

THE GOD-CENTRED CHURCH(ABC)

LESSON 13

READ 1 Sam.17

QUESTIONS

What scriptures support the belief that David is a legitimate pattern for the Church?

What characteristic features of the Philistine, Goliath, indicate that he is a picture of the flesh(carnality, humanism)?

What are the characteristics of a God-centred church /governmental church symbolized in the life of David?

ANSWERS(ABC)

LESSON 13

DAVID – A LEGITIMATE PATTERN FOR THE CHURCH.

Acts 15:13-17

13 And after they had become silent, James answered, saying, "Men and brethren, listen to me:

14 "Simon has declared how God at the first visited the Gentiles to take out of them a people for His name.

15 "And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written:

16 'After this I will return and will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up;

17 So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, says the Lord who does all these things.' (NKJ)

Amos 9:11

"On that day I will raise up the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, and repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old;

(NKJ)

James claims that the events in the church at that time were a fulfillment of Amos' prophecy. He infers that the events taking place were the restoration of the Tabernacle of David. Thus we conclude that the church is the tabernacle of David that is being restored.

Zech 12:8

"In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the Angel of the LORD before them. (NKJ)

"In that day" is now. The present church is a fulfillment of that which Zechariah prophesised. Even the weak will be like David. This is a prophecy of equalization of maturity. The church, "the house of David", shall be like God – the mature, perfect church of the measure and stature of Christ. While we have not attained maturity/perfection, the path to perfection is set before us in the life of David.

God accredits David with total obedience and never mentions his adultery and murder, because of the state of David's heart. He was a man after God's heart.

I King 14:8

"and tore the kingdom away from the house of David, and gave it to you; and yet you have not been as My servant David, who kept My commandments and who followed Me with all his heart, to do only what was right in My eyes; (NKJ)

1 Sam 13:14

"But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you." (NKJ)

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF GOLIATH THAT MAKE HIM A SYMBOL OF THE FLESH.

He is a Philistine. Philistine means wallowing – carnal indulgence.

He was present in Judah(praise) - This is an enemy in the midst of praise.

Carnality is an enemy in the midst of praise in the church.

His height was 6 cubits and a span. His spear head weighed 600 shekels of iron.

6 is the number of man/carnal nature/humanism.

He was covered in brass – a symbol of judgement. The flesh manifests to judge the servants of God.

There is no man in the house of Saul who can deal with this enemy.

1 Sam 17:10-11

And the Philistine said, "I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together."

Saul means requested. Saul was the result of a human request, not a God call.

The order of Saul(man called) cannot deal with this enemy – the flesh.

The house of Saul fears this enemy.

1 Sam 17: 11

When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid. (NKJ)

The flesh is feared e.g. witchcraft

This is a confrontational enemy.

1 Sam 17:16

And the Philistine drew near and presented himself forty days, morning and evening. (NKJ)

This is an enemy that is eventually admired, like the flesh..

1 Sam 17:25

So the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel; and it shall be that the man who kills him the king will enrich with great riches, will give him his daughter, and give his father's house exemption from taxes in Israel." (NKJ)

2.8 Goliath is a man of war.

1 Sam 17:33

And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are a youth, and he a man of war from his youth." (NKJ)

The flesh is at constant war with the spirit.

Gal 5:17

For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

(NKJ)

Goliath is a giant – an enemy bigger than yourself.

The flesh cannot be conquered through human strength alone. The mosaic law exposed that it was impossible to keep the law because of man's inherent

weakness - the flesh.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOD-CENTRED/GOVERNMENTAL CHURCH AS SEEN IN THE LIFE OF DAVID – THE DAVIDIC CHURCH.

REVELATION OF PROCEEDING WORD.

1 Sam 16:1

Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons." (NKJ)

David comes from Bethlehem. Bethlehem means house of bread. David comes from the house of bread. Bread is a symbol of Jesus.

John 6:33-35

33 "For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

34 Then they said to Him, "Lord, give us this bread always."

35 And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

(NKJ)

Jesus is the Word.

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

(NKJ)

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (NKJ)

Bread is a symbol of the Word of God.

The Davidic church has the Word of God.

Matt 4:4

But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. (NKJ)

The Davidic Church has fresh word – THE PROCEEDING WORD OF GOD.

GOD-APPOINTED

1 Sam 16:12-13

12 So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!"

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah. (NKJ)

David was chosen from among his brothers. He was anointed with a horn of oil. The ram had to die to give up its horn. This anointing cost a life. GOD MADE THE HORN. This is the pattern for a God – appointed anointing.

John 16:7

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.(NKJ)

Jesus had to die for His anointing to be available.

Saul was anointed with a flask of oil. He was appointed by God, but at the request of man. His anointing has an artificial component. MAN MADE THE FLASK.

1 Sam 10:1

Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and said: "Is it not because the LORD has anointed you commander over His inheritance? (NKJ)

NEW BEGINNING

1 Sam 17:12-14

12 Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Bethlehem Judah, whose name was Jesse, and who had eight sons. And the man was old, advanced in years, in the days of Saul.

