



## Review Questions

### Overview

- 1) Is Chapter 17 soon after Chapter 16, or much later?
- 2) With so little attention paid to the actual fight between David and Goliath, what is this story really about?
- 3) Why is Yishai's family re-introduced in 17:12-14? We met them in 16!

### David's Identity

- 4) What does Goliath represent to us?
- 5) Why is Dovid not intimidated?
- 6) Why does David mention his victories over the lions and bears?
- 7) Why does David take Goliath's head?

### David's Arc

- 8) What do we learn from the similarity between David's errand and Yosef's errand in Bereishit 37?
- 9) Why does David refuse the armour?

### Shaul's Arc

- 10) Why does Shaul offer his daughter to a random successful warrior?
- 11) Why does Shaul offer armour?
- 12) Why doesn't Shaul know Dovid when he attacks Goliath?

### The Battle

- 13) What arguments does Malcolm Gladwell bring to argue that David had the advantage?
- 14) Based on the text rather than Malcolm Gladwell, does David have the advantage?
- 15) How does David's rock succeed in killing Goliath, per classic commentaries?

### Other

- 16) Why does Eliav scold David?
- 17) Why do the Plishtim flee, if Goliath said the loser would become slaves?

## Chapter 18

- |          |                             |
|----------|-----------------------------|
| 18:1-5   | David, Shaul and Yehonatan  |
| 18:6-9   | David, Shaul and the Nation |
| 18:10-16 | Shaul fears David           |
| 18:17-19 | David Refuses Meirav        |
| 18:20-24 | Michal is Interested        |
| 18:25-27 | David Marries Michal        |
| 18:28-30 | David and Shaul Deteriorate |

## The Families of Shoftim

1. It falls apart      2:1-10
2. The rebellions
  - Negative – 8:20, 9:1-5, 14:1-3, 16:17
  - Positive – 6:25-27, 11:36
  - Unclear – 1:14-15

3. Parents to children 1:12, 11:1, 11:34

#### Transition to Monarchy

4. Abarbanel to Shoftim 8:22

והיה המנהג בשופטי ישראל להמשילם כפי גבורותיהם לא בירושה... ואמרו "בנך ובן בנך" עם היות לו שבעים בנים לרמוז ליתר בכורו, כי תלך הממשלה בבן הגדול מאחיו תמיד.

The practice among Israel's *shoftim* was to appoint them to authority based on their might, not by inheritance... And they said, "your son and your son's son," while he had seventy sons, to hint to his firstborn Yeter, for authority would always go with the eldest son.

5. Ramban to Bereishit 36:31

"ואלה המלכים אשר מלכו בארץ אדום" - נכתב זה להגיד כי נתקימה בו ברכת יצחק שאמר לו "ועל הרבך תחיה" (לעיל כז מ), כי גברו על בני שעיר החורי ומלכו עליהם בארצם... אבל ספר הכתוב כי לא היו מלך בן מלך, כאשר היו בישראל:

"And these were the kings who reigned in the land of Edom" – This was recorded to inform that the blessing of Yitzchak, "By your sword you shall live," was fulfilled in [Esav], for they overpowered Seir the Horites and reigned over them in their lands... But the text told that they were not kings descended of kings, as existed in Israel.

#### The Families of Shemuel

6. For bad 2:12, 8:1-3

7. For good 18-19

8. Messages to David Shemuel II 12:11, 7:12-16