

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

THE TRUE HERO

I SAMUEL 17:40-58

OCTOBER 1ST, 2023

- I. Goliath's Misplaced Confidence and David's Unshakeable Hope: vs. 40-47
- II. The Surprising Victory: vs. 48-54
- III. An Emerging Leader: vs. 55-58

Questions:

1. What is the danger of viewing yourself as David or as the hero of the story?
2. What was the connection between where David grounded his confidence and his response to Goliath compared to the Israelite army?
3. We see fear on display in various characters this story. Would you describe yourself as one who struggles with fear often? How do you normally handle and process fear?
4. Why is it so important to compare whatever it is that's producing fear to who God is (like David in vs. 45-47, "The battle is the Lord's") rather than comparing fear to ourselves and our own resources (like Saul/Israelite army)?
5. According to vs. 46b-47, who/what was Israel's greatest enemy?
 - Hint: it was not Goliath or the Philistines
6. Why does the actual combat between David and Goliath only get two verses (compared to all three of David's speeches/sermons)? What does this reveal concerning the real meaning of the story?
7. In what ways does this story and the character of David point to Jesus?