13 The three oldest sons of Jesse had gone to follow Saul to the battle. The names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

David was the youngest. And the three oldest followed Saul. (NKJ)

David was the eighth son. 8 is the symbol of new beginning. The Davidic church is a new beginning.

Matt 12:3-4

3 But He said to them, "Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him:

4 "how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? (NKJ)

2 Sam 6:14

Then David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was wearing a linen ephod (NKJ)

David the king was also allowed to function as a priest before God, though these offices were separate in the Old Covenant.

THUS IN DAVID'S LIFE WE SEE A NEW OPERATING SYSTEM, A KING PRIEST OPERATING SYSTEM. THIS SYSTEM WAS NOT PERMITTED IN KING SAUL'S LIFE.

1 Sam 13:12-13

12 "then I said, 'The Philistines will now come down on me at Gilgal, and I have not made supplication to the LORD.' Therefore I felt compelled, and offered a burnt offering."

13 And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you. For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. (NKJ)

CAN CAST THE DEMON FROM THE OLD ORDER

1 Sam 16:23

And so it was, whenever the spirit from God was upon Saul, that David would take a harp and play it with his hand. Then Saul would become refreshed and well, and the distressing spirit would depart from him. (NKJ)

The Davidic order is able to cast the "distressing spirit" out of the Saul order. Thus it is a more competent and effective order than the Saul order.

SENT- ONE

1 Sam 17:17

Then Jesse said to his son David, "Take now for your brothers an ephah of this dried grain and these ten loaves, and run to your brothers at the camp. (NKJ)

David was sent by his father, Jesse, to his brothers. He was a sent one. The Davidic church is a sent church. It is apostolic in nature.(see module on Apostolic People)

SERVANT SPIRIT

1 Sam 17:17-18

17 Then Jesse said to his son David, "Take now for your brothers an ephah of this dried grain and these ten loaves, and run to your brothers at the camp.

18 "And carry these ten cheeses to the captain of their thousand, and see how your brothers fare, and bring back news of them." (NKJ)

David though anointed king, serves as a "delivery boy" and messenger.

John 13:13-16

13 "You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am.

14 "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

15 "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.

16 "Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him.

(NKJ)

RESPONSIBILITY

1 Sam 17:20

So David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, and took the things and went as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the camp as the army was going out to the fight and shouting for the battle. (NKJ)

When David was sent on an errand he ensured that the sheep were taken care of.

RELATIONAL

1 Sam 17:22

And David left his supplies in the hand of the supply keeper, ran to the army, and came and greeted his brothers. (NKJ)

David ran to greet his brothers. David loved his brothers. He did not operate in isolation. He sought his brothers out.

DISCERNING

DISCERNS THE ENEMY ACCURATELY.

1 Sam 17:26

Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, "What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

(NKJ)

While Saul and his army saw a giant, David saw an uncircumcised Philistine.

David had a divine perspective of the situation. He knew the Abrahamic covenant.

Circumcision was a token of the Abrahamic covenant.

Gen 12:3

I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (NKJ)

By David's reckoning the Philistine was already cursed.

THE DAVIDIC CHURCH HAS AN ACCURATE PERCEPTION OF THE ENEMY.

Samson married the enemy.

DISCERNS GOD'S PEOPLE

1 Sam 17:26

Then David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, "What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?"

(NKJ)

Saul's army was paralysed with fear and ineffective in this battle, yet David calls

them "the armies of the living God".

THE DAVIDIC CHURCH IS ABLE TO DISCERN THE BODY OF CHRIST.

Paul called the sinful Corinthians saints because he recognized their position in Christ.

1 Cor 1:1-2

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother,

2 To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours: (NKJ)

DISCERNS THE BATTLE

1 Sam 17:28-30

28 Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab's anger was aroused against David, and he said, "Why did you come

down here? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your pride and the insolence of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle."

29 And David said, "What have I done now? Is there not a cause?"

30 Then he turned from him toward another and said the same thing; and these people answered him as the first ones did. (NKJ)

Eliab resisted David although he knew that David was God's appointed. David could have easily defended his call and position, however, "he turned from him toward another".

THE DAVIDIC CHURCH DOES NOT ENGAGE IN CONTENTIONS WITH BROTHERS.

2 Tim 2:24

And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, (NKJ)

EXPERIENCE

1 Sam 17:34-36

34 But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep his father's sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock,

35 I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard, and struck and killed it.

36 "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." (NKJ)

David was not an instant leader. He faced the bear and lion to defend the lamb. He faced rejection and loneliness. Imagine being excluded by your father when Samuel asked Jesse to bring his sons.

STRENGTH IN GOD

1 Sam 17:37

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!" (NKJ)

David acknowledged that his strength was in God – not his experience. Samson acknowledged that his strength was in his hair.

EXCELLENCE
HE WENT ONLY WHEN SENT

1 Sam 17:37

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!" (NKJ) David understands protocol and authority. He ventures against Goliath only after being comissioned by Saul.

