

1 Samuel 17:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner.

Analysis

And he turned from him toward another, and spake after the same manner: and the people answered him again after the former manner.

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 Benjaminite 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

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

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

וְאָמַרְתָּ	אַחֲרֵי	רֵגֵל	אֶל	מִאָצְלָה	בַּיָּסֶבֶת
And he turned	from him	H413	toward	another	and spake
H5437	H681		H4136	H312	H559
רְגָבֵר	וַיַּשְׁבַּחַת	הָיָה	בְּפִנֵּי	פָּעָם	רְגָבֵר
after the same manner	H2088	him again		and the people	after the same manner
H1697		H7725		H5971	H1697
רְגָבֵר	בְּרָאשָׁוֹן	:			
after the same manner	after the former				
H1697	H7223				

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