

New Ways to Kill Old Giants

“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.” John 16:13

1. We have all had jobs that no longer exist.
 - a. Key punch
 - b. Track tapes
 - c. Cassettes
 - d. Turntables and albums
 - e. Pepsi in bottles
2. Life is filled with things that change and things that don't change.
3. The Word teaches things that never change.
 - a. Character
 - b. Honor
 - c. Submission
 - d. Respect
4. The Holy Spirit shows us things that do change.
 - a. Methods, technology, wall colors, carpet...
 - b. Coffee, screens, videos, PowerPoint, iPads...
5. The world is changing and you as ministers must keep up.
 - a. Jesus did not have a P.A. system, air conditioning, heat, lights, or transportation.
 - b. We have new musical instruments (organs, drums, keyboards), technology, transportation.
 - c. As the minister, you cannot do everything in church as you always have.
 - d. Church leaders who do not change with the times will be gone in one generation.
 - e. “It looks like your church was built in the 80's” (Psalm 55:19).

A Shepherd, A Sling, and a Stone

“Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine.

48 So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. 49 Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the

stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth. 50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone and struck the Philistine and killed him. But there was no sword in the hand of David.” 1 Samuel 17:40

1. David is an example of listening to God’s voice to slay the enemy.
 - a. He knew the voice of the Holy Spirit
 - b. He also knew God’s promises of deliverance
 - c. He fought with what he was comfortable with – a sling not a sword.
 - d. His sling was a surprise to Israel – the Philistines and Goliath.
2. David watched and learned at each stage of life, what God had done for him and viewed himself accordingly.
 - a. David saw himself as Jesse’s son.
 - b. He later saw himself as the shepherd in Bethlehem.
 - c. He later saw himself as the slayer of Goliath.
 - d. After Goliath, he saw himself as the servant of Saul.
 - e. Finally, as the king of Israel – first in Hebron, then Jerusalem.
3. Good leaders never stay with one thing as they move along. They learn from each occupation and position, realizing nothing happens in life by accident if you are a follower of the Lord.

Don’t Become Lost in Time

1. If you are still running your church the same way you did 20, 15, or even 10 years ago – you are not an effective leader.
 - a. You should believe the same doctrines and be even more grounded in them.
 - b. You should still preach the word and spend time in study and prayer.
 - c. You should be led by the same Holy Spirit as you always have and teach your people to do the same.
2. Some things in life, business, ministry, are constantly changing.
 - a. Techniques, methods of leadership, handling of business, etc. should be open to change and change often.
3. Good leadership is also rooted in seeking those who will one day take your place. Change is always a part of life. Look for ways to work yourself out of a job.
 - a. We often try to hold on to our position for security and happiness.
 - b. Our security and happiness must be in the Lord and ourselves.
 - c. Happiness is not something you work toward but away from.
 - d. You must release who you were to become who you will be.

There Are Always More Giants

“When the Philistines were at war again with Israel, David and his servants with him went down and fought against the Philistines; and David grew faint. 16 Then Ishbi-Benob, who was one of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose bronze spear was three hundred shekels,

who was bearing a new sword, thought he could kill David. 17 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah came to his aid and struck the Philistine and killed him. Then the men of David swore to him, saying, "You shall go out no more with us to battle, lest you quench the lamp of Israel."

18 Now it happened afterward that there was again a battle with the Philistines at Gob. Then Sibbechai the Hushathite killed Saph, who was one of the sons of the giant. 19 Again there was war at Gob with the Philistines, where Elhanan the son of Jaare-Oregim the Bethlehemite killed the brother of Goliath the Gittite, the shaft of whose spear was like a weaver's beam.

20 Yet again there was war at Gath, where there was a man of great stature, who had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; and he also was born to the giant. 21 So when he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimea, David's brother, killed him.

22 These four were born to the giant in Gath and fell by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants." 2 Samuel 21:15-22

1. This happened toward the end of David's life.
2. David went out to kill the second of the five giants.
 - a. He tried to kill him as he did with Goliath and almost died.
 - b. David learned a great lesson about life.
3. David carried the four remaining stones for years.
 - a. He planned on one day killing them the same way.
 - b. He replaced revelation with tradition (peer pressure from dead people).
 - c. Anything we do can become tradition (prayer methods, worship music, or styles of management).
 - d. Many pastors are dying doing what they did years ago.
4. David's men killed the giant after David failed.
 - a. They warned him not to try to kill the giants. That was their job.
 - b. David was too valuable to keep fighting in wars.
 - c. David was to be the king – the nation's leader.
5. This is immaturity to think things will always be the same and what you do today will be done again tomorrow.
6. We must always be open for new ways to kill old giants.
 - a. Samson tried to arise "as before."
 - b. No two cities of Canaan were taken the same way.
 - c. Few were healed the same way in Jesus' ministry or in Acts.
7. Our military does not fight battles today as they used to.
 - a. Aircraft, ships, radar, weapons, communications have all been updated.
 - b. The evil of the enemy has not changed. However, their tactics, planes, ships, and communications have changed.

The Need for a New Generation of Leadership

1. Part of spiritual maturity is realizing you can no longer do by yourself and need the younger generation for help and equipping to carry on.
2. Although David's men defeated the giants, David also received the credit.
3. Never think the new generation does not know as much as you do. They probably know more.
4. Even the giants learned to have a different weapon from Goliath.
 - a. Like a defeated football team, they probably watched the videos.
 - b. They worked and perfected new swords.
 - c. David came unprepared with an old sling.
5. After Joshua's trained men conquered Canaan, the new generation were more accurate with a sling than their fathers (Judges 20:16).