

# 1 Samuel 17:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.

## Analysis

**And David left his carriage in the hand of the keeper of the carriage, and ran into the army, and came and saluted his brethren.**

The Goliath narrative demonstrates that human impossibilities create opportunities for divine glory. David's confidence rests not in weapons or military training but in the character of the God who delivered him from lion and bear. His declaration that 'the battle is the LORD's' establishes the theological principle that spiritual victory comes through faith in God's power rather than confidence in human strength. The contrast between Saul's armor (representing human methods) and simple shepherd's weapons (representing faith) teaches that God uses unexpected means to accomplish His purposes and receive glory.

## Historical Context

The establishment of monarchy around 1050-1010 BCE represented a dramatic political and theological shift for Israel. Unlike surrounding nations where kings were considered divine or semi-divine, Israel's kings were supposed to function under God's ultimate authority as laid out in Deuteronomy 17:14-20. The Benjamite tribe occupied strategic territory between Ephraim and Judah, making Saul's selection a politically astute choice to balance tribal rivalries. Archaeological remains from this period show increased fortification and centralization of settlements, confirming the transition to state-level organization.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does this passage deepen our understanding of God's character, purposes, and ways of working in human history?
2. What specific heart attitudes, thought patterns, or life practices does this passage call you to examine or change?
3. How does this passage connect to the larger biblical narrative of redemption and point toward Christ and the gospel?

## Interlinear Text

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שׂוֹרֵר יָדֵת מַעַל עַל יְמֵי כְּלֵי אֶת יְמֵי תְּלִיטָשׁ  
left And David his carriage in the hand of the keeper  
H5203 H1732 H853 H3627 H5921 H3027 H8104

לְאַפְתִּים וְשָׂאָל בְּנֵי צָרָב הַמַּעֲבָר אֶת יְמֵי כְּלֵי  
his carriage and ran into the army and came and saluted his brethren  
H3627 H7323 H4634 H935 H7592 H251

לְשָׁלוֹם:

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