

Bible Stories: Courage



聖經故事：勇氣



David and Goliath

David was certainly the least likely candidate to face the giant Goliath. He had no weapons training, no battle skills, no giant-fighting history. On top of that, he was just a scrawny teenager.

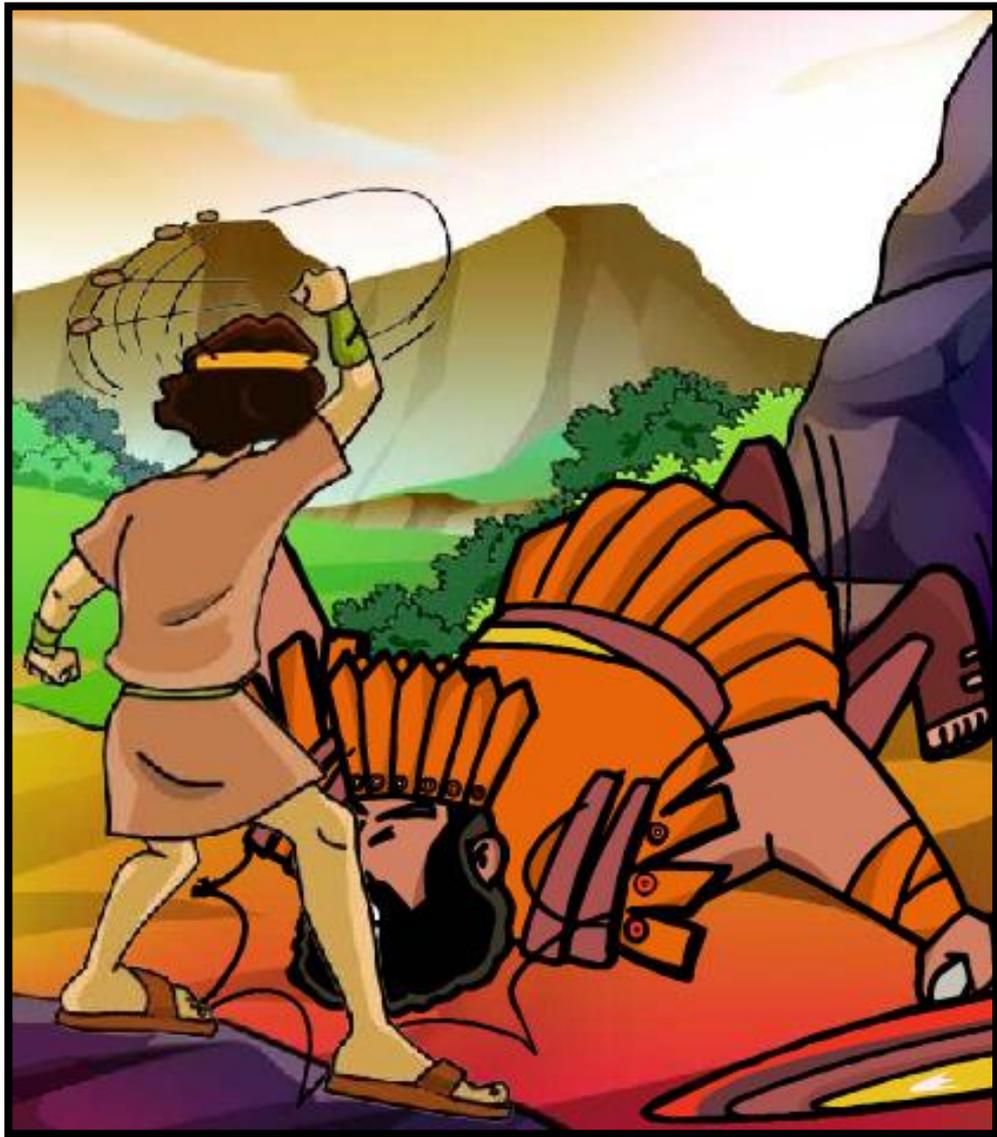
But did he let any of that stop him? Nope. Did he stop when people laughed at him for offering to fight Goliath? Did he stop when *Goliath* laughed at him? Nope and nope.

大衛和歌利亞

大衛無疑是迎擊巨人歌利亞最不可能的人選。他既沒有任何使用武器方面的訓練，也沒有什麼作戰技能，更別談有任何對戰巨人的經驗了。除此之外，他只不過是一個骨瘦如柴的青少年。

但他可曾因此而放棄了嗎？完全沒有。當他毛遂自薦要與歌利亞作戰，招致眾人的嘲笑時，他退縮了嗎？當歌利亞蔑視他時，他怯戰了嗎？一概都沒有。

David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of Heaven’s Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. Today the Lord will conquer you, and everyone assembled here will know that the Lord rescues his people. This is the Lord’s battle, and he will give you to us!”



