

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of September 16, 2007

You know the value of prayer: it is precious beyond all price. Never, never neglect it
SIR THOMAS BUXTON

The Life of Prayer

Giants

David Williamson

We are fascinated by big things. Literature is filled with stories of giants and exploration of things bigger than normal. It is interesting that we place great strength and value to the giant. We are impressed by giants. We see this even in the Bible accounts of the Jews. Look at the example of David facing the giant, Goliath. Actually the Jewish army faced this Giant. Goliath had come out before the army and they were afraid of him. His size intimidated them so much they covered across the valley from him.

The Jews were impressed by size; remember how excited they were, when Saul became their king. He was head and shoulder taller than most men. They were excited because they had a giant to lead them in battle. Now they faced an even bigger man and they were impressed by him. Notice that spiritual consideration did not play into their estimation of the value of the man, either King Saul or Goliath. They just looked at the size of the man.

This same attitude is common still today. We worship and are impressed by what is big. The giant corporation and the giant deal: the biggest is best. This is true in most aspects of life, positive and negative. We have giants in many areas, a big stack of bills, big problems; even in sickness this is true. There are sicknesses that are giants, such as flu. We even have a season for flu and every one talks about it. And there are others like cancer.

By contrast we act like we have a weak God. We are like the Jews who saw things by the physical and not the spiritual. They saw great problems, “we need a giant to lead us in battle”; “we need someone to face that giant Goliath”. They saw their problems as bigger than God. We have done the same thing. We see our problems as far bigger than God and His ability to deliver us from these problems. We limit God and so we sit in the valley of despair, lack, and need.

We need to be like David. When he came to the battle field he saw the giant, but he knew God as bigger than any man. He saw the battle as the Lords and he knew from experience that God could and would deliver him out of the hand of any giant. David knew this from experience.

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As a boy he took care of his father's sheep and David had faced giants, a lion and a bear. To a boy a lion or bear would be a giant. Most boys would have run and hidden. However, David killed the lion and bear. He knew, by experience the real giant of the land was God. When he faced Goliath he in effect said, "Little man, my big God will this day turn you over to me!" God was a giant, the giant, in David's eyes. He knew God could and would deliver him.

How was David so different from the rest of the army, so different from the rest of the Jewish people? How was David so different from most of us? How could he see God as a giant and not just the size of the man or problem? David's heart, mind, and eyes had been changed to see what is real.

The prophet of God faced a mighty army, which planned to kill him and his servant. The servant was afraid. This was a giant problem! However, the prophet asked God to open the eyes of his servant so he could see the mighty host of angels that were with them. With eyes to see, the servant saw that there were more with them than there was with the enemy. We need to have our eyes opened to see that our problems and enemy are not the giants they portray themselves to be, but God is the true giant. Greater is He than any little problem we face. The so called giants of problems melt down to size when they are up against God.

David learned this the same way we must learn it. We worship giants, but we must worship God instead. David was a great man of worship. Most of the Psalms are a record of his love of God; his songs of worship and praise. David was, above all else, a man of worship and praise. Second David knew and trusted his God. He knew from experience, God's nature. This comes from spending time with God. The Bible is our guidebook to knowing God. However, too many people do not read and study this book and so they do not know God. When a problem comes the problem is bigger than this unknown God. Third, David was victorious over Goliath because of prayer. David had come to the place, in prayer, where he knew he could command God.

***Thus says the Lord,
The Holy One of Israel, and his Maker:
"Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons;
And concerning the work of My hands, you command Me."
Isaiah 45:11 (NKJV)***

David's prayer was perfect. He knew God's will, victory over the Philistines. He knew God's standard, no unclean man could stand before God. David knew, by experience that he could lean fully on God to deliver. He knew it was not by might, but by God's mighty spirit that the battle would be won. "Little man, my big God will this day turn you over to me!"

If we are to be men and women of prayer, we will face many giants. If we are to be successful in prayer, we must face these giants God's way and with His strength. To do this we must be men and

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women of worship and praise. In worship and praise we declare the bigness of God. To be successful we must be men and women of God's word. We must know Him and this comes from reading and studying His Word. This is an exploration of His bigness. We must be men and women of prayer standing with God and commanding His spiritual power into the battles. It is not by our might or power, but by His spirit that the giants will be tamed and the victories won!

*Your servant has killed both lion and bear;
and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them,
seeing he has defied the armies of the living God."
Moreover David said, "The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion
and from the paw of the bear,
He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."
And Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you!"*
1 Samuel 17:36-37 (NKJV)

*Then David said to the Philistine,
"You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin.
But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts,
the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.
This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand,
and I will strike you and take your head from you.
And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines
to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth,
that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.
Then all this assembly shall know that the Lord does not save with sword and spear;
for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands."*
1 Samuel 17:45-47 (NKJV)

Let us Pray!

A Call for Prayer

*So he answered and said to me:
This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel:
'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,'
Says the Lord of hosts.
Zech. 4:6 (NKJV)*

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Pray for the peace of Jerusalem – Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, only God's peace will bring real and lasting peace to this city and region.

Jacek Gromadzki – Pray for Jack and his church for open doors to share the Gospel message. Pray that many in Kolobrzeg, Poland will respond to God's call for salvation. *(but by My Spirit, ' Says the Lord of hosts. Zech. 4:6)*

Pray for the church in Belarus and Lithuania – Pray for freedom from government and other forces that would hinder the declaration of the Gospel. *(but by My Spirit, ' Says the Lord of hosts. Zech. 4:6)*

Mark Spencer – Pray for effective meetings in Nepal in October. Pray for the preparations for travel and ministry. *(but by My Spirit, ' Says the Lord of hosts. Zech. 4:6)*

Marek Kaminski – Pray for open doors of opportunity for the preaching of the Gospel. Pray for a breaking down of walls and barriers that hinder. *(but by My Spirit, ' Says the Lord of hosts. Zech. 4:6)*

DK Limbu Daniel – Pray for Pastor Daniel and for new churches throughout Nepal and beyond its borders. *(but by My Spirit, ' Says the Lord of hosts. Zech. 4:6)*

Marianne and David Dean – Pray for David and Marianne and for strengthening of new believers. *(but by My Spirit, ' Says the Lord of hosts. Zech. 4:6)*

Joyce Abrahamson – Pray for a meeting of the needs of the students and staff of the school. *(but by My Spirit, ' Says the Lord of hosts. Zech. 4:6)*

Bernhard and Lisa Prumbach – Pray for openings for ministry. *(but by My Spirit, ' Says the Lord of hosts. Zech. 4:6)*

Patty Spencer – Pray for completion of a new worship CD. Pray for the details of mastering the final product and the finances to get it produced.

John Coon – Pray for his health and safety.

William Williamson – Bill is a pastor in Eastern Colorado, and a long time member of this company. Pray for his quick, full, and complete healing.

Pray for the Inntal Prayer Initiative – Pray for opportunities to minister in Germany and throughout Europe.

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Pray for your Home Church – Pray for outreaches for your church. Pray that each member will do the work of the ministry as God gives them the means to do so.

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To receive *Voice of Thanksgiving* the newsletter weekly by e-mail, send an email with the word JOIN in the subject line to dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com

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