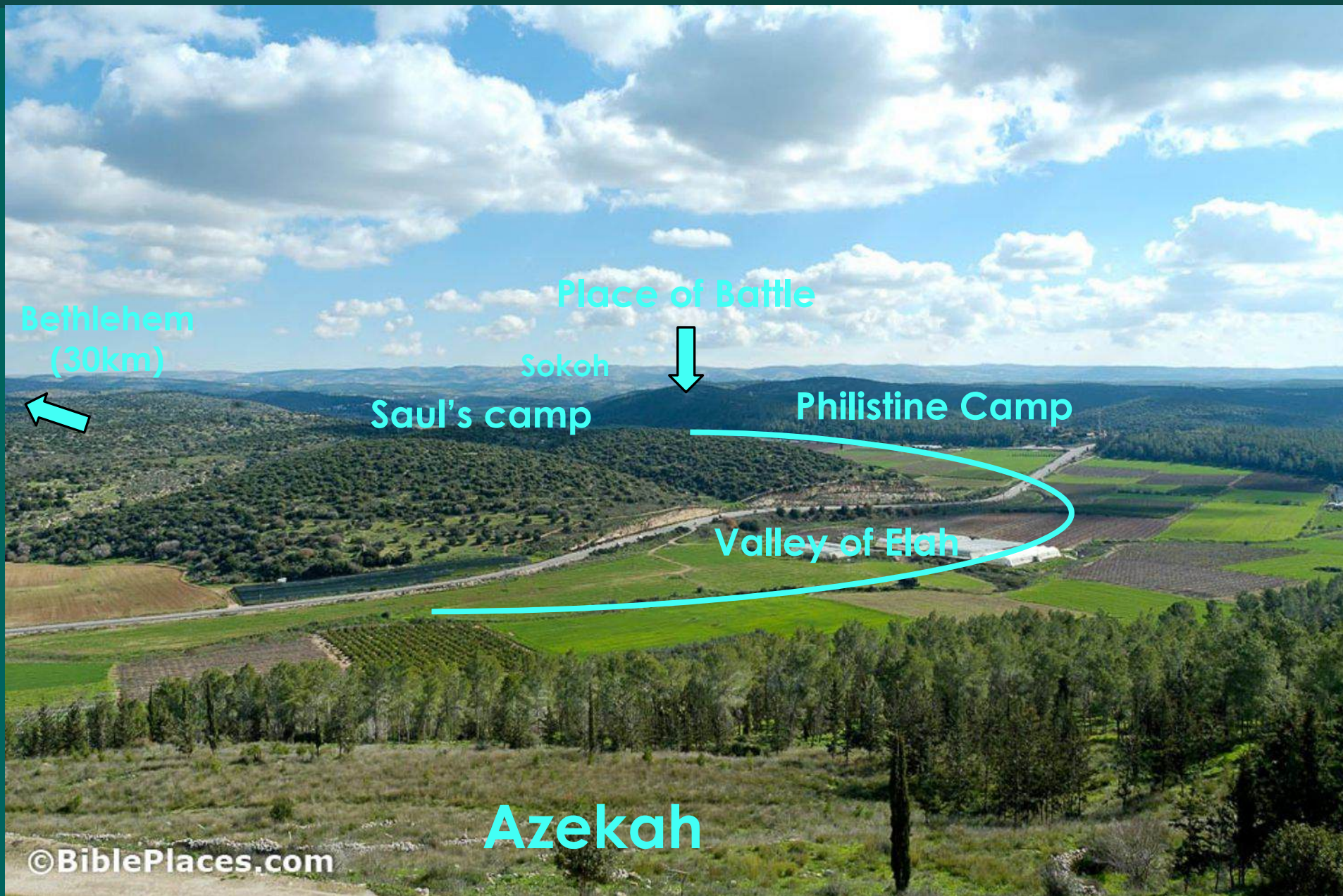


**Familiar story – but
deeper than the cliché**

**The deeper question is not
“How big is your giant?”
but “How big is your
God?”**

1 Samuel 17:1-58

¹ Now the Philistines gathered their forces for war and assembled at Sokoh in Judah. They pitched camp at Ephes Dammim, between Sokoh and Azekah. ² Saul and the Israelites assembled and camped in the Valley of Elah and drew up their battle line to meet the Philistines. ³ The Philistines occupied one hill and the Israelites another, with the valley between them.



