



# BA BETA KRISTIYAN HAILE SELASSIE I

## The Church of Haile Selassie I



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### **AGENDA: RASTALOGICAL FINDING ON DAVID AND GOLIATH**

Through Christianity and Eurocentric dogma, the story of David and Goliath had been portrayed literally as a physical battle between a young shepherd boy and a huge Philistine giant. Rastalogy is here to correct the abuse and dismiss any myths surrounding the story, and to state that the battle between David and Goliath symbolically represents the battle of self (higher-self, lower self).

1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17:49-50 “and David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead; and he fell upon his face unto the earth. (Verse 50) So David prevailed over the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.” The writer of the story states that the philistine giant armed with a brass helmet and a coat of mail is slain by a boy with a sling and a stone by which he hit the giant in the forehead causing him to fall face first onto the earth. If this were literally so, why did not Goliath’s helmet protect his forehead? Why did he fall face first to the ground? How did David slew Goliath without a weapon? Through force and gravity, if Goliath was hit in the forehead he would have fallen back landing on the back of his head. So the writer couldn’t have written the story to be taken so literally, rather, it was written in code for an initiate to understand. (Reference St. Mark 4: 11-12)

Rastalogically, the story of David and Goliath represents the battle of self, the mastery of spiritual achievement overcoming material desire. When one becomes an initiate of The Church of Haile Selassie I, that was the entry point into the estate of Haile Selassie I thus beginning their journey on the path to higher life as a Haile Selassie I-ites (Ezekiel 36:25). Being that life is trial and error, along this path; one will be faced with obstacles and confronted by their adversary (Goliath). Everyone who seeks higher life must be tested after their dedication. David was no different. His first test as the newly initiated (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 16:13) was to confront and overcome Goliath, the giant of evils (accumulated misdeeds of the past. 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17:10, 26, 36, 43)). These four verses identify the provocation of Goliath unto David, disrespecting the God of David. So these scriptures highlight the premises for the battle.

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1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17: 33, 38-39 Saul represents characteristics of the lower nature such as fear and doubt. In verse 33, Saul tried to put a sense of discouragement within David. Verse 38, he tried to arm David with the same brass helmet and coat of mail that Goliath had (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17:5). In Verse 39, David wisely rejected Saul's armor, for had he not, there would be no need for the battle because then David would have already given in to his lower nature. Saul's armor represents the "outer or external knowledge".

In 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17:34-35, it is evident that David had encountered other adversaries prior to Goliath. In Verse 34, the lion and bear represent that beast within man (lower nature), while Verse 35 identifies that David was victorious. This would indicate that David had self awareness and knowledge of the God within, that he knew he can overcome Goliath while rejecting Saul's armor.

1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17:34, 35 – David knows that he must depend on spiritual strength which evolves within, in order to defeat his adversary. This means that man must take that inward journey and seek the God within (I AM) and allow the God within to influence his thoughts, words and deeds.

1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17: 40, 49 – The five stones David pulled out of the brook symbolically represents man's five physical senses, that when spiritualized one would think no evil, see no evil, hear no evil and speak no evil. When David pulled the stones out of the brook, this would symbolize the transmutation of the five senses as he puts them into the shepherd's bag (head). Rastalogy believe that when David touched the five stones, they all became as on stone whereby David had obtained true essential unity within. True power was with him so victory was the only possible outcome.

1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17: 50-51 David prevailed over Goliath and took the giant's own sword and cut off his head. Evil when transformed becomes a greater power for good.

**BLESSED BE JAH RASTAFARI, HAILE SELASSIE I LIVETH!**

**Brother Azriel Richard Punzalan**

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