

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Five

Five Smooth Stones

In the battle of David verses Goliath, King Saul had tried to place his armor on David, but David laid it aside and gave the excuse that he had not proved it. Instead David took his sling and selected five smooth stones out of the brook to go and do battle against the giant: 1 Sam 17:40 "And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine." Now we know that David only used one of the stones in destroying Goliath. The stone stunned Goliath and David slew the giant with the giants own sword.

Why did David take five stones and only use one stone? What do the five stones represent? Many have asked these questions down through the ages.

There is a parallel between the battle of David and Goliath and the battle between Jesus Christ and Satan. David represented the children of Israel in the battle and Goliath represented the Philistines. Similarly, Jesus represented the elect children of God in his battle against Satan. As David slew Goliath with Goliath's own sword, so Christ slew the works of Satan with the sword of death through which Satan thought he could destroy Christ. That sword was Christ's death on the cross. Satan thought to destroy the works of Christ by the murder of Christ, yet Christ "that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." Thus, Christ slew Satan with his own sword.

There were five in Goliath's family including Goliath. These five were all enemies of Israel. Goliath had four sons: 2 Sam. 21:16 "And Ishbibenob, which was of the sons of the giant, the weight of whose spear weighed three hundred shekels of brass in weight, he being girded with a new sword, thought to have slain David. 17 But Abishai the son of Zeruiah succoured him, and smote the Philistine, and killed him. Then the men of David swore unto him, saying, Thou shalt go no more out with us to battle, that thou quench not the light of Israel.

18 And it came to pass after this, that there was again a battle with the Philistines at Gob: then Sibbechai the Hushathite slew Saph, which was of the sons of the giant. 19 And there was again a battle in Gob with the Philistines, where Elhanan the son of Jaareoregim, a Bethlehemite, slew the brother of Goliath the Gittite, the staff of whose

spear was like a weaver's beam.

20 And there was yet a battle in Gath, where was a man of great stature, that had on every hand six fingers, and on every foot six toes, four and twenty in number; and he also was born to the giant. 21 And when he defied Israel, Jonathan the son of Shimeah the brother of David slew him.

22 These four were born to the giant in Gath, and fell by the hand of David, and by the hand of his servants."

It would appear that when David selected five smooth stones, that he expected not only to slay Goliath, but also to slay the sons of Goliath also. Ultimately, they all were destroyed. When Christ destroyed Satan on the cross, he not only slew Satan, but he also destroyed sin, death, hell, and the grave. Thus, he was victorious over all five of our enemies that were against us.

In parallel to the five smooth stones that David had selected to destroy the giant and his four sons, Jesus took the five fundamental principles of the covenant of redemption and destroyed the works of Satan, sin, death, hell, and the grave. Through the covenant work set forth in Rom 8:29, 30 "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified" Jesus brought forth for those he represented the victory over Satan, sin, death, hell, and the grave.

Unlike David who only slew Goliath and his servants slew the offspring of Goliath, Jesus alone slew all five of our enemies.