Bethlehem
(30km)



Place of Battle



Sokoh

Saul's camp

Philistine Camp

Valley of Elah

Azekah

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A giant designed to intimidate

⁴ A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp. His height was six cubits and a span. ⁵ He had a bronze helmet on his head and wore a coat of scale armor of bronze weighing five thousand shekels; ⁶ on his legs he wore bronze greaves, and a bronze javelin was slung on his back. ⁷ His spear shaft was like a weaver's rod, and its iron point weighed six hundred shekels. His shield bearer went ahead of him.

LionheArt

GOLIATH — HEBREW TEXT
≈ 6'6"–6'9"
(4 cubits and a span)

GOLIATH — GREEK TEXT
≈ 9'0"–9'6"
(6 cubits and a span)

TYPICAL IRON AGE
SOLDIER ≈ 5'4"–5'6"



VICTOR WEMBENYAMA

HEIGHT COMPARISON



⁸ Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, “Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. ⁹ If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.” ¹⁰ Then the Philistine said, “This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other.”

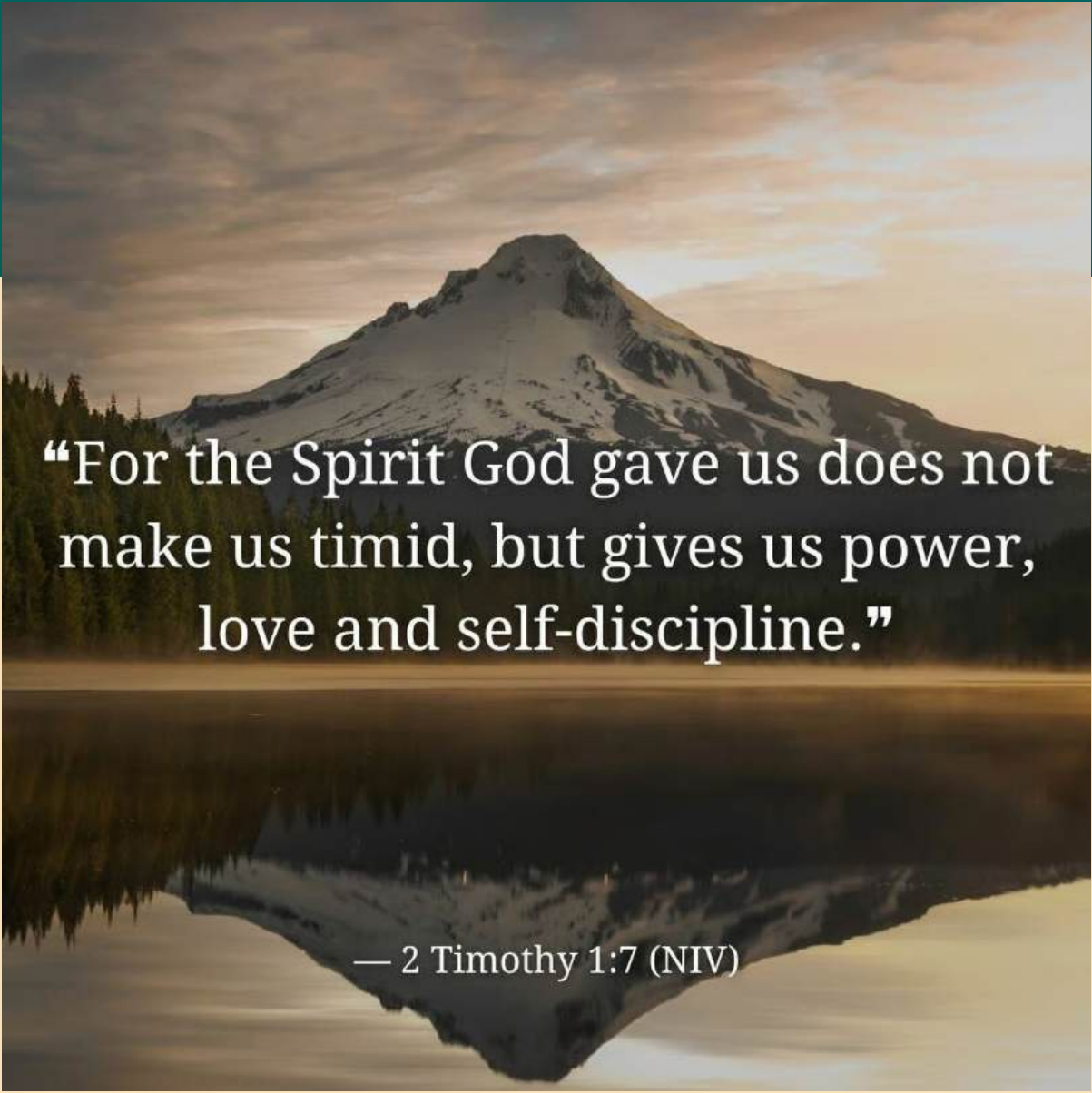


