

than He is! Instead, God will defeat every enemy on the day Jesus Christ returns and the great final judgment takes place (1 Corinthians 15:24-28; Romans 14:11)! The end is not in dispute!

**Satan loses.** Just as the Bible is clear in teaching that God will emerge victorious, it is clear in teaching that Satan and all his allies will lose. Not only is Satan limited by God's power in this world (i.e. Job 1:12; 2:6), but God will also forever defeat Satan by casting him and all his followers into the eternal fires of Hell. Consider the picture in Revelation 20:7-10, using symbolic language that pictures Satan's eventual defeat and God's power over him. Jesus pictured the same end for Satan in Matthew 25:41, 46. Therefore, you must never think that Satan and his allies will be victorious in this war!

**Those who fight on God's side win.** Just to be clear: You can lose this war and be defeated by Satan and the giants he uses against you. Therefore, whether you will be victorious or defeated is very much a conclusion that is yet to be determined. But, you must have confidence that if you choose to fight on God's side in this war for your soul and resist Satan, you will also be victorious! This is the opportunity God has given to you through Jesus Christ (John 14:6)! Consider Romans 8:31-39, as it should give anyone who faithfully serves God great hope! So, if you fight this war with full confidence in God and humbly obey His orders during your life, your faith in God will result in victory through Jesus Christ and you will score and overwhelming victory against all the giants you face and defeat Satan (1 John 4:4; 5:4; Ephesians 6:10-18). For, God has always been and will always be greater than Satan!

### Conclusion

You must view the battles you find yourself in as belonging to God! As long as you look at them by only focusing on yourself and physical things, you will lose. But, if you truly recognize God's greatness, you will have the faith and courage to overcome Satan. And, God will lead you through Jesus Christ to a great and overwhelming victory over Satan and all his allies – if you let Him do so!



What you think about things (your perception) makes a huge difference in whether you will be successful or unsuccessful in any venture (i.e. "self-defeating prophecy"). Sadly, many who profess faith in God do not believe they will be able to win their battles against their giants – and Satan defeats them as a result. Yet, one of the biggest differences between those who are successful and those who are not is the ability to perceive the various challenges as being conquerable. All of this means that your giants are a test to see how much you really trust in God. If you perceive your giants to be bigger and stronger than God – or God to be bigger and stronger than your giants!

The purpose of this lesson is to learn to develop the perception that the battles you face against your giants belong to God by considering how David viewed his battle as God's, how God is bigger than your giants, and how the outcome has already been determined.

### David Knew The Battle Belonged To God

**David had faith to approach the giant.** Perception was one of the biggest differences between David and every other Israelite as it related to Goliath's challenge. Still, sometimes people talk big but then shrink when the moment to act arrives. Yet, this was not the case with David (1 Samuel 17:40). David had chosen to fight, was confident in God, equipped himself for battle, and then actually had enough faith to approach the giant! Put yourself in David's position and see yourself approaching this giant who wants to kill you!

**David had faith to overcome doubts.** Imagine being David and hearing the taunting by the giant (1 Samuel 17:41-44)! Not only did the giant mock David's choice of weapon and tell him how he would be killed, notice Goliath cursed David by his gods. So, this was a test of whether David

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truly believed in God more than Goliath's gods (making it a clear battle of the gods). But, David never seemed to flinch – trusting the true God as being greater than all the doubts Goliath tried to instill in his mind.

**David knew he was powerless against the giant by himself.**

David's confidence was based on God's ability and not in himself (1 Samuel 17:45-47). In fact, he told Goliath that when he kills Goliath, everyone will know that it is only because of God and not because of any weapon or skill David possessed! Although it seems counterintuitive, David's humility was crucial to his fight. If David had been self-confident, it is probable that the birds and wild beasts would have fed on his body. It was only when David chose to approach Goliath through faith in God and depended on God's power to deliver him that he emerged victorious!

**David knew it was God's battle to win.** David made it clear that he came to battle in the name of the Lord and wanted everyone to know it was God's battle (1 Samuel 17:45, 47). His focus was on God's ability rather than his own inability! If he had not had this perception, he likely would have been like all the other Israelites and never volunteered to fight Goliath. Yet, focusing on God's ability resulted in David realizing he did not have to be as talented of a warrior as Goliath or need the best physical armor and weaponry. Instead, he recognized that God was the one who was going to actually defeat Goliath. So, while many would have seen Goliath towering over David, I believe David saw God towering over Goliath!

### **God Is Bigger Than Your Giants**

**Only God possesses certain characteristics.** While many focus on any number of aspects about the giants (i.e. how they have defeated them and others in the past) and get intimidated by them, we should focus on who God is. So, let's consider some basic characteristics that only God (the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) has. Recognize that Satan and your giants do not possess any of these! First, God is eternal (has no beginning and no end, Psalm 90:2; Revelation 4:8). Second, God is all-powerful (is limitless in power, Luke 1:37; Matthew 19:26). Third, God is all-knowing (knows everything true and right, Romans 11:33; Isaiah 46:9-10). Fourth, God is ever-present (sees everywhere at all times and is always near to help, Proverbs 15:3; Hebrews 4:13). Therefore, you can put your full confidence in God because He possesses these attributes!

**God is undefeated.** God has won every battle He has ever fought because there is really no one and nothing more powerful and able than He is! Most notably, this is the God who was able to create the universe

and everything in it (Genesis 1:1). So, everything around you should remind you that God is infinitely greater than the greatest giants you face (Psalm 19:1-4)! Then, there are many examples of this in the pages of the Bible. For instance, God delivered His people from Egyptian slavery (Exodus 7-14), caused the walls of Jericho to collapse (Joshua 6), used just 300 Israelite soldiers to rescue Israel from a great army (Judges 6-8), delivered Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego from a fiery furnace (Daniel 3), and delivered Daniel from the lions' den (Daniel 6). There are many faith-building stories in the Bible that should remind you that God can defy all earthly odds and cause you defeat your giants and Satan! For, God has never encountered an opponent greater than He is!

**God's greatness should give you faith and courage.** While you are powerless to defeat Satan and your giants by yourself (since you cannot undo what you have already done), you must choose to focus on God's greatness. Every time you compare yourself to Satan and your giants, you lose the battle. But, every time you compare God to Satan and your giants, God wins! So, while Satan wants you to rely on your own physically-focused understanding to intimidate and defeat you, you must learn to trust God with all your heart and follow Him even when His ways go against your understanding (Proverbs 3:5-7)! For example, consider the promise in 1 Corinthians 10:13. First, recognize that this passage applies to Satan tempting you through your giants. Second, although every person has unique circumstances, the reality is that the giants you struggle with are the same giants others struggle with – and that some have even overcome. Third, God promises that He can and does limit how Satan and the giants can tempt you. Fourth, God promises that there is a path to victory over Satan and your giants, no matter how difficult things may appear!

**God will defeat all your giants – if you let Him.** Although God could defeat your giants regardless of your participation, God does not force anyone to live for Him. He makes victory possible; but He doesn't force you to experience it. It is sad, then, whenever people reject God in some way and then blame Him for not delivering them! Yet, the problem is not with Him; only with us! Consider Psalm 20:6-9. Take a moment right now (before moving on) to give your battles to God – shifting your perception from your giants to God, from your inability to God's abilities, and from thinking you will be defeated to being confident God will win!

### **The Outcome Has Already Been Determined**

**God wins.** You must recognize that the outcome of this war is not in doubt. God is undefeated – and will never face an enemy who is greater