

# THE CHARACTERS AND DRAMA OF 1 SAMUEL

[PART 31]  
**IS THERE NOT A CAUSE?**

*Reading: 1 Samuel 17: 12 - 29*

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## Introduction

- There is serious, gigantic trouble in the valley.
- The Philistines are attempting another '**land grab**'
- Their '**champion**' suggests a '**one on one**' contest with '**the winner takes all**'
- Despite incentives from king Saul there are no takers.
- Israel are terrified of Goliath of Gath.

## 1 The Continued Humility & Obedience Of David

- Even though David is heir to the throne, he's still looking after sheep.
- He's not too proud to do so. He's clothed himself with humility.
- He's further humble enough to run a simple errand for his father.
- Note: its his obedience that gets him to where God wants him to be.
- He's honouring his earthly father. [Exodus 20: 12].

## 2 The Vision And Perception Of David

- David quickly takes in the situation when he arrives at the site of the confrontation with the Philistines.
- David couldn't understand why someone hadn't accepted Goliath's challenge.
- Both the Israelites and David saw the exact same thing and heard the same thing.

- Where Israel saw a giant, David just saw '***an uncircumcised Philistine***.'
- Where Israel saw a problem, David saw an opportunity.
- Where Israel pictured defeat David anticipated victory.
- While some had their eyes on the giant, David had his eyes on God.
- David saw things differently because he was seeing them through the lens of faith and God.
- Israel also forgot they were a covenant people.

### **3 David's Victory Over The Critic**

- [vs 28]. As soon as David suggests doing something the critic appears (his own brother).
- Notice how David dealt with the critic - he largely ignored him.
- David could have '***leathered in***' to Eliab but he didn't.
- David could have lost his temper but he didn't.
- He stayed in control of his own spirit. [Proverbs 25:28].
- David had to win the battle of his temper before he could win the battle with Goliath.

### **4 Is There Not A Cause?**

- Every child of God needs a cause to invest time and effort in.
- There is the greatest cause in the universe - the extending of the kingdom of God.
- What cause are you part off?

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