¹¹ On hearing the
Philistine's words, Saul and
all the Israelites were
dismayed and terrified.



REMEMBER...

I. The enemy will always play on our fears.



“For the Spirit God gave us does not
make us timid, but gives us power,
love and self-discipline.”

— 2 Timothy 1:7 (NIV)

God's presence changes the perspective

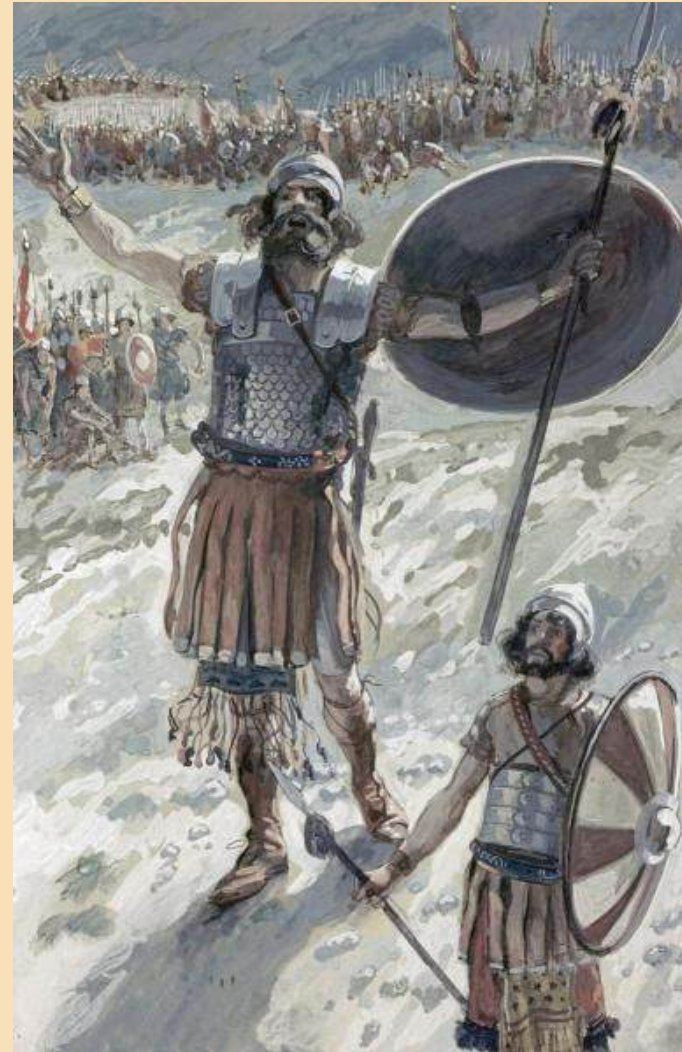
"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you." (Isaiah 41:10)

"The Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you."
(Deuteronomy 31:6)

"And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age". (Matthew 28:20)

¹² Now David was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons, and in Saul's time he was very old. ¹³ Jesse's three oldest sons had followed Saul to the war: The firstborn was Eliab; the second, Abinadab; and the third, Shammah. ¹⁴ David was the youngest. The three oldest followed Saul, ¹⁵ but David went back and forth from Saul to tend his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

¹⁶ For forty days the Philistine came forward every morning and evening and took his stand.



REMEMBER...

