

Week 6 – David

This season, we have been tracing the promise that God made in the Garden of Eden. That promise is that one day, a descendant of the woman would defeat sin to repair everything that had been broken with the Fall of Man. We saw how God kept the line of offspring after Adam through Noah in the Universal Flood and how God then chose Abraham out of all the people on the earth to continue that promise. God made the covenant with Abraham and promised that even though his descendants would be slaves for 400 years, God would not forget about them or fail them. God fulfilled that part of the promise when He sent Moses to be God's messenger and teach the people of Israel about who God is.

Moses was a prophet for God and represented who God was to the people. But even with how God instructed the people to worship Him, it was clear that they could not truly honor God because of their sinful nature. No matter how closely they followed God's commandments in the Law, they were still sinful and needed a Savior. About 400 years after Moses died, God rose up another leader for the people of Israel. This leader's name was **David**.

David was a shepherd boy who knew God. He worshiped God in the right ways and He trusted God to keep His promises. God chose David to be the next king and send His prophet to tell David.

A little while later, Israel was fighting a nation called the Philistines who were much different from themselves. They came from a different place, but were trying to take over all the land that God had promised to Abraham and that Israel had held since shortly after Moses. The Philistines also worshiped other false gods and taunted the One True God, Yahweh. On top of all that, Israel was afraid of the Philistines because they were ferocious, strong, and especially big.

One of the large warriors for the Philistines was a giant named Goliath who was more than 9 feet tall! He went in front of all the armies of Israel and challenged them to a fight, one-on-one, to show who was stronger and whose god was real. David was just a young shepherd boy, but he knew that God was stronger than the fake gods of the Philistines and he trusted that God would prove him right.

David came up in battle against the giant without fear because he trusted in God. He trusted that God would show that He was the real God and that God would keep His promise to let David live to be the next king. David slung a stone at Goliath and knocked him down with just one throw. He defeated Goliath, but was eager to show everyone that he didn't win for himself, but to show the majesty and glory of God.

Later on, David became a great king. He ruled over the nation of Israel for 40 years and won many more battles. More importantly, he helped show the people how to worship God. David decided he wanted to build God a house (called a temple) in Israel, but instead, God promised to build David a house where a descendant of David would reign forever as king. This descendant would not just rule over Israel, but he would rule over all the earth. God had narrowed the scope of His promise to focus on a coming king. And this king who would last forever would be the Savior from sin that was promised way back to Adam in the Garden of Eden. We'll talk about him more next week.

Discussion Questions:

- Why was David not afraid to fight the giant?
- Can you briefly describe the people we have talked about this season and how God kept His promises?
- Do you know who the king is who will rule forever?