

# Prepared for Battle

1 Samuel 17:40

## Introduction:

1. A good soldier knows many battles are always looking on the horizon, so he prepares to handle them one by one. 2 Tim. 2:3-4; “Suffer hardship with *me*, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.”
2. David and Goliath come to mind when David took 5 smooth stones. Why 5, and not just one? Lack of faith, 4 brothers?
3. David was trained in defending the sheep from wolves, bears, etc., and had to be prepared for whatever threatened the sheep. Maybe David's 5 smooth stones was simply a matter of common sense of being prepared for whatever God wanted to use him.
4. Similarly, God is still active in this world and seeks our cooperation to carry out His will. (earthen vessels, light of the world, etc)
5. This lesson will focus on 5 smooth stones God has provided us with to accomplish His purpose.

## I. Evangelism

- A. Commanded: Mat. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:46-47; Jhn. 20:21
- B. Power to save: Romans 1:16
- C. Consequences for not obeying the Gospel: 2 Thes. 1:7-9

## II. Truth

- A. Gives us freedom from...: John 8:32
- B. Ensures salvation for the Christian and those who hear: 1 Tim. 4:16
- C. Lights our path: Psalm 119:105

## III. Holiness (sanctification)

- A. Without holiness we cannot see the Lord: Hebrews 12:14
- B. Our service must be separated from the defilement of this world (cannot be hypocrites): Romans 12:1-2
- C. The call is for us to be blameless and without spot: Phil. 2:15

## IV. Unity

- A. Priestly prayer-unity is needed to accomplish the preaching in the world: John 17:20
- B. Divided we cannot stand: Matthew 12:25
- C. It takes work, diligence to achieve unity: Ephesians 4:3

V. Love

- A. Greatest commandment (why did Jesus tell them the second one?): Matthew 22:34-40
- B. Why is God kind enough to save us? Because He loves us! Romans 2:4

Conclusion:

1. Jesus' victory over Satan, life over death, forgiveness over guilt is accomplished by God.
2. However, He gives us 5 smooth stones and calls us to partner with Him in this victory.