I. The enemy will always play on our fears.

II. Fear can paralyze.

¹⁷ Now Jesse said to his son David, “Take this ephah of roasted grain and these ten loaves of bread for your brothers and hurry to their camp. ¹⁸ Take along these ten cheeses to the commander of their unit. See how your brothers are and bring back some assurance from them. ¹⁹ They are with Saul and all the men of Israel in the Valley of Elah, fighting against the Philistines.”

²⁰ Early in the morning David left the flock in the care of a shepherd, loaded up and set out, as Jesse had directed. He reached the camp as the army was going out to its battle positions, shouting the war cry. ²¹ Israel and the Philistines were drawing up their lines facing each other. ²² David left his things with the keeper of supplies, ran to the battle lines and asked his brothers how they were. ²³ As he was talking with them, Goliath, the Philistine champion from Gath, stepped out from his lines and shouted his usual defiance, and David heard it. ²⁴ Whenever the Israelites saw the man, they all fled from him in great fear.

25 Now the Israelites had been saying, “Do you see how this man keeps coming out? He comes out to defy Israel. The king will give great wealth to the man who kills him. He will also give him his daughter in marriage and will exempt his family from taxes in Israel.”



²⁶ David asked the men standing near him, “What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?”

²⁷ They repeated to him what they had been saying and told him, “This is what will be done for the man who kills him.”

REMEMBER...

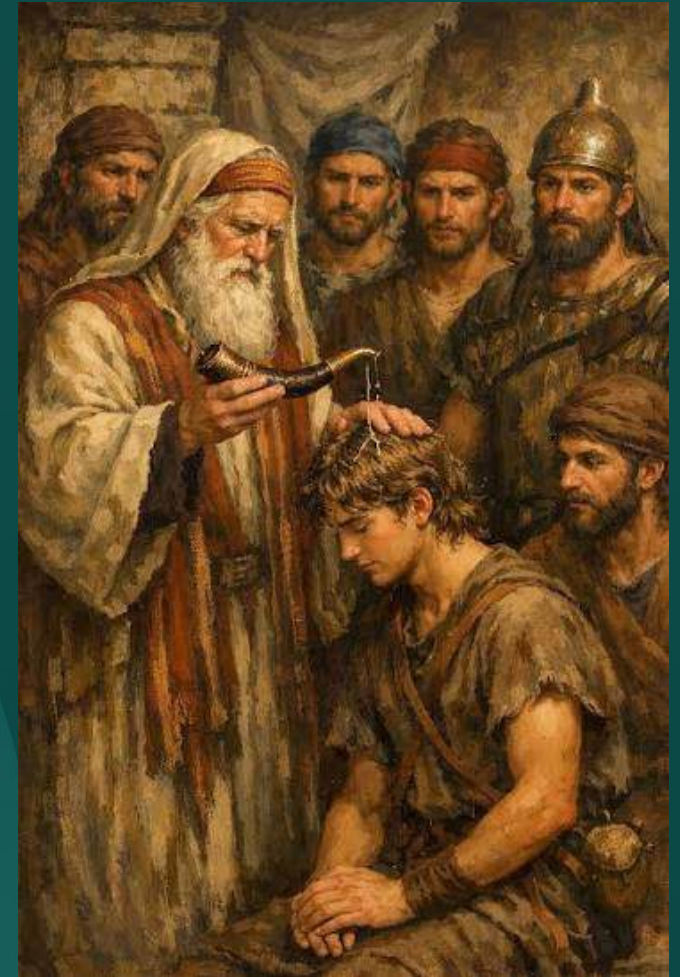
I. The enemy will always play on our fears.

II. Fear can paralyze. Act. Step out in faith.

III. If you fear God, you need not fear anything else.

28 When Eliab, David's oldest brother, heard him speaking with the men, he burned with anger at him and asked, "Why have you come down here? And with whom did you leave those few sheep in the wilderness? I know how conceited you are and how wicked your heart is; you came down only to watch the battle."

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**29 “Now what have I
done?” said David.
“Can’t I even speak?”**

²⁹ “Now what have I done?” said David. “Can’t I even speak?”

³⁰ He then turned away to someone else and brought up the same matter, and the men answered him as before. ³¹ What David said was overheard and reported to Saul, and Saul sent for him.



³² David said to Saul, “Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him.”

³³ Saul replied, “You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a young man, and he has been a warrior from his youth.”

