

# CASTING DOWN WRONG THOUGHTS

## Vying For Your Mind

- I. In the realm of the spirit there's a vying for our focus (what we think on)-Hell wants you to think on the wrong stuff and Heaven has given you orders to think on the right stuff
- II. The moment David stepped on the scene there was an immediate move by the enemy to seize his focus-**1Sm17:8-11,16**-He stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, Why are ye come out to set your battle in array? am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me. <sup>9</sup> If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us. <sup>10</sup> And the Philistine said, I defy (taunt, treat with contempt) the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together. <sup>11</sup> When Saul and all Israel heard (hear with attention, consider) those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed (discouraged), and greatly afraid. <sup>16</sup> And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days. <sup>23</sup> 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
- A. The enemy seized their focus. they considered-This fed fear into them, drained faith out of them-**Rm4:19, Mt14:30**
- B. Satan can perceive faith and is terrified of it b/c it lets God in-No coincidence Goliath came as soon as David got there
- C. The enemy is desperate for David's focus. because it's the only way to drain that faith out of him
- D. David heard what Goliath said. he didn't hear like they did-You see this by the differences in spiritual condition
- III. From the moment David got there all the way to the end, there was a spiritual pull on him to focus on Goliath
- A. The enemy tries to get him to consider Goliath through the men of Israel- 1Sm17:24-26-All the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid. <sup>25</sup> And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? (**GN**-Look at Him! They said to each other; **EX**-Look at this man!) surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who kills him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel <sup>26</sup> 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
1. Majority technique-Through the majority he tries to get David to do what they did-Faith doesn't follow the crowd
  2. The men of Israel are focused on Goliath-They talked Goliath, they are gawking at him, impressed by him
  3. David wouldn't consider Goliath-He got the reward and Goliath having no covenant on his mind
- B. The enemy tries to get him to consider Goliath through Saul- 1Sm17:31-37-When the words were heard which David spake, they rehearsed them before Saul: and he sent for him. <sup>32</sup> And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him; thy servant will go and fight with this Philistine. <sup>33</sup> 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. <sup>34</sup> 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: <sup>35</sup> 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. <sup>36</sup> 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. <sup>37</sup> 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
1. Expert technique-Saul was war expert and the enemy thought that David would consider what the expert said
  2. Saul is focused on Goliath-He talked Goliath's superiority, his warrior history, David's inferiority
  3. David has the lion, the bear and Goliath being defeated on his mind-That thought hadn't crossed anyone's mind
- C. The enemy tries to get David to consider Goliath through Goliath- 1Sm17:42-When the Philistine looked about and saw David he disdained (worthless) him for he was but a youth and ruddy and of a fair countenance <sup>43</sup> The Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog that you come to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed (made light) David by his gods. <sup>44</sup> And the Philistine said to David, Come to me and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air and to the beasts of the field. <sup>45</sup> Then said David to the Philistine, You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a shield but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts (war), the God of the armies of Israel, whom you hast defied. <sup>46</sup> This day will the Lord deliver you into my hand and I will smite you and take your head from you and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air and to the

wild beasts of the earth that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. <sup>47</sup> And all this assembly will know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear for the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hands

1. The fear technique-Through the gravity of the situation get you so afraid that you think on it
  2. Why the discourse?-This is a natural battle being fought on a spiritual level; Satan knows if he doesn't seize his focus and drain him of his faith, this won't go well; Goliath speaks the utterances of the enemy to get him to consider this, to see his body being eaten, but instead David gave him a thought
  3. David won't consider that-He's got winning on his mind, he's got the Lord helping him on his mind
- D. David was unwilling to consider Goliath-David answered every pull, never did consider Goliath—**This is why he won**

#### **IV. The enemy is desperate for your focus and his desperation is the reason for his persistence**

- A. This pull on David was incessant and it came through different channels-The enemy was desperate to get David to consider for just a moment what he's saying
- B. Why heat up the furnace?-He's desperate to get them thinking about the fire, their flesh burning, dying-**Dn3:19**