

Episode 1: A Tale of Two Swords



READ 1 SAMUEL 17

Read 1 Samuel 17:51-58 to learn more about
after David killed Goliath in this episode.

Wow, what an action packed episode! The season starts right where the last season left off with David killing Goliath and both armies attacking one another.

Let's revisit scripture so you can see where we ended last season and where this one picks up. Circle what David used to cut off Goliath's head in the verse below:

1 Samuel 17:51 (ESV) – *Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him and cut off his head with it. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.*

David picks up the sword to use in battle as the Philistines and Israel go to war against one another. Underline below where the Israelites are pushing the Philistines to in the battle.

1 Samuel 17:52 (ESV) - *And the men of Israel and Judah rose with a shout and pursued the Philistines as far as Gath and the gates of Ekron, so that the wounded Philistines fell on the way from Shaaraim as far as Gath and Ekron.*

David, Saul and Jonathan are all fighting against the Philistines in an effort to push them back to Gath. Even David's brothers are fighting and trying to help protect David. Now that the giant is dead, David has become the target of the Philistines.

In an effort to keep David safe, David's brother Nethanel gets hurt and then is killed. Let's revisit scripture and list all of David's brothers below. (1 Chronicles 2:13-15)

Jonathan is also hurt by an arrow that goes flying through the air. He is still able to fight, but I have a feeling he is going to need to get that checked out.

In the chaos of battle, some of the Philistines head to the camp that Merab and Michal are at. They have to flee the king's tent and fight for their lives. To protect themselves and each other, they kill two soldiers. But the real surprise is that they see more giants. Even with Goliath dead, there are others. Look up 1 Chronicles 20:4-8 and write the names of the giants below:

The Philistine king finds Saul and starts to fight him with Goliath's sword. Saul's sword breaks and Jonathan comes to Saul's rescue. Unfortunately, Jonathan has just as much difficulty against the Philistine king and David has to rescue him. Then the second giant comes to gather the Philistine king. He saves him and they leave, luckily all three are still alive, just hurt. Note that this battle is not in scripture in this detail. It is not mentioned that a giant saves the Philistine king.

After the Israelites are able to push the Philistines back to Gath they are cheering and joyous over the victory. They start to cheer "Giant-slayer, David, David, David"! Think about it, the Israelites just sat at the camp for 40 days being mocked and insulted by Goliath. Then David comes along, slays the giant and the battle begins, only to be victorious. It's an encouraging story with a happy ending. Have you endured something for a while, only to have it resolved and the weight lifted from your shoulders? What was the situation and how did you feel during and after?

Saul sees David after the battle and calls him a champion. The crowd is cheering his name! Jonathan is happy for David and gave him something as a reward. Circle what Jonathan gave David which was consistent with the show.

1 Samuel 18:3-4 (ESV) – ³ Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. ⁴ And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt.

Saul talked to David after the battle. Underline below what Saul asks and circle David's humble response.

1 Samuel 17:53-58 (ESV) - ⁵³ And the people of Israel came back from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their camp. ⁵⁴ And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armor in his tent. ⁵⁵ As soon as Saul saw David go out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the commander of the army, "Abner, whose son is this youth?" And Abner said, "As your soul lives, O king, I do not know." ⁵⁶ And the king said, "Inquire whose son the boy is." ⁵⁷ And as soon as David returned from the striking down of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. ⁵⁸ And Saul said to him, "Whose son are you, young man?" And David answered, "I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."

Scripture is pretty gruesome with David walking around with Goliath's head. I'm kind of glad the show left that detail out!

At the end of the episode Doeg finds the sword and says to deliver it to Abner. It appears to be Goliath's sword. Although scripture doesn't give details about Goliath's sword, what do we know about the spear that he uses? In the following verse, circle what Goliath's spear is made out of.

1 Samuel 17:7 (ESV) – *The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron.*

Another scene that is not in scripture is when Saul meets up with Samuel. Saul does not ask to be anointed again, and he does not arrest Saul. Read the below scripture and circle what happens to Samuel and Saul.

1 Samuel 15:34-35 (ESV) – ³⁴*Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. ³⁵And Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord regretted that he had made Saul king over Israel.*

The flashback of Saul giving Jonathan a sword and then killing the Philistine King in front of the Philistine King's son is not in scripture.
