



The Cause of David

A teaching lecture given at the Sons of Issachar Program by Evangelist Olátúndé ỌBÁFÉMI on Friday, the 14th of November, 2025.

Introduction & Context

of the sons of Issachar ***who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do***, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command

In **1 Chronicles 12:32**, the Bible informs us that certain sons of Issachar had an **understanding of the times** and what **needed to be done**. We are also told that what needed to be done according to the word of the LORD was to enthrone David as King over Israel. They came together for the Cause of David. The Cause of David is the answer to the understanding of the times and the Will of GOD. *What is the cause of David?*

The Cause of David

To understand the Cause of David is to understand the person of David, who became a symbol of a structure of Life. This can be seen in the first instance of public battle, which David encountered in **1 Samuel 17**.

The first thing we see is that David was *conscious* of the spiritual implications of physical events and issues. He lived in the consciousness of the implication of GOD in the affairs of life. When he saw Goliath's threat to the army of Israel, he

was not moved by fear; rather, he was conscious of the implications of doing nothing:

And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the armies of the Philistines, and spake according to the same words: and David heard them. And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid. And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel. — 1 Samuel 17:23-25

This *consciousness activated* him to seek an *understanding* of the situation, so he asked questions around him:

And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God? And the people answered him after this manner, saying, So shall it be done to the man that killeth him.— 1 Samuel 17:26-27

And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner.
— 1 Samuel 17:30

In the process of seeking understanding, he was brought before the King (**1 Samuel 17:31**).

While he was before the King, he identified himself as a servant of GOD's Cause. When he enumerated his encounters with the Lion and the bear, it is in alignment with the eternal power of GOD to protect. David is a servant of the eternal concern of GOD to protect life (**I Samuel 17:32 - 37**). It was because the eternal seal of the LORD was upon David that Saul was convinced to send a non-soldier to do the work of war.

And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth. And David said unto Saul, Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came a lion, and a bear, and took a lamb out of the flock: And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth: and when he arose against me, I caught him by his beard, and smote him, and slew him. Thy servant slew both the lion and the bear: and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be as one of them, seeing he hath defied the armies of the living God. David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee.
— 1 Samuel 17:32-37

Summation

David's Cause was that he was conscious and this activated him to seek understanding as a servant of an eternal concern.

The **CAUSE** is a **C**onscious **A**ctivated **U**nderstanding **S**erving **E**ternity.

This is the same cause which the Sons of Issachar banded with other tribes to follow. This is the key to understanding the times and pleasing GOD. It is therefore

no shock that David's reply to Eliab, his elder brother, is this question: "is there not a cause?"

And David said, What have I now done? Is there not a cause? —
1 Samuel 17:29

Now, to us, beyond a moment of history, why is this cause important? Why is it necessary to **C**onsciously **A**ctivate **U**nderstanding while **S**erving the **E**ternal GOD?

Importance of the Cause

The Cause is important because there is an existential threat to the Knowledge of GOD. In the days of David, it was a giant named Goliath.

Goliath

This giant from Gath (**I Samuel 17:4**):

- challenged the army of Israel (**I Samuel 17:8**).
- drew the battle as a determinant of the fate & Faith of the Nations (**I Samuel 17:9**).
- attributed Israel's leadership to man (King Saul) and not to GOD, a symbolic way of belittling GOD's eminence to the strength of men (**I Samuel 17:8**).

In our time, this battle still wages because while David was **C**onscious to activate understanding, we need to **C**ontinue activating understanding. In II Corinthians 10:3-5, we are told that the threat is spiritual in:

- thoughts to be captivated,
- imaginations against the knowledge of GOD and
- strongholds to be brought down.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; — 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

To understand the times and what must be done (like the sons of Issachar and like David) is to realise that the warfare is not carnal. The playbook is simple. This threat:

- challenges you to a battle for your soul
- challenges your relationship with GOD
- makes it clear that whoever wins determines the course of life and the placement of your soul in eternity
- also battles for your existence on earth to determine how it goes...

The war is still on. It's not about riches or wealth or the lack of these, but for the life of GOD and HIS design for your life. Now there's a reason why this is prevailing against us now more than ever. It is because the war doesn't start until you are a youth. This warfare begins in the Youth phase of life.

The Youth Phase

When Goliath raged on and challenged the GOD in all the men of Israel, the skilled men of war were troubled and afraid but did nothing:

When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid. — 1 Samuel 17:11

And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid. — 1 Samuel 17:24

When David presented himself to face the enemy, Saul tried to dissuade him:

And Saul said to David, Thou art not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.— 1 Samuel 17:33

Please note that:

- David was a **youth** (like you and me).
- Goliath had been a warrior from his **youth**

The Youth is the beginning of the cause. This is the phase of life when you become conscious of the Thoughts and Imaginations of life. It is when there's an activation of the thinking of these thoughts and Imaginations with the goal to Understand their implications. This is the phase where we seek understanding for good or for bad, but we seek. It is also at this stage that you can serve: to obey an eternal principle or an earthly preoccupation. This is where the cause begins:

And the LORD smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; **for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth;** neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done.— Genesis 8:21

The Youth is not about Age but about consciousness of Thoughts and Imaginations, between good & evil. This is the battle.

