

“FINDING TRUTH IN 5 SMOOTH STONES”

1 Samuel 17:40, 49

1 Samuel 17:40 Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine.

5 smooth stones...why is this in there? What does it have to do with me/with us?

Wrong approaches

Symbolism

The **number 5** in the **Bible** is significant because his creation, the 'man' has five fingers, five senses and five toes. Thus it is the **number** of God's grace.

The problem is that there are many different interpretations: Could be something else

Making it what you want it to be

I read one guy: Smooth is what you use the most. So the 5 smooth stones of life are prayer/the Bible/church...

What if someone else has a different 5?

Another guy: *Each stone had a statement of faith written on it...* (the Bible doesn't say that!)

Another: *In David's heart, he carried the stone of courage, faith, hope, discipline and preparation*

Finding something else in the Bible with 5 in it

When I was a young preacher I heard a guy preach: 5-fold gift ministry in Ephesians...

The problem: There are other 'fives' in the Bible: 5 porches/5 wise virgins/5 books of the law/5 wounds

Correct approaches

2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (rightly dividing – cut it straight/accurately)

Finding perspective (which angle will you approach the 5 smooth stones?)

David's perspective: David chose 5 smooth stones...why? What could it be a picture of?

Preparation:

Doing what you can in advance (instead of leaving everything up to God)

Being practical: What if I miss? (not putting all your eggs in one basket?)

Thinking bigger: Goliath had 4 brothers...

The stone's perspective:

The stone was used by God to bring about victory/God's will: A picture of us? Using us for His will

What do we know about the stones?

1 Samuel 17:40 Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine.

They were chosen

There were 5

They were smooth

They were in the water

They were hidden

1 Samuel 17:49 Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth.

1 was chosen/used (not the other 4!)

It was slung from a sling

It struck Goliath in the forehead

It sank into his forehead

I chose the stone's perspective

A picture of God using us/at work in us so we can be useful