DOES NOT USE BORROWED WEAPONS

1 Sam 17:38-39

38 So Saul clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail.
39 David fastened his sword to his armor, and he tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested them." So David took them off. (NKJ)

David discarded the weapons of Saul. He faced Goliath with his own weapons.

DOES NOT MIX WEAPONS

1 Sam 17:39

David fastened his sword to his armor, and he tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested them." So David took them off. (NKJ)

David attached his sword to Saul's armour. David found that he could not walk with Saul's armour. If you cannot walk, you cannot fight. Walk is a metaphorical designation of lifestyle. If your lifestyle is not right you cannot fight. You cannot fight with Saul's armour and David's sword.

Luke 5:37-38

37 "And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine will burst the wineskins and be spilled, and the wineskins will be ruined.
38 "But new wine must be put into new wineskins, and both are preserved. (NKJ)

HE WAS GOOD-LOOKING

1 Sam 17:42

And when the Philistine looked about and saw David, he disdained him; for he was only a youth, ruddy and good-looking. (NKJ)

The Davidic church is a good-looking church. Samson lost his hair and was blind.

PRACTICALITY

1 Sam 17:40

Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine. (NKJ)

David used the weapons of his own career to launch out against Goliath. His career was his pulpit. Goliath saw the stick, not the sling.

FAITH

The following elements of faith are seen in David's operation:

RISK

1 Sam 17:40

Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine. (NKJ)

David went into the valley to fight an enemy bigger than himself.

Samson went down to marry the Philistine.

NAME OF THE LORD

1 Sam 17:45

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. (NKJ)

David went against the Philistine in the name of the Lord. He articulated his belief.

Prov 18:10

The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. (NKJ)

The Davidic Church operates in the name of the Lord.

Phil 2:10-11

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (NKJ)

Acts 3:6

Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." (NKJ)

Acts 3:16

"And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all. (NKJ)

The name of the Lord is not a carnal weapon.

2 Cor 10:4

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, (NKJ)

David did not use the jawbone of an ass.

THIS DAY

1 Sam 17:46

"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.(NKJ)

Faith is for today – this day. The Davidic church operates in the now. There is no postponement of the battle.

2 Cor 6:2

For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. (NKJ)

Heb 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (NKJ)

PROCLAMMATION

1 Sam 17:46

"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.(NKJ)
David declared before he operated. This is a faith system.

Prov 18:21

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit. (NKJ)

Mark 11:23

"For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will come to pass, he will have whatever he says. (NKJ)

PROACTIVITY

1 Sam 17:48

So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hastened and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. (NKJ)

David ran toward the Philistine. He did not wait for the Philistine to come to him. Samson's battle with the enemy was reactive.

Proactivity is the nature of the kingdom of God. It involves confrontation before the problem comes to you. The Davidic church takes the first step. This is a pioneering church.

Isa 50:7

"For the Lord GOD will help Me; therefore I will not be disgraced; therefore I have set My face like a flint, and I know that I will not be ashamed. (NKJ)

Ezek 3:8-9

8 "Behold, I have made your face strong against their faces, and your forehead strong against their foreheads.
9 "Like adamant stone, harder than flint, I have made your forehead; do not be afraid of them, nor be dismayed at their looks, though they are a rebellious house." (NKJ)

Matt 11:12

From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it. (NIV)

FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY

1 Sam 17:40

Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine. (NKJ)

1 Sam 17:49

Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth. (NKJ)

The Davidic church has 5 stones to deal with the Philistine. This is a picture of the 5 fold ministry in a governing church. These stones come from the water – symbol of the Spirit-filled Word.

PURPOSE –DRIVEN

1 Sam 17:46

"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.

David's mission was to demonstrate that God was in Israel.

The Davidic church demonstrates that God is in the church.

Samson on the other hand represents a church that has lost its purpose.

GOD-CENTRED

1 Sam 17:45-47

45 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.

46 "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.

47 "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."(NKJ)

The underlined verses indicate David's God-centred focus. The Davidic church is

Christ-centred –David uses the stone, name of the Lord and the sword.

FINISHING MENTALITY

1 Sam 17:50-51

50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. But there was no sword in the hand of David.

51 Therefore David ran and stood over the Philistine, took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it. And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled. (NKJ)

David did not just knock Goliath unconscious, He made sure of his death - he finished the work. Proclaimed truth became practical truth.

The Davidic church is concerned about finishing the work.

John 4:34

Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.

(NKJ)

2 Tim 4:7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

(NKJ)

UNRECOGNIZABLE

1 Sam 17:55-58

55 When Saul saw David going 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 So the king said, "Inquire whose son this young man is."

57 Then, as David returned from the slaughter 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?" So David answered, "I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."

(NKJ)

Saul did not recognize David although David was his personal musician. The reason for this is that David operated IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, not his own name. He used Goliath's weapon to destroy Goliath.

He operated like the son of God. A Saul house cannot recognize the son of God.

Jesus used the devil's weapon to defeat the devil.

Heb 2:14

14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He

Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,
(NKJ)