The Battle

So now that we know there's a battle that can affect and determine our lives, and we are enlisted from the moment we become conscious of life, how do we fight? The answer to this is to understand the key players in the battle between David and Goliath. There are only 2 ways to fight:

The Goliath Way

This way relies on the physical: the armour, the strength, the skill, the ability; it is carnally minded. It thrives on carnal fear. It is possible to profess Christianity and fight this way by relying on yourself and living life from the approach of traditions, cultures, your race, your way of doing things, and your own understanding (**Proverbs 3:5,6**).

The Goliath way of fighting ensures that you live your life without having GOD in your thoughts (**Psalm 10:4**). When you do things and live without the direct inspiration of GOD, this is your fighting style. To live your life in the way of the world and not in the way of the LORD is to fight like Goliath.

The devil is aware that all that needs to be done is to get you to live in the ignorance of GOD's Will for your life, and you will be fighting this fight on the side of Goliath.

As long as no one challenged Goliath, everyone was fighting for and with Goliath. The Goliath way of fighting and living is a way that focuses on your desires and what YOU want to do as opposed to what GOD has designed and what HE wants you to do.

The David Way

This way is conscious. This way seeks understanding and delights in it. This way doesn't just do anything because it is available to be done. When David rejects Saul's Armour, it was because he had not proven it (**I Samuel 17: 38,39**). This way tests all spirits and proves by the standard of GOD (**1 John 4:1**). This way doesn't go with the trends and waves.

This way is unconventional; it is not a surprise to see David bring a staff and a shepherd's sling to a sword and spear fight (**I Samuel 17:40**).

This way prioritises preparation over celebration, inspiration above distraction. Remember that David had been training with lions and bears while saving the sheep at pasture (**I Samuel 17:36**). The David Way is reliant on GOD, conscious OF GOD, dependent on HIS Word for every moment of life. When they face difficulty, they don't think through the lenses of the enemy but through the vision of GOD.

WAY versus Way ::: DECIDE

If you look at all we've said and seen about this Cause, one thing is striking above all: the battle is for who dictates your life. It is for those who would manage their life. In the Goliath way, you are managed by a stranger who has no details of your life, but in the David Way, you are managed by GOD. The true battle is for who determines the path of your life. You are not going to kill a giant, but you are deciding to whom you will yield your members to obey (**Romans 6:13, 16**). So you either fight for good or fight for evil. In good, you go with GOD, but in evil, you go against GOD. This is the battle. You fight by decision. Decide which way to live by and follow the frequency of the Way.

The Good Fight of Faith

Paul in **I Timothy 6:12** asked us to fight the good fight of faith. How do you do this?

- To fight the good fight of faith is to **do everything by faith**
- To do anything by faith is **to receive faith** and **hold on tightly to faith**
- **To receive Faith is by hearing**, and this hearing is by the Word of the LORD (**Romans 10:17**)
- **The Hearing happens by the Voice of the LORD**, bringing the Word which contains faith.
- This is what determines how you fight. It is also why David is confident to use a sling against a giant clothed in bronze. **Because Faith said so**. There is no other explanation. **When faith says so, whatever is said is powered to accomplishment.**

Summation

Therefore, **the David Way depends on hearing the Voice of the LORD** to live the life that GOD has ordained, announced, and designed. (The grace of David to enquire on every issue as it comes - **I Samuel 23:2,4,11,12**). The way to defeat Goliath is by the Voice of GOD, which brings faith and determines the steps of life

to victory over the wrong thoughts and Imaginations. The Phase of the Youth thrives on decision, sensitivity to the Voice, and availability beyond just praying.

Conclusion

- You **recognise** that there's a battle for your soul, and this battle involves thoughts and imaginations.
- You also **observe** that there are only two ways to fight this battle: depending on GOD by HIS Voice, like David, or relying on yourself and your ability; thus connecting with the devil like Goliath.
- Then you need to decide to align with either of the ways: for GOD will be to know, hear, and follow HIS Voice, or against GOD is to listen to the voices around with no focus on the eternal principle of life.
- When that is done, you unite with a side in a decision to fight the good fight of faith or fight the evil fight of carnal fear.

It begins with Faith, and this involves hearing HIS VOICE. Please note that just as the disciples requested that JESUS teach them how to pray (**Luke 11:1**) and HE gave a manner of prayer (**Matthew 6:9**), so, too, we ought to learn the manner of HIS Voice. We have to be taught HIS Voice. If you are interested, The Crucified Way Ministry can be of help.

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