³⁴ But David said to Saul, “Your servant has been keeping his father’s sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, ³⁵ I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. ³⁶ Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. ³⁷ The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine.”

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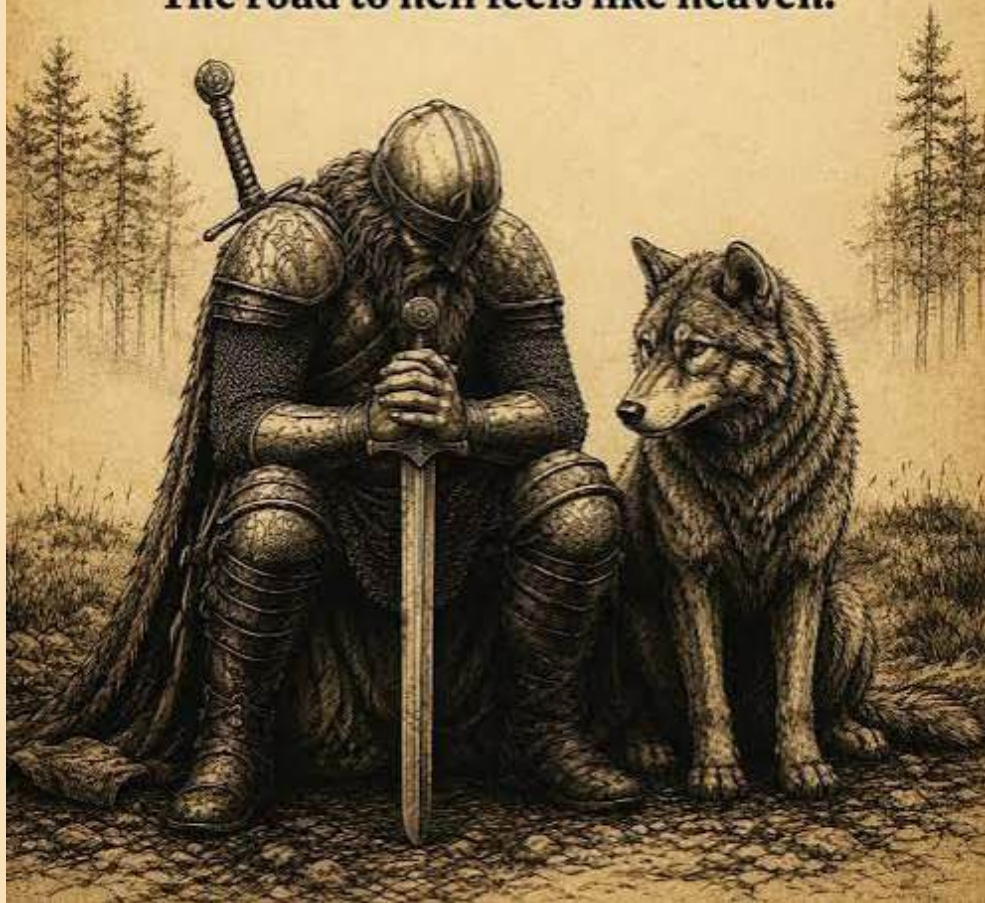
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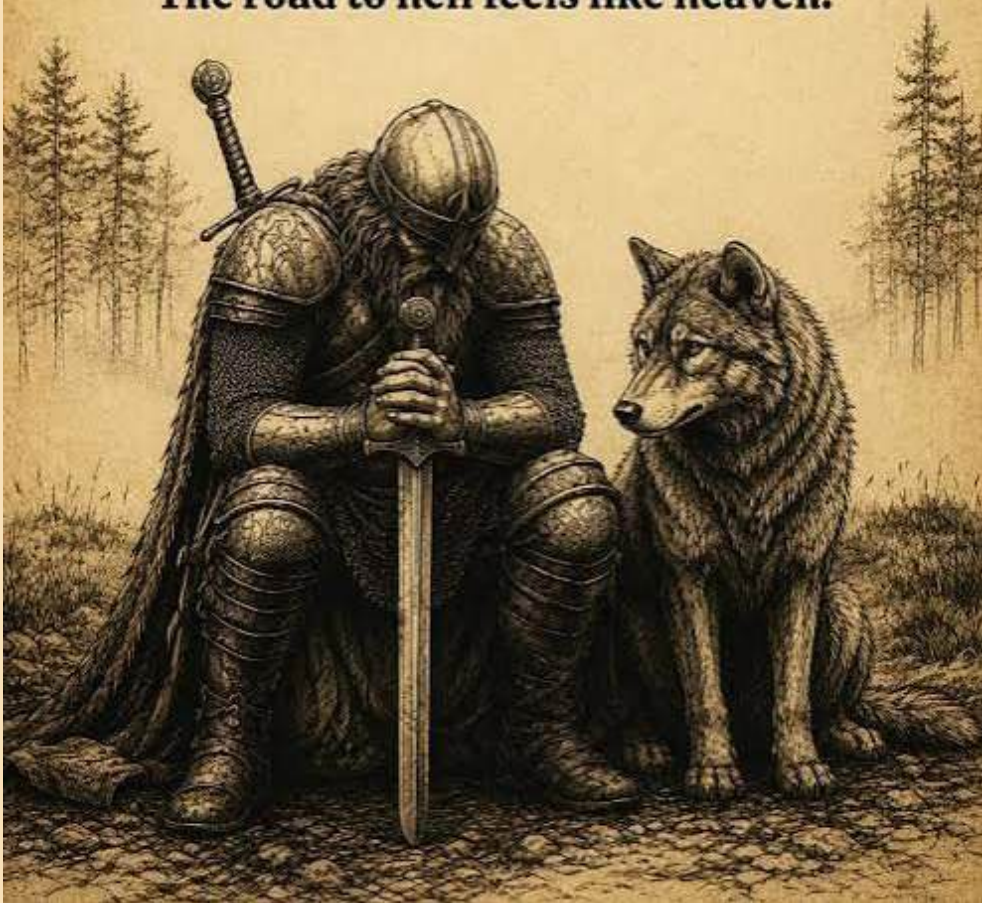
III. If you fear God, you need not fear anything else.

