

**HOW TO BE DIFFERENT**  
**1 SAMUEL 17:51**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. If you want to make a difference in this world, it is necessary to be different from the world. (Rom. 12.1; James 4.4; 1 John 2.15)
2. David was different than everyone else. (1 Sam. 17.24,51)
3. What made David so different teaches us how to be different.

**I. SETTING THE STAGE**

- A. The conflict between Israel and Philistia. (1 Sam. 17.1)
- B. The Camps of the Israelites and Philistines. (1 Sam. 17.2)
  1. Ephes Dammim: “boundary of blood”
  2. The Valley of Elah: “valley of oaks”
- C. The Champion of the Philistines. (1 Sam. 17.3-10)
  1. Verses 3,4: The stature of Goliath.
  2. Verses 5-7: The armor and weaponry of Goliath.
  3. Verses 8-10: The challenge of Goliath.
- D. The Cowardice of Israel. (1 Sam. 17.11)
- E. The Contrast between Israel and David. (1 Sam. 17.12ff)

**II. WHAT MADE DAVID SO DIFFERENT?**

- A. God was important to David.
  1. All Israel could see was Goliath. (1 Sam. 17.24,25,33)
  2. David saw that his God who was being defiled and was offended. (1 Sam. 17.26,36; Matt. 22.37)
- B. David knew he was important to God.
  1. At every turn, David was met by those who tried to tear him down. (1 Sam. 17.28,33,43)
  2. David viewed himself as one whom God watched over and protected. (1 Sam. 17.34-37)
- C. We are different when we follow the example of David.
  1. We all face our Goliaths. (Rom. 8.18)
  2. Turn to God. (Phil. 4.6).
  3. Know that God cares. (1 Pet. 5.7)

**CONCLUSION:** Who won the battle between David and Goliath?

**NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST**      **SEPTEMBER 11, 2022**  
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*“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”*  
-Mark 16.15

**September 11, 2022**

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**MEETING TIMES:**

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS : 9:00 AM**  
**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP: 9:50 AM**  
**SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP: 6:00 PM**  
**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS 7:30 PM**

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## DECEIVED BY EMPTY WORDS

From the world we hear: “What is so wrong with having a sexual relationship with someone who whom you are not married? Why would God punish you for living a homosexual lifestyle. It is just another way of expressing love. After all, isn’t that the way God made you? Where is the harm in dropping money into a slot machine or playing a couple hands of poker in the casino? Who defines words as being vulgar? They are just words. Will God judge me for merely speaking a word that society has deemed offensive?”

Since the beginning, the world has attempted to justify sin and convince us that there are no consequences to sinful behavior. To this Paul warned, *“Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience”* (Eph. 5.6). The word “empty” carries the idea of being meaningless. The arguments used to justify sin are meaningless and vain. Instead, the apostle warns that *“no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God”* (Eph. 5.5). We know this. Therefore we ought not to allow ourselves to be deceived by empty words.

The Bible promises that one day we will see Jesus face to face and be like He is. *“And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure”* (1 John 3.2,3). CLP

## FAITH: THE GREAT DIVIDER

### HEBREWS 11:1

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. Without faith, it is impossible to have hope, for faith is the very foundation of things hoped for. (Heb. 11.1)
2. Faith consists of three components:
  - a) Accepting as facts those things that God said.
  - b) Trusting that God is able to deliver on His promises.
  - c) Acting in obedience to what God has commanded.
3. Faith defines our way of life. (Rom. 1.17; 2 Cor. 5.7)

#### I. DIVIDING THE HOPEFUL FROM THE HOPELESS

- A. There are those who have hope and those who do not.
  1. Those who have no hope are “*without Christ*” and “*without God in the world*” (Eph. 2.11,12).
  2. Those who have no hope are those who “*sorrow*” over the dead. (1 Thess. 4.13)
- B. Having or not having conviction, (Heb. 11.1)
  1. **HEBREWS 11.1:** “*Faith is...the evidence of things not seen*” Evidence (elegchos): “conviction” [Strong]
  2. What are those things not seen? It is the future, those things for which we have hope. (Rom. 8.24,25)

#### II. PRINCIPLES OF FAITH IN ROMANS

- A. Romans 4: An example of faith.
  1. **VERSES 1-3:** Abraham accepted what God said as fact.
  2. **VERSES 19,20:** Abraham trusted in God.
  3. **VERSE 21:** Abraham acted on what God said.
  4. **VERSE 12:** We are to have the faith of Abraham.
- B. Romans 5: The result of faith.
  1. **VERSE 1:** We are justified by faith.
  2. **VERSE 2:** We access God’s grace through faith.
- C. Romans 6: The obedience of faith.
  1. **VERSES 1-4:** God commands baptism.
  2. **VERSE 17:** They were justified when they obeyed.
- D. Romans 7: The deliverance by faith. (vs. 24,25)
- E. **ROMANS 8.1:** “*There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus...*”

**CONCLUSION:** On which side of the divide do you fall?

## WHO ARE YOU TRYING TO PLEASE?

The philosopher, Dr. John Dewey, once wrote, “the deepest urge in human nature is the desire to be important.” We insist that our children eat their vegetables to get the nutrition they need, but we do not feed their emotional and mental well-being by offering sincere appreciation. Our brethren are starving for you and I to let them know they are valued. One of the most common complaints among husbands and wives is the lack of appreciation.

There were some who would act religiously just to appear important to men. They would do good works and then “*sound the trumpet before you...that they may have glory from men.*” They would offer their prayers while “*standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men.*” They would “*disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting*” (Matt. 6.2,5,16).

The Pharisees, likewise, sought a place of honor in the eyes of the Jewish community. They would “*enlarge the borders of their garments*”, seek out the “*best places at feasts*” and the “*best seats in the synagogues*”. They loved to be “*called by men, ‘Rabbi, Rabbi’*” (Matt. 23.1-7). Jesus summed up the motives of the Pharisees: “*But all their works they do to be seen by men*” (Matt. 23.5).

There is nothing wrong with wanting to feel important. However, we must ask ourselves this: Who are we trying to please? Paul reminds us that it is not he who commends himself or who is commended by men, “*but whom the Lord commends*” (2 Cor. 10.18). It should not be important to us to receive the praise and approval of men, but the praise and approval of God. We ought to be more interested and are “*diligent to present yourself approved by God*” (2 Tim. 2.15).

Whom we seek to please, the one in whose eyes we want to be valued and seen as important, will govern our actions and decision. It was this desire for the praise of men that led to some of the rulers refusing to confess the name of Jesus. (John 12.42,43). It is that desire to be people “*whose praise is not from men, but from God*” (Rom. 2.29), that drives us to do the things we do and live the way we live.

Let us always have the goal expressed by Paul: “*Therefore we make it our aim...to be well pleasing to Him*” (2 Cor. 5.9). CLP