As Goliath moved closer to attack, David quickly ran out to meet him. Reaching into his shepherd’s bag and taking out a stone, he hurled it with his sling and hit the Philistine in the forehead. The stone sank in, and Goliath stumbled and fell face down on the ground.

大衛答道：「你是靠刀槍劍戟來攻擊我，我是靠萬軍之耶和華的名，就是你所蔑視的以色列軍隊的上帝來迎戰你。今天，耶和華必把你交在我手中。」

歌利亞迎面走來的時候，大衛就飛快地跑上去應戰，他從袋裡拿出一塊石子用投石器猛力拋去，石子擊中歌利亞的額頭，嵌了進去，他迎面栽倒在地。



Elijah Calls Down Fire from Heaven

Our story takes place in Israel, around 900 B.C. It was a sad and difficult time for the nation, for she was suffering under the reign of the worst king she'd ever had, Ahab! Ahab was greatly influenced by his foreign-born wife, Jezebel, and he adopted the religion of Baalism as the official state religion.

God sent His prophet, Elijah, directly to King Ahab with an ominous message: "As the Lord lives, there shall be no dew nor rain these years, except at my word!"

以利亞作了一個禱告，求神降火時

我們的故事發生在大約西元前900年前的以色列。那時對以色列本國來說是一段悲哀而困難的時期，因為它在以色列有史以來最壞的國王亞哈統治之下而受苦。亞哈深受他那位不信上帝的異教妻子耶洗別的影響，同時他也信奉她那宗教巴力教，而巴力教則成了國教。

上帝派遣祂的先知以利亞，面對面告訴亞哈王一個不祥的訊息：「我指著永生的耶和華起誓，這幾年我若不禱告，必不降露不下雨！」



After delivering this warning, Elijah fled deep into the wilderness where he hid from the soldiers of Ahab. The Lord directed him to an isolated canyon where there was a small stream for him to drink from. God also commanded ravens to bring pieces of bread and meat to him every day.

Later on, the Lord said to Elijah, "Go and present yourself to King Ahab. Tell him that I will soon send rain!" So Elijah went to appear before Ahab.

When Ahab saw Elijah, he exclaimed, "So, is it really you, you troublemaker of Israel?" But Elijah replied, "I have made no trouble for Israel. You and your family are the troublemakers, for you refuse to obey the commands of the Lord and have worshiped the images of Baal instead. Now summon all Israel to join me at Mount Carmel."

在傳達完這個警告之後，以利亞便逃到曠野的深處，以躲避亞哈的士兵。上主帶領他到一個與世隔離的峽谷裏，在那裏他不但可以從一條小溪裏飲水，上帝並且每天差遣烏鴉給他餅和肉吃，以此來神奇地餵養他。

一天，耶和華吩咐以利亞說：「你去見亞哈。」所以，以利亞就去見亞哈。見到以利亞後，就說：「給以色列帶來災禍的就是你嗎？」以利亞回答說：「給以色列帶來災禍的不是我，而是你和你父親家，因為你們拋棄耶和華的誡命，去隨從巴力。現在，你快派人去召集所有的以色列人到迦密山來見我。」



All the people of the kingdom of Israel came to Mount Carmel. Elijah prepared a sacrifice to God. Then he told the people to pour twelve huge pots of water on top of the sacrifice until the meat, the wood, and even the ground around the altar were completely wet.

Then Elijah prayed, "Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, show us today that you are the God of Israel and that I am your servant. Answer me so that these people will know that you are the true God."

Immediately, fire fell from the sky and burned up the meat, the wood, the rocks, the dirt, and even the water that was around the altar. When the people saw this, they fell on the ground and said, "The Lord is God! The Lord is God!"

以利亞把眾人召集到自己跟前，他重修已遭毀壞的耶和華的祭壇。然後在壇上擺好柴，把公牛切成塊放在柴上，對眾人說：「你們去打四桶水倒在祭物和柴上。」他們照做了。以利亞吩咐他們再倒一次，他們又倒了一次。以利亞又吩咐他們倒第三次，他們就倒了第三次。水流到壇的四周，溝裡也灌滿了。

以利亞先知走到壇前禱告：「亞伯拉罕、以撒、以色列的上帝耶和華啊，求你今天讓這些人知道你是以色列的上帝，我是你的僕人，我是按你的命令做這一切事。耶和華啊，求你應允我，應允我，好讓眾人知道你耶和華是上帝，你要使他們回心轉意。」於是，耶和華降火燒盡了祭物、木柴、石頭、塵土，甚至溝裡的水。眾人看見這情景，都俯伏在地高呼：「耶和華是上帝！耶和華是上帝！」

Peter's Transformation

On the night of Jesus' arrest, Peter vowed his loyalty, telling Jesus he would lay down his life for Him. Jesus then answered, "Will you really lay down your life for me? I tell you the truth, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times!"