IV. Faith builds upon faith.

**The road to heaven feels like hell.
The road to hell feels like heaven.**



**The road to heaven feels like hell.
The road to hell feels like heaven.**



1 CORINTHIANS 10:13

God is faithful; He will not
let you be tempted beyond
what you can bear. But
when you are tempted, He
will also provide a way out,
so that you can endure it

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V. The resources for war are prepared during times of peace.

³⁷ Saul said to David, “Go, and the Lord be with you.”

³⁸ Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. ³⁹ David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them.

“I cannot go in these,” he said to Saul, “because I am not used to them.” So he took them off.

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IV. Faith builds upon faith.

V. The resources for war are prepared during times of peace.

VI. We cannot fight our battles in another person's armor.

The Armor of God

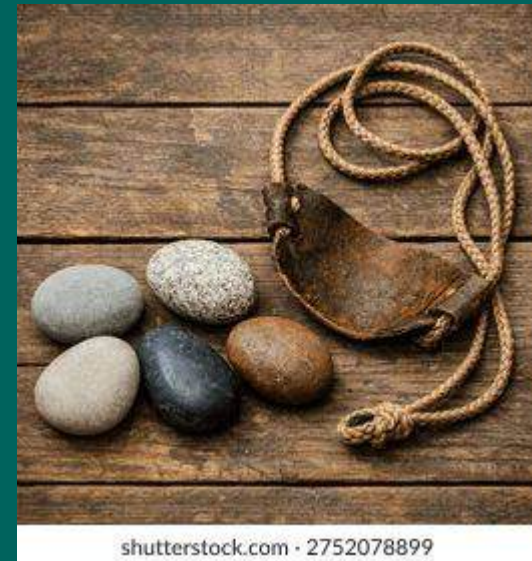
Ephesians 6:10-18



Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

⁴⁰ Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.

***“DAVID GOES AS
DAVID”***



⁴¹ Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David. ⁴² He looked David over and saw that he was little more than a boy, glowing with health and handsome, and he despised him. ⁴³ He said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. ⁴⁴ “Come here,” he said, “and I’ll give your flesh to the birds and the wild animals!”

⁴⁵ David said to the Philistine, “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. ⁴⁶ This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I’ll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. ⁴⁷ 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.”



