



DAVID AND GOLIATH

1 Samuel 17

September 30, 2018



Introduction

- Reasons why 1 Sam 17 is significant:
 - Longest narrative in 1 Samuel with a number of details normally excluded
 - David becomes the prominent figure in this chapter and through the rest of the book
 - This is the first battle that Saul faces after the Holy Spirit departs from him – Saul's response contrasted with David's.
 - God begins to confirm David as His choice of king.
 - Who is the real hero in the story?
 - The Holy Spirit
 - This story is a remarkable picture of a godly young man who is walking by the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.
- Who were the Philistines?

Central-Southern Israel



David and Goliath

- A. The Setting – Valley of Elah (1-3)
 - Philistine army encamped along the southern ridge of the valley:
 - Between Socoh and Azekah
 - In Ephes-Dammim?? – not sure where this is
 - Israelite army encamped in the valley of Elah – likely along the northern ridge of the valley
 - The armies dug in on the hills on either side of the valley.

Central-Southern Israel



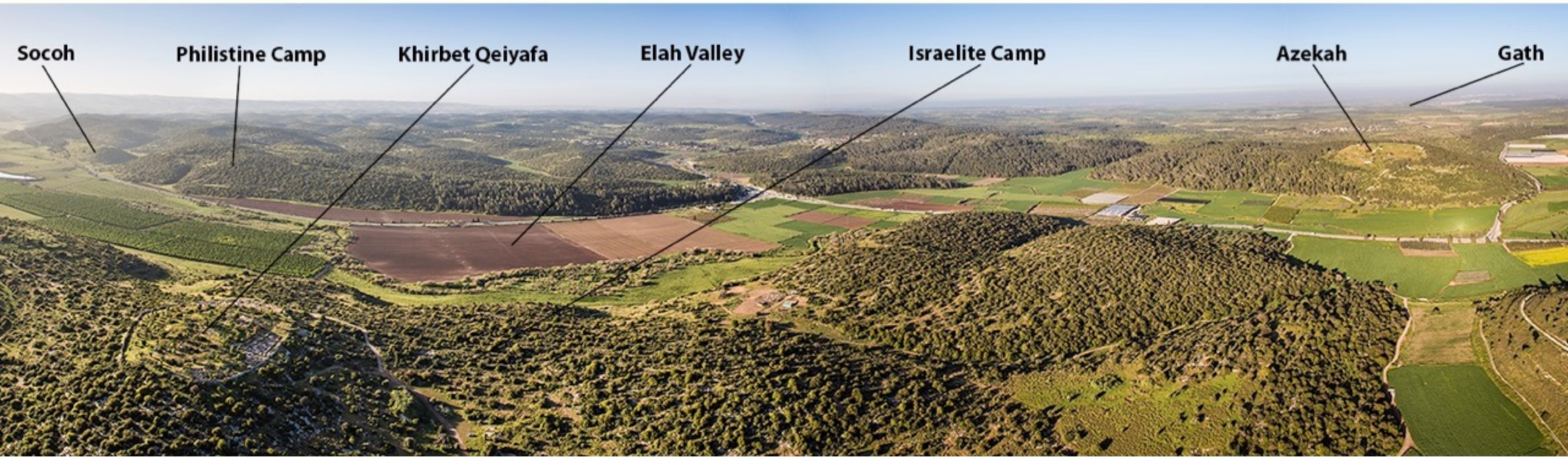
Location of the Battle – Valley of Elah



Location of the Battle – Valley of Elah



Location of the Battle – Valley of Elah





Azekah

Israelite Camp

Elah Valley



Elah Valley
Brook

Israelite Camp

Elah Valley Brook



David and Goliath

- A. The Setting – Valley of Elah (1-3)
- B. The Champion – Goliath (4-7)
 - Height – 9’ 9”
 - Armour – 126 pound chain mail type armour, shield
 - Weapons – javelin, spear (15 pound spearhead), sword
 - Champion – skilled and experienced in warfare
- C. The Challenge (8-11)
- D. Preparation for David’s trip (12-19)

David and Goliath

- E. David's Visit (20-27)

- David's question – vs. 26

- Who is this uncircumcised Philistine?
 - Taunt's the armies of the living God?
 - David understood what was at stake is the very name and reputation of God.
 - Richard Philips - "David's response to the situation at Elah teaches that the great affairs of life are all essentially theological. What we do with our lives, how we decide whom to marry or not, what priorities we pursue, or whether we witness the gospel to friends and neighbors all reveal what we really believe about God. Regardless of our formal profession of faith, if we seldom act on the basis of biblical truth, we show that the world holds greater sway over our minds and hearts than God does. If we shrink from doing difficult things for God, we show that we think him weak, distant, or indifferent."

- F. Eliab's Rebuke (28-30)

- David's Response

- NASB - What have I done now? Was it not just a question?
 - KJV - What have I now done? Is there not a cause?

David and Goliath

- G. David Volunteers to Fight (31-37)
- H. David Prepares for Battle (38-40)
- I. David vs. Goliath – verbal battle (41-47)
 - David's response indicates his confidence in 4 theological realities regarding the nature and character of God.
 - 1. David's confidence that the Lord determines the outcome of the battle
 - 2. David's confidence in the all-powerful living God who sovereignly accomplishes His perfect purposes.
 - 3. David's confidence in the Lord's faithfulness to His chosen people
 - 4. David's confidence that the Lord pursues His glory
- J. David vs. Goliath – the short battle (48-54)
- K. Prologue (55-58)

Conclusion/Lessons

- David is a picture of a godly young man who is walking by the enabling power of the Spirit.
- Illustrated characteristics of someone being led by the Spirit
 - Will be in tune with the true spiritual issues that are stake in the situations of life.
 - Will not be dissuaded from what is right even when people who should be supporting us turn against us (e.g. Eliab)
 - Will speak what is right even when it is not common or popular
 - Will appropriately prepare to face the battles and challenges of life
 - Will trust the Lord for the outcomes knowing he will accomplish His perfect purposes
 - Will be consistently engaged in using the means that God has established for the Holy Spirits work in our lives, specifically the spiritual disciplines.