

"Courage To Be and To Do"

To Be Hospitable

To Be Evangelistic

To Accept Change

To Forgive

To Do Things God's Way

To Be Vulnerable

To Keep My Commitments

To Be Optimistic

To Act with Kindness

To Lead My Family

To Be Willing to Yield

To Be A Soldier



Courage to be: Optimistic

- Optimism: expecting the best possible outcome from any given situation
- Where does optimism come from? Self-esteem? Peers? Family? Positive affirmation? DNA?
- In 1 Samuel 17 character, courage, and optimism are on display
- What is the story really about?
- Goliath: c. 10 ft. tall, 125 lbs of armor of “scales”
- David: young and ill equipped (5 smooth stones and a sling)
- Saul: head and shoulders above the people (1 Sam. 9:2)



Courage to be: Optimistic

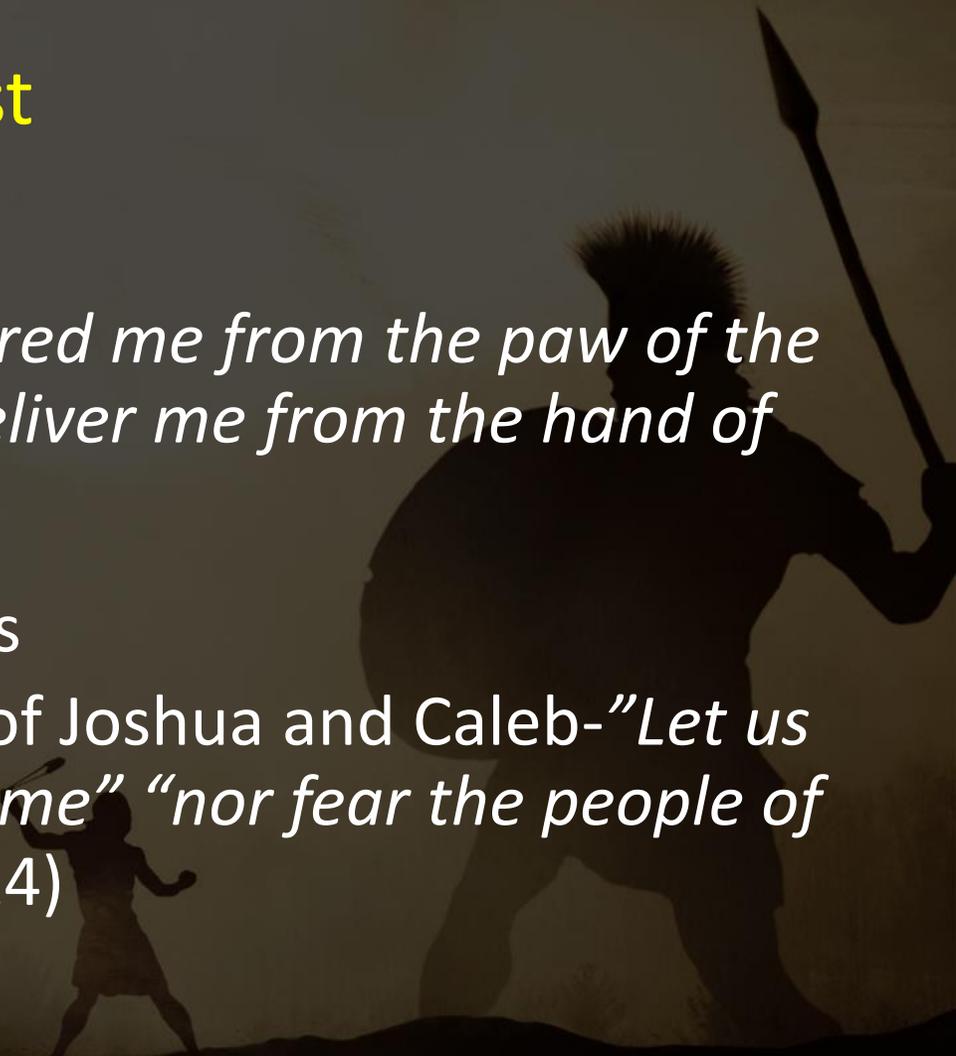
➤ Because of what God has done in the past

- David draws on past successes

Moreover David said, “The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” (1 Sam. 17:34)

- David knows the history of God-given victories

Perhaps as a boy his dad told him the story of Joshua and Caleb-“Let us go up at once!” “We are well able to overcome” “nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread” (Num. 13-14)

