

II SAMUEL 21; May 6; Reparation for the Gibeonite Covenant

ANALYSIS:

1. While the time in Israel's history is not given, what past event brought on the three years of famine? _____
2. When David asked the Gibeonites how he could make atonement, what did they ask him to do? _____
3. What did David do to show that he was not executing personal vengeance on Saul's family? _____
4. How many Philistine giants are named here, and who killed each one?

5. Which giant nearly overcame David? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

The LORD answered David's inquiry that the cause of the famine was Saul's massacre of the Gibeonites. Saul had violated a national oath made by Joshua and Israel with the Gibeonites many years before (Joshua 9:3-6, 14-15). Even though Joshua was tricked into the covenant with the Gibeonites, the famine is a terrible punishment which shows how serious the sin of breaking a covenant.

May we, the LORD'S people, always be true to our every word, whether in a legal document or promises made in everyday speech. Let us not be guilty of being a "trucebreaker" of the perilous times (II Tim 3:3) or a "covenant breaker" like one of a rebobate mind (Rom 1:28-32).

HELP:

1. The famine was God's judgment on Israel because Saul had massacred the Gibeonites (v 1-2).
2. Let seven of Saul's sons be handed over and the Gibeonites would hang them (vs 3-6).
3. (1) David exhumed the bones of Saul and Jonathan and gave them a formal burial in Kish's sepulchre.
(2) David gathered the bones of the seven hanged and buried them also (vs 12-13).
4. Ishbi-benob killed by Abishai, Saph by Sibbe-chai, Brother of Goliath by El-hanan, Six fingers by Jonathan (vs 16-21).
5. Ishbi-benob (v 16).