**The Battle Belongs
To The Lord!**

⁴⁸ As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him.

“Step Out In Faith”





49 Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.



⁵⁰ So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

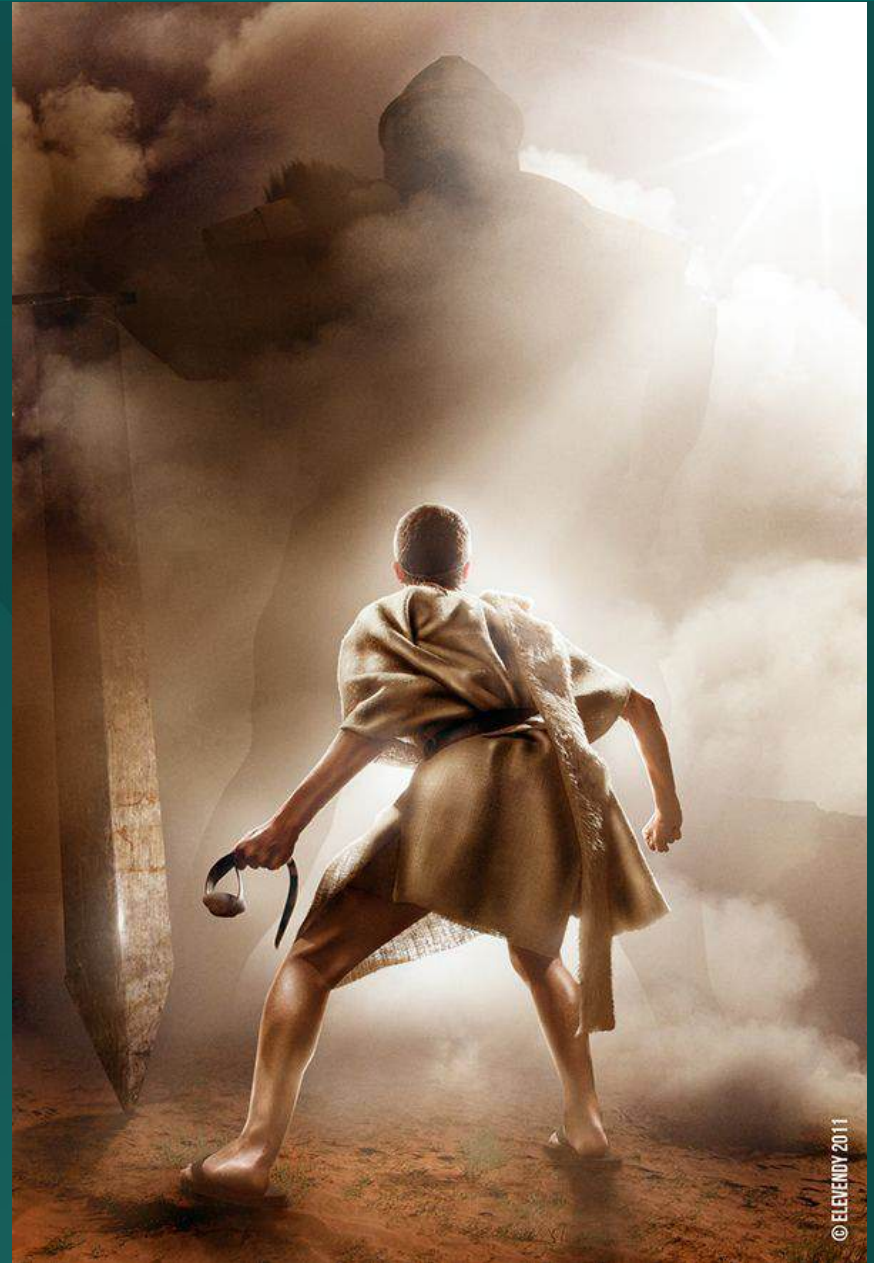
⁵¹ David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the sheath. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword.

