

5 Stones Sermon – It's in the Bag

(Preached Sep 2012)

1 Samuel 17:38-40

And Saul armed David with his armour, and he put a helmet of brass upon his head; also he armed him with a coat of mail.

³⁹ And David girded his sword upon his armour, and he assayed to go; for he had not proved it. And David said unto Saul, I cannot go with these; for I have not proved them. And David put them off him.

⁴⁰ And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.

Background: You know the story. David is about to take on a giant problem. It wasn't even his problem but he wound up dealing with it any way. Before he gets ready to face this big problem, he prepares. You better be prepared and equipped before you run out there to face that kind of problem or else your problem will take you out.

Verse 38 – Saul tries to hook him up with his stuff. Assumes he needs his stuff in order to have a chance at success. Saul meant well and since it was the king's stuff it was probably good gear. It is a good thing to get geared up before you go out there. Put on the whole armor of God. Straps it on him.

Verse 39 – David geared up in Saul's stuff. And he "assayed to go" which means to start out in. So that means he took a few steps and a few swings to try the gear out. Better walk around a little bit in it before you run out there. Tried it out because he had never worn it before. He had not tried it out yet or proven to see how it works for him. It was uncomfortable. I can't use these because I haven't tried it before. He goes back to what he knows has worked in the past. You may have to put some things off that other folk try to put on you. Saul meant well but what he gave him would have David in danger or placed a weight on him that wouldn't help him with this problem.

- Just because it works for you, that doesn't always mean that it will work for others. Saul was trying to do a nice thing. He meant well. Some folks not led by the Spirit mean well but be careful trying to do it like them. If you don't have peace about it, and you have the Holy Spirit.....and you don't have peace in your spirit...probably shouldn't roll that way.
- Want to be free in my worship, that's important before I roll into battle. I recall visiting a church service where the Pastor stated "If you love Jesus, stand in the aisle". That almost messed me

up, because I didn't know if I was going to really be praising God if I stood in the aisle or if I was merely doing it to fit in and not have people looking at me funny. I didn't step out there...because the Spirit didn't tell me to...and I worshipped God where I was.

- Be careful what you take on from other folks even if they seem sincere.

Verse 40 – Five smooth stones out of a brook. Using things that he used in his last job. Why 5 stones? 5=number representing grace....rapture is an example, 5 fold ministry in Ephesians.

- Giants were of abnormal size. Represent big problems that appear too large to overcome.
- Giants are Philistines. Historically they were squatters with no legitimate rights to the land they occupied. The problem should have no legitimate right over believers.
- 5 stones because Goliath had 4 brothers? 2 Sam 21:15-22, 1 Chron 20:4-8
- There's a rock for each and every one of your problems.

THE FIVE GIANTS AND THE SELF ISSUE THEY REPRESENT

Name	Meaning	Symbolism	Defeated by	Meaning
Goliath	Exile	Rejection	David	Beloved – love overcomes rejection
Ishbibenob	Lives in Nob, Dwells in high places	Pride	Abishai	My Father is a gift, generosity
Saph	Tall, Threshold (Sippai)	To break covenant, hypocrisy	Sibbecai	Weaver, wood of God, to move fast, God intervenes
Lahmi	My bread; my war	Selfishness, greed, lust	Elhanan	God has been gracious
Man of great stature from Gath with 6 fingers/toes	Winepress, self - 6	Anxiety, self effort	Jonathan	God has given, Provision

- Rejection, pride, hypocrisy, selfishness and anxiety are not normal for a believer.
- The name of David's problem was Goliath = meaning of his name = exile. That symbolizes rejection or separation. Your biggest problem you have to face might be rejection/separation. There is a stone for that too. Suicide problem, remember God's love.
- David took five smooth stones as his weapon from a brook. Because flowing water makes them smooth over time and smooth stones fly straighter. Water represents the ministry of the Holy Spirit. From a military perspective, smooth objects fly better and farther than odd shaped or rough shapes, i.e., cannon balls, missiles are smooth.

- They were still in the brook. Stones on the bank but not in the water can get sharp edges again and become rough. Stones that remain in the stream stay smooth.
- That's why some Christians don't fly right, don't shoot straight, roughneck saints, because what they throw out isn't smooth because the Holy Ghost isn't involved in it.

Puts the rocks in his shepherd's bag. What's in your wallet?

- David doesn't go out to deal with his problem until he puts the stones in the bag. When it was in the bag, then he moved by faith with confidence. You can move with confidence when you know it's in the bag.
 - It's a sure thing, as good as done, definitely going to win.
 - Before I used to run away from big problems. Problems in my marriage, on my job, with my kids, with my relationships, I checked my bag...but there was nothing in my bag to deal with these problems.
 - My bag was rough, my game wasn't smooth, it was rough, raggedy. No victory, just problems. Had some prime cuss words in my bag and my Maggie.
 - But I started reading my Word and heroes like David, and I fell in love with God. I saw God work in others, and I wanted him to work in me.
- Can I go old school James Brown, can I go back to 1965, and Papa's got a brand new bag. JB was talking about a new way of doing something, new kind of lifestyle.
- I can face things I used to run from before. Experiencing victory like never before, cause I got a brand new bag. When you got the right stones in your bag, you know you have victory over your problem because it's in the bag.
- When it was in the bag, David moved out to face the enemy, the problem wasn't too big for David because he knew victory was in the bag, it was a done deal, game over.
- I got victory over some stuff, because I got 5 smooth stones in my bag and it's a done deal. It's in the bag.

Let me caution you on two things. Before you run up on your giant, you better check your bag first. Too many times I've seen saints run up on problems but they ain't got the right stuff in their bag. And the problem gets the best of them.

Second, if you got the right stuff in your bag, make sure you know how to pull it out the bag when you get close to the problem. Too many believers got the right Word, got the right song, got all the right church, right things in the bag. But when trouble comes, when the problem arises they have what they need in the bag, but never pull it out....and the problem knocks them out.

Went to the doctor about my, got bad news, big problems. But I got a brand new bag. Mosquito got in my house, swung at him but not sure I got him, started worrying about West Nile, so I had to go into my bag....Giants do fall.



My 5 stones – accountability, fear God (will this bring glory to God), renew mind (change my imaginations and day dreams....Temptations 1971...it pays to do right), hate what God hates.

- Fellas, when temptation comes, I got five stones; if the first one misses, I reload because I got four more in the bag. I know where the water is to get more rocks. A well of living water.
- This papa's got a brand new bag....can I go JB one more time with you....this papa don't take no mess. When you got the right stuff in the bag, victory is certain.