**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Don’t Be Defeated by Your Victories |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | 1 Samuel 17:45-54 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #0816 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. God gave the victory to young David.
      1. 1 Samuel 17:45-54
         1. The battle is the Lord’s.
      2. David won the victory by three principles:
         1. The principle of purpose
            1. In spite of the disdain, derision and discouragement of others, David said, “I will.”

And he did.

* + - 1. The principle of progression
         1. David was faithful in that which was least, so he was able to be faithful in that which was much.
         2. David went from victory unto victory.
      2. The principle of power.
         1. David knew that the battle was the Lord’s.
         2. 1 Samuel 17:45

David knew that the power was his.

* + - * 1. It was really God who won the victory.
  1. It was a wonderful victory, and they rejoiced over the spoils of the victory.
     1. This was epitomized by David, a teenage boy, bringing the head of the giant back to Jerusalem.
     2. 1 Samuel 17:54
  2. But victory can be dangerous if we don’t know the art of receiving victory.
     1. It is possible that we could be defeated by our victories.
  3. In Samuel 18, we see four reactions to the victory that was won in 1 Samuel 17.

1. the partnership of jonathan (1 samuel 18:1-4)
   1. Jonathan reacted with a partnership.
   2. 1 Samuel 18:1-4
      1. Saul is the king of Israel.
      2. David, a shepherd boy, won the battle.
      3. Saul is so impressed that he brings David home to stay with him.
      4. David meets Jonathan, Saul’s son, and the two become very close friends.
         1. They become such close friends that they enter into a blood covenant together.
         2. They literally entered into a lifelong covenant, a partnership, with one another.
   3. We never find one hint of jealousy in Jonathan.
      1. It is obvious that David is perhaps going to be the next king of Israel, even though Jonathan is the heir apparent to the throne.
         1. Jonathan was the king’s son, yet he has no jealousy or envy of David.
      2. He sees that God gave a mighty victory to David.
   4. Jonathan enters into a partnership with David, as if to say that he wanted to share in his victories and was grateful for what God was doing with and through David.
      1. He has none of self, just simply rejoicing in the blessings of God upon David’s victory.
   5. God will bless you as a Christian when you rejoice in the victories of another Christian.
   6. We should support other denominations and churches who are trying to win people to the Lord Jesus Christ.
      1. Regarding any church that is serving the Lord Jesus, we should never look upon their victory as our loss.
      2. We should never be just simply interested in the personal advancement of our own denomination, our own church or our own program.
         1. We’re in the body of Christ, and we are in blood covenant one with another.
         2. When one member rejoices, every member should rejoice.
         3. When one member suffers, every member suffers.
         4. 1 Corinthians 12:26
   7. If anyone had a right to be jealous, it was Jonathan.
      1. But he rejoiced without a trace of jealousy.
2. the praise of women (1 samuel 18:6-7)
   1. 1 Samuel 18:6-7
      1. This was misdirected praise.
         1. The women were glorifying men.
   2. Who slew Goliath?
      1. Outwardly, it may seem that David killed Goliath.
      2. 1 Samuel 17:47
         1. It wasn’t David or Saul, but it was God.
   3. Sometimes when God blesses a church, we might want to give glory to the pastor or to the music program or to the denomination.
      1. But God will not share His glory with another.
         1. Isaiah 42:8
   4. It was God who gave the victory.
   5. The way to lose the next victory is to fail to give God the proper praise for the last victory.
      1. An illustration of this is when the children of Israel took mighty Jericho.
         1. Joshua 6:1-20
            1. They marched around the walls seven times on the seventh day, and the walls came tumbling down.
            2. The people gave a shout and went in with a battle cry of the Lord and won the victory.
         2. After the people won the victory at Jericho, they were supposed to go against another city named Ai.
            1. Joshua 7:1-6
            2. Ai was a small city.

It was such a small city that they decided to only send a small contingency of people there to destroy it.

* + - * 1. Before they went to battle, however, a man named Achan went into Jericho and took some spoils of that battle.

He took a wedge of gold, two hundred shekels of silver and a Babylonian garment, and he hid them in his tent.

The next day when they went to war against Ai, they were soundly defeated by a lesser army.

* + - 1. Joshua 6:19
         1. The gold, silver, iron and brass represent the spoils of the battle.
         2. Since the battle was the Lord’s, the spoils of the battle belonged to God.

It was their way of recognizing that they did not gain the victory, but God won the victory.

Therefore, the spoils belonged to God.

* + 1. Suppose we enter into a spiritual endeavor for the Lord, and He blesses and gives us the victory.
       1. If others come to us and tell us what a good job we did and we receive that praise to ourselves, then we are doing the exact same thing that Achan did when he stole the spoils of the battle.
       2. When we take the spoils of the battle to ourselves, then we will be soundly defeated in our next battle.
          1. This does not mean that we shouldn’t thank people or tell them how much of a blessing they are to us.
          2. But when we substitute the praise of any person for the praise of God, then we’re on dangerous ground.