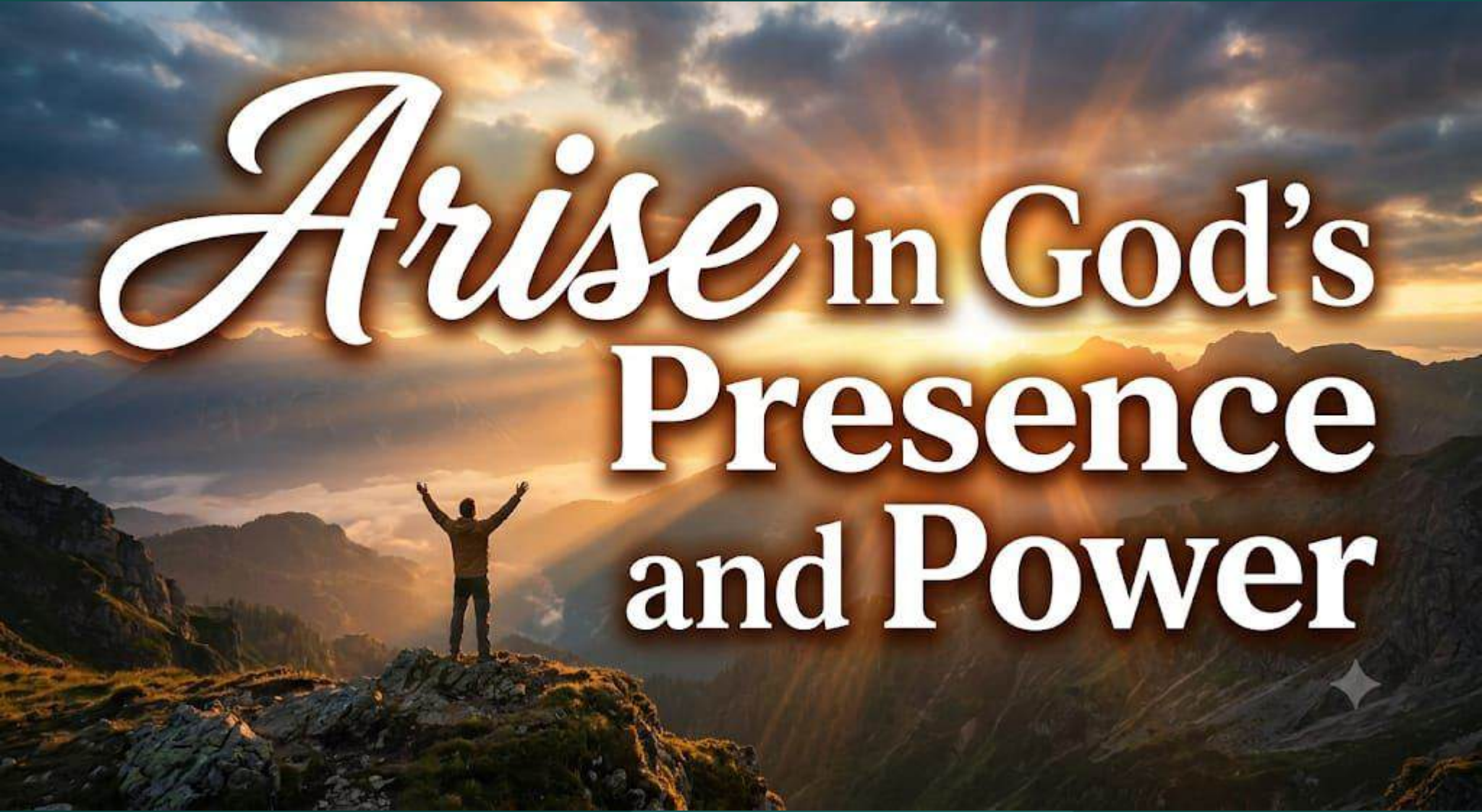
When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran.

REMEMBER...

- I. The enemy will always play on our fears. Do not succumb.
- II. Fear can paralyze. Act. Step out in faith.
- III. If you fear God, you need not fear anything else.
- IV. Faith builds upon faith. Remember God's past goodness.
- V. The resources for war are prepared during times of peace.
- VI. We cannot fight our battles in another person's armor.

Who is the
giant in your
life now?



A person stands on a rocky mountain peak, arms raised in a gesture of praise or triumph. The sun is rising behind a range of mountains, creating a dramatic sky with rays of light and scattered clouds. The scene is captured in a wide-angle shot, emphasizing the vastness of the landscape.

Arise in God's Presence and Power



Forsaking
All
I
Trust
Him

