

# The Lakeview Lamp

*“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” - Psalm 119:105*

**August 12, 2007**

## *David, a Man of Many Giants*

Edward Rangel, edited for length

(We will be supporting Edward in his preaching efforts in Puerto Rico. He will soon move there from Indiana. - TN)

David, the son of Jesse, is known for great things in the Bible. The most popular and often recited story about David is his awesome battle with the giant Goliath. While most know this story, most do not know that David actually fought four giants and was victorious over all except one.

The first giant that David killed is found in **1 Samuel 17:1-ff**. David was sent out with provisions for his brothers who were at battle in Saul's army. As David approached the camp he heard the rantings of the giant Goliath. He saw that Goliath was a man of extraordinary size. Goliath stood at 9 1/2 feet tall and wore a bronze helmet and armor that weighed at about 200 pounds! This giant carried a spear like a weaver's beam; no doubt this man looked very intimidating!

David, the little shepherd boy, was a giant himself, a giant in faith. He took a sling and placed a rock in it and begun to make it whistle as he twirled it over his head. With the accuracy of a Navy Seal sharp-shooter, the rock hit the giant on the forehead like a high powered rifle and killed him instantly. To show that God reigned, David took the sword and cut off the giant's head. Thus David slew his first giant.

As time progressed the citizens began to feel great love and respect for David. This caused King Saul to burn with anger to the point of desiring to commit murder. David had to live in hiding for fear of his life. Imagine you having to leave your home and family and live in hiding for fear of death, would you be happy? King Saul was out with his army searching for David in hopes of killing him. King Saul had to attend to some physical matters and did not realize nor detect that David was right behind him and so close that David was able to cut off a piece of the king's robe. King Saul never felt the presence of David. David had been advised by his own men to kill King Saul, and David sure did have the chance to do it, but chose not to do it. Instead, David was able to conquer his second giant in life, the giant of *revenge* 1 (**Samuel 24:1-ff**). By forgoing revenge David was able to teach his own men the ways of God. We as Christians should learn from David not to take revenge on our enemies, to turn the other cheek when we are slighted (**Romans 12:14-21; Matthew 5:11-44**). Let us also conquer the giant of revenge.

In **1 Samuel 25:1-ff** we find David's third giant. David and his army had been in the wilderness for some

time and served as a “police patrol” for the region. They protected a band of shepherds by day and night and never charged them nor asked them for anything. One day David sent some of his men to the shepherds’ master to ask for some food. The master, Nabal, refused to send David provisions for him and his army. When David heard of this he was angered and called four-hundred of his men together and ordered them to take their swords. David had decided that Nabal would be killed by his own hand, David was very angry. Nabal’s wife, Abigail, heard about the incident and hurriedly gathered some provisions and took them to David. She pleaded with him not to kill her husband, assuring him that her husband was a foolish man. David relented and decided not to kill Nabal, thus conquering his third giant, *anger*.

Anger is a terrible disease of the spiritual heart. It has led many people to do foolish things (Nabal’s name means folly) and become foolish in their actions. Anger can quickly overtake a person without that person knowing it. Consider the instances of road rage and air rage, anger overtakes people and they act “Nabaly.”

Then there was the fourth giant. This giant was unlike the others. Where as David could easily restrain himself and act wisely and conquer his previous giants, this last one he would not be able to conquer. It would overtake him and make him fall from the grace of God and lose the favor he had with God.

The incident is recorded in **2 Samuel 11:1-12:1-ff**. David was now a king with much power. One day he was strolling through his palace and noticed one of the most beautiful women he had ever seen—and she was naked! Bathsheba was bathing, and David was looking AND lusting in his heart. He summoned Bathsheba and had relations with her. He had gone to the point of no return when she informed him that she was pregnant. David was scared out of his mind. Instead of coming clean and revealing his sin to Bathsheba’s husband, he devised a plan.

Bathsheba’s husband was a member of David’s own army and was on his way home. David thought that her husband, Uriah, would certainly go home to his wife and lie with her, thus David’s sin would not be uncovered, or so David thought. Uriah was a very patriotic man and instead of sleeping with his wife he slept outside the king’s castle to offer protection to the king. Seeing that Uriah was not going to go to his wife, David ordered that Uriah be placed in the front lines and allowed to die in combat. Uriah was murdered by David. The giant of *adultery* was the giant that defeated David. God sent the prophet Nathan to David to rebuke and chastise him for his action and to deliver a message that God would certainly punish David.

We all face different giants in our lives, some have more than others. Ultimately they all come together under one heading, sin. Sin is the evil giant that we battle daily. We can and will overcome our giants, if we are doing God’s will. Even if we fail and the giant conquers us, we can repent and God will forgive us. Let us get our slings ready and pick out our round, smooth stones as we prepare to battle the evil giant “sin.”

*“The LORD is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting and His faithfulness to all generations.” – Psalm 100:5*

# **Family News**

**Quinton Coppage** is having some tests Wednesday.

**Metty Fain** remains in Highland Manor Nursing Home; Room B2; 215 Highland Circle Dr; Portland, TN 37148.

**Elmo Ferrell** remains in room 101A at NHC. He has not been doing as well lately, seems to be disoriented.

**Estelle Hayes** is having trouble sleeping.

**Cotton Read** is still having problems breathing and sleeping.

**Ame White** goes to the heart doctor on Monday and a surgeon on Thursday regarding her shoulder pain and a mole.

**Bill White** received a good report from the sleep doctor.

**New Reports from men we support:** None known.

**Out of town, traveling, or visiting:** None known.

**Note** – If you have any news for the bulletin (out of town, sick, etc.), then please let me know. I will be printing it most weeks on Saturday night, so please get the news to me by then. Thanks! – Troy

# Lakeview church of Christ

132 New Shackle Island Road

P.O. Box 514

Hendersonville TN 37077

Building: 615-824-1376

[www.BibleSaints.com](http://www.BibleSaints.com)

Bible Call: 615-824-1310

If you would like to subscribe, unsubscribe, or change your address to this bulletin, then simply respond to this message and state your request.

Troy Nicholson  
[troyjenn@bellsouth.net](mailto:troyjenn@bellsouth.net)

*"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks" (1 Thes 5:16-18).*