That night, after Jesus was arrested, Peter fled. Then, when asked if he was a follower of Jesus, Peter denied Him three times.



彼得的轉變

耶穌在自己即將被捕之前，彼得自信地堅持說他不會不認耶穌。但耶穌知道將會發生什麼事情，就答道：「我實在告訴你，今夜雞叫以先，你要三次不認我。」

那天晚上，在耶穌被捕之後，彼得就逃走了。當有人問他是否是耶穌的跟隨者的時候，彼得三次否認這個事實。



For the next 40 days, after His resurrection from the dead, Jesus walked among His disciples, encouraging their hearts and explaining details of their mission now that He would be leaving them. And on the fortieth day, just before returning to Heaven, He told the disciples to return to Jerusalem, saying, “Wait for the promise of the Father, until you are strengthened with power from on High! You will receive power after the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be My witnesses!”

在耶穌從死中復活後的四十日中，耶穌在祂的門徒中行走，鼓勵他們的心，並因祂將離開他們，所以向他們解釋其任務的細節。在第四十日，就在祂升到天上之前，祂告訴門徒們要回到耶路撒冷去，說：「要等候我父所應許的，直到你們領受從上頭來的能力！當聖靈降臨在你們身上，你們就必得著能力，並要作我的見證！」

About one week after Jesus had ascended to Heaven, Peter, along with the other disciples, were filled with the Holy Spirit as they waited praying in an upper room in Jerusalem. On this day, Peter stood in front of the crowds and boldly gave witness for the Lord, resulting in about 3,000 people receiving salvation.



大約在耶穌上升到天堂的一個星期之後，彼得和其他的使徒們來到耶路撒冷的一間閣樓裏等待和禱告。就在那時，他們被聖靈所充滿了。而在那同一天，彼得站在群眾面前，勇敢地為耶穌作見證，結果大約有3,000人接受了耶穌的救恩。



In the days that followed, Peter and John faced persecution from the same wicked religious leaders who had crucified Jesus. But there was no fear, no cowardice, no denial! Peter stood before their councils testifying with such unflinching courage and authority of the Spirit that the Bible says, “When they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.” (Acts 4:13)

接下來的時日中，彼得和約翰面臨一場來自那些曾釘死他們救主的同一群罪惡宗教領袖的迫害風波。但這一次，他們一點也不懼怕、懦弱或作出不認主的行為！彼得在他們議會之前，充滿了聖靈的權威和毫不畏縮的勇氣，聖經描寫說：「他們見彼得約翰的膽量，又看出他們原是沒有學問的小民，就希奇，認明他們是跟過耶穌的！」（使徒行傳4:13）

Shipwreck

One of Paul's greatest adventures happened on a boat making its way to Rome. Paul had been arrested and was travelling to Rome to stand trial in front of the emperor.

At one time during the journey, a violent wind blew so strong that for several days they didn't see the sun or the stars. All the men were losing hope of surviving this storm, when Paul stood amongst them and said, "Be of good courage! An angel of the Lord appeared to me and said that no life will be lost. Let's eat and get our strength back."

And sure enough, though the boat suffered extensive damage, all crew and passengers were able to safely reach the island of Malta and not one life was lost!



船隻擱淺

保羅在旅途上遇見許多驚險。其中一個最驚險的經歷發生在一艘船上。當時，保羅被逮捕，他和別的囚犯坐船到羅馬城去受審。

他們被風浪逼得甚急，船長叫眾人把貨物拋在海裡。一連好幾天都看不到太陽、星辰，風浪肆虐，他們完全放棄了得救的指望。

這時大家已經多日沒有進食，保羅站在他們當中說：「我勸大家放心，你們無人會喪命。因為昨天晚上，我所歸屬、所事奉的上帝差遣天使站在我身旁，對我說，『保羅，不用怕，上帝也會保全所有和你同船的人。』」

過了幾天，船飄流到離岸不遠時，船尾被浪的猛力沖壞，船長吩咐眾人跳下水游上岸。這樣，眾人就得了救，上了岸。

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