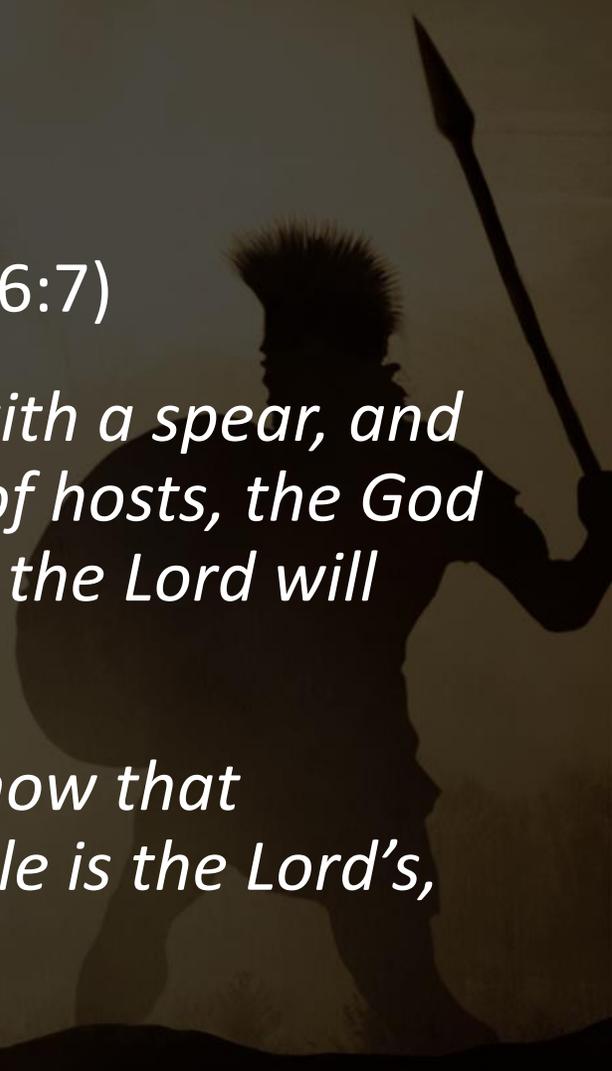


Courage to be: Optimistic

➤ Because of what God has done in the past

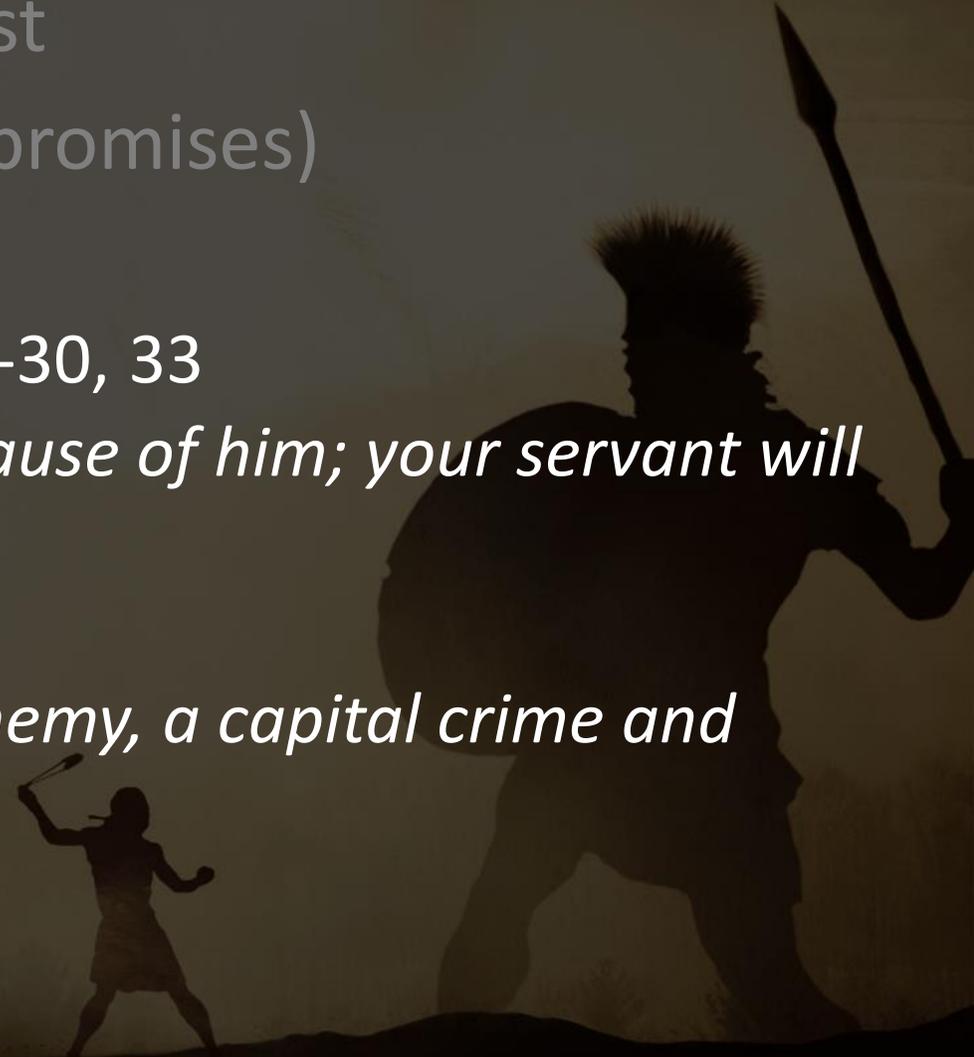
➤ **Because of God's foregone conclusions**

- David knew God's judgment: *"not as man sees"* (1 Sam. 16:7)
- David knew the source: *"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 defied. ⁴⁶ This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand,"* (1 Sam. 17:45)
- David knew the outcome! *"Then all this assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands."* (1 Samuel 17:47)



Courage to be: Optimistic

- Because of what God has done in the past
- Because of God's foregone conclusions (promises)
- **Because of God's ability to use us**
 - Despite what others do and say: 1 Sam 17:28-30, 33
 - Faith and action: *"Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine"*
 - Why five stones and not one?
 - Peter Leithart *"Goliath had committed blasphemy, a capital crime and David is going out to stone him to death"*



Courage to be: Optimistic

- “Whose son is this?”
- Let us be optimistic people! We have every reason to be!

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. (Rom. 8:28)

“And we have such trust through Christ toward God. ⁵ Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God” (2 Cor. 3:4-5)

“I will lift up my eyes to the hills—From whence comes my help” (Ps. 121:1)

