

David's Heir: Outside Adversity Is a Daily Challenge; Problem-Solving Is Futile while in the Cosmic Systems; Failure to Develop Self-Worth in Children Causes Gravitation toward Unorthodox Groups; Stress Is a Symptom, an Adversary Is the Cause; It is Common to Pray for the Victim but Prayer for the Antagonist Invites Divine Management ; David Had No Fear of Goliath by Claiming Deut 29:3-4; His Rationale was 1 Sam 17:36-37; His Doctrinal Conclusion: "the battle is the Lord's," v. 47; 5 Points on Fear & Worry

24. Each of us must make daily decisions whether to grant adversity entrée into our souls or to restrain it with biblical problem-solving devices.
25. Having once gained access into the soul, the believer's spiritual life is put on hold. He is now in status quo carnality. He is no longer filled with the Holy Spirit and has lost fellowship with God. Stress now dominates his stream of consciousness.
26. The lust patterns of the sin nature motivate human-viewpoint problem-solving devices. Prolonged residence in carnality leads to involvement in the cosmic systems of arrogance and hatred.
27. A believer's continued residence in the cosmic systems systematically limits his future options and, remaining unchecked by rebound, leads to the sin unto death.
28. A person who resides in the cosmic systems not only lives with unmanaged stress, but all associated with him must live with his condition as well.
29. The wife, who by nature is responsive to her husband, is browbeaten by his arrogance. She wants to please but nothing pleases him. This can force her into self-imposed guilt or a mental attitude of repugnance.
30. Children who are not treated with unconditional love misinterpret love for legalism. They assume whatever personality necessary to minimize parent-inflicted adversity in order to minimize internal stress.
31. If self-worth is not nurtured or encouraged, then stress occurs in the soul of the child as he tries to fulfill unrealistic expectations demanded by the parent.
32. The absence of parental influence or an adversarial parental influence that diminishes self-worth forces children to gravitate to whatever provides this missing attribute.
33. This is why children of broken families or abusive families seek solace in groups where they are provided self-worth although quite often the wrong kind.
34. Often one hears of the unfair and unjust circumstances that are endured by someone victimized by a family member, fellow worker, friend, or stranger.
35. It is quite common for such a victim to ask for prayer which is fine. But that person is suffering from internal stress imposed by an arrogant adversary.
36. The person that needs prayer is the arrogant adversary. He is the source of the adversity that has resulted in his victim suffering stress.
37. Stress is the symptom. The adversary is the cause. Pray for the adversary! Pray that the plan of God would so coordinate his life that he would see the error of his ways through whatever means necessary.
38. The prayer for the victim is that he or she would stop being afraid but depend on God and truth to resolve the issue in whatever means necessary. But truth relied upon with confidence is the best solution for both parties.
39. David was not afraid of Goliath although Goliath possessed all the human – even superhuman – qualities one would assume gave him the advantage.

40. If outside adversity is causing you internal stress, then do as David did: rely on the power of the Word of God. For example:
- Deuteronomy 20:3** - "Hear, O Israel, you are approaching the battle against your enemies today. Do not have a habitual lack of moral courage in the face of danger. Do not have habitual fear, do not be habitually alarmed, or do not be habitually terrified,
- v. 4** - for the Lord your God is the one who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to deliver you from danger."
41. These admonitions by the priests in Deuteronomy were referenced by David when he made these statements to Saul before his encounter with Goliath:
- 1 Samuel 17:36** - "Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, since he has taunted the armies of the living God.
- v. 37** - "The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."
42. Finally, David's summary statement to Goliath in:
- 1 Samuel 17:47b** - ... "The Lord does not deliver by sword or by spear; for the battle is the Lord's ..."
43. Failure to turn the battle over to the Lord results in fear and worry, both of which are symptoms of stress in the soul. The impact these two have on the life of their victim may be summarized thusly:
- (1) Fear is an emotional sin that shuts down the ability to grow in grace. It is void of doctrine, common sense, and wisdom.
 - (2) Since it is an emotional sin it is irrational and therefore produces disorganized thinking.
 - (3) Disorganized thinking creates stress in the soul and the inability to apply doctrine to circumstances associated with adversity.
 - (4) The more things you surrender to fear, the more things you fear. The more things you fear increases the power of fear and increased susceptibility to adversity.
 - (5) Other sins emerge in the aftermath of one's failure to deal biblically with adversity: (a) Anger is a reaction to unfavorable circumstances. Toward others it is a sin but it can be a motivation for self-analysis. (b) Shame is an emotional sin caused by consciousness of guilt based on what others think of you. (c) Arrogance which is a multifaceted complex of sins and attitudes common to cosmic one.¹
44. When the believer allows adversity to manifest in his stream of consciousness it is converted into the arrogance complex of sins.
45. Succumbing to the temptations of the sin nature causes the believer to lose spiritual strength by the loss of the Holy Spirit's filling ministry and the power of doctrine in the soul.
46. Loss of a biblically based personality results in the conversion from status quo spirituality to status quo carnality.
47. Prolonged residency in the cosmic systems can convert initial stress in the soul to the development of physiological and psychological stress.

¹ See "Summary of the Arrogance Complex" in R. B. Thieme, Jr., *Christian Integrity*, 3d ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2002), 178–82.

48. This is the condition in which we find Saul as his mental- attitude sins directed toward David began with anger and over time culminate in murder lust.
49. What we will see next is how Saul's oscillation between fits of depression and periods of mania begins to concentrate on David. Saul's desire to kill him and efforts to do so take up the entirety of 1 Samuel 18-19.