And the person who receives this praise is on doubly-dangerous ground.

* + - 1. When someone gives us praise, we need to quickly pass it on to Jesus.
         1. We can do this verbally and in our hearts.
      2. We may also receive criticism for standing for the Lord Jesus Christ and His Word.
         1. When we learn to pass the praise on to Jesus, we can also learn to pass the criticism on to Him if it’s for His sake.
  1. David did not listen to the misguided praise of the women.
     1. If he had, he would have lost his victory.

1. the pride of saul (1 samuel 18:8-12)
   1. 1 Samuel 18:8-12
      1. Saul was filled with pride.
   2. Because Saul was filled with pride, he refused to obey the hand of the Lord.
      1. 1 Samuel 15:1-26
      2. God refused him from being king over Israel, and God departed from him because he was a man filled with pride.
   3. James 4:6
   4. Psalm 18:26
   5. Saul became froward, and God sent an evil spirit.
      1. 1 Samuel 18:10
         1. This does not mean a demon spirit; God doesn’t send demon spirits.
         2. It literally means that he had a disconsolate spirit.
            1. He had a disturbed mind.
      2. He was receiving the judgment of turning from God.
   6. Saul felt that David’s gain was somehow his loss.
      1. Saul became an utter failure.
      2. No one is a complete failure until he starts disliking the person who succeeds.
   7. What are the marks of pride that we find in Saul?
      1. Anger
         1. 1 Samuel 18:8
            1. Saul was very wroth.
         2. There are people who will get angry with those whose lives are blessed.
            1. These people are filled with pride.
         3. If you have a victory, there are some people who will see you as the enemy.
      2. Jealousy
         1. 1 Samuel 18:9
      3. Fear
         1. 1 Samuel 18:12
         2. Saul was afraid of David because he (Saul) was a phony.
            1. Every person who is real makes every phony look unreal.

This is why people don’t want to be around others who are living victoriously in Christ when they themselves are filled with pride and are phonies.

* + - * 1. Saul could not rejoice in David’s victory because he was a phony.

1. the prudence of david (1 samuel 18:14-16)
   1. 1 Samuel 18:14-16
      1. David knew how to handle victory.
   2. When we receive praise, it does something to us, either good or bad, according to how we view ourselves.
      1. Proverbs 27:21
         1. The “fining pot” is a smelting pot used to refine silver with a fire underneath it.
      2. When we have a victory, our reaction to that victory will reveal either the dross in our life or the gold and silver in our life.
   3. Psalm 131
      1. David wrote this Psalm.
         1. He may have even had the victory over Goliath in mind when he wrote it.
   4. David was called a man after God’s own heart.
      1. Acts 13:22
      2. David was a shepherd boy watching his father’s sheep.
      3. When Samuel came to anoint the next king of Israel, no one thought of little David.
         1. He was so insignificant, that he was on the backside of the desert keeping his father’s sheep.
      4. When he went out against Goliath, he was despised, rejected and looked down upon.
      5. Now, he is the king’s bodyguard with hundreds of men beneath him.
      6. When he walks through the city, women come out with their tambourines and flutes singing songs about him.
         1. 1 Samuel 18:6-7
         2. But David never really took it to his heart.
      7. David knew that the battle was the Lord’s.
         1. That’s why God could bless David.
         2. We see the spirit of Psalm 131 over and over again in David’s life.
   5. Saul got carried away and decided to make David his son-in-law.
      1. 1 Samuel 18:18
         1. David said, “Who am I that I should be son-in-law to the king?”
   6. We often hear people talking about how they don’t get what they deserve.
      1. We should hope that we never get what we deserve.
      2. There are three words that we need to remember:
         1. Justice
            1. Justice is God giving us what we deserve, which is an eternity in Hell.
         2. Mercy
            1. Mercy is God not giving us what we deserve.
         3. Grace
            1. Grace is God giving us what we don’t deserve.
      3. The above three words put together is the Gospel.
         1. But for the grace of God, we would be lost without the hope of Heaven.
         2. But for the mercy of God, we would be deserving the judgment of Hell.
2. CONCLUSION
   1. David said, “Who am I that I should be a son-in-law to the king?”
      1. 1 Samuel 18:18
      2. God has something even better for us.
         1. Not sons-in-law or daughters-in-law, but sons and daughters of the King of kings and the Lord of lords.
         2. 1 John 3:1
   2. You can receive the greatest victory of all, the victory that was won at Calvary, by receiving Christ as your personal Lord and Savior.
   3. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   4. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16