

## The Return of Ruddy Shepherd Boys

January 19, 2014

And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him:  
for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance.

**1 Samuel 17:42**

### The Event

**When:** near 1020 BC

**Location:** Ancient Judea in the small country of Israel

**The Exact Spot:** The Valley of Elah, amidst the craggy pasture lands of Judah

#### **The Scene:**

The peaceful country of Israel has been invaded by the noisome Philistines. All the men of war have been called to battle. On one side of the valley stands the mighty Philistine army in battle position, ready to fight, breathing threats and invectives. On the other side of the valley stand the Israelites, under the rulership of King Saul (the first King of Israel), with swords at the ready, but hearts that are melting with fear. For the past forty days they have stood this way - in position, but without confidence of victory. Every day, an emissary of the Philistines, named Goliath (a 12 1/2 foot warrior giant), strolls out into the open space in the valley between the two enemy camps and shouts a very specific challenge to the Israelites. Every day he moves closer, boldly attempting to provoke a soldier of Israel to rise up and fight him. For, he says, "Send your best man and fight me. If I win, you all become our slaves. But if your man wins, we will all become your slaves." But this test of Israel's strongest and bravest men has only proven one thing over the past forty days, and that is that there is no one in and amongst the mighty of Israel that has the moxie to face Goliath in hand-to-hand combat and let the fate of Israel rest upon his ability. King Saul, the "warrior-giant" of Israel, himself, is proved a coward and unwilling to step forward and defend his people and their dignity.

### The Defining Moment:

On the forty-first day, a ruddy shepherd boy, likely in his young teens, arrives in the camp of Israel to deliver bread and cheese to his older brothers and to check on the status of the war. He overhears the boast from Goliath. This ruddy shepherd boy's response changes the course of a nation and sets a pattern for the construct of great manhood throughout the course of history.

## The Return of Ruddy Shepherd Boys

**Ruddy** - Red, the color of earth

**Shepherd** - The lowliest occupation

**Boys** - Men in a state of immaturity and unreadiness

## A Study of Ruddy

Strong's #	part of speech	word and pronunciation	meaning
H119	verb	<i>adam</i> - ä·dam'	to be red, ruddy
H120	noun	<i>adam</i> - ä·däm'	a man (of the dust, of the red earth)
H121	proper masculine noun	<i>Adam</i> - ä·däm'	Adam, the first man (created of the dust, of the red earth)
H122	adjective	<i>adom</i> - ä·döm'	red, ruddy (the color of dust, the color of the earth)
H123	proper masculine noun	<i>Edom</i> - ed·öm'	Edom (otherwise known as Esau) - red, the first born, of the Old nature (bearing the nature of the earth)
H127	feminine noun	<i>adamah</i> - ad·ä·mä'	earth, ground, land
H133	adjective	<i>admoniy</i> - ad·mō·nē'	red, ruddy (like the color of dust, like the red earth)

## Ruddy

Is it a good word or a bad word?

## The Bad Side to Ruddy

- It's of the earth - earthy
- It's of this world - worldly
- It's not of heaven - it bears the same color, the same hue of the cursed ground from which it was fashioned
- It's the color of the 1st man, the Old man (a.k.a. - the flesh, the carnal, the Adam-condition)

## Adam -

And the LORD God formed '*adam (man)*' of the dust of the '*adamah (earth)*', and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and '*adam (man)*' became a living being.

**Genesis 2:7**

## Esau -

And the first came out '*admoniy (red, ruddy)*', all over like an hairy garment; and they called his name Esau.

**Genesis 25:25**

And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same *adom (red)* pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called '*Edom (red, like Adam, bearing the nature of the first born)*'.

**Genesis 25:30**

## The Good Side to Ruddy

- It's the color of life - it's the symbol of the heart, of blood, energy, and zeal
- It's the color of the heavenly clothing - the robe of righteousness

- It's the color of the 2nd Man - the one clothed in scarlet, covered in blood, as He went to battle against the Giant (the Spirit, the Heavenly, the Last Adam)

## The Last Adam

Not marked by the Ruddiness of this Earth, but by the Ruddiness of Heaven's Life

There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written,

**The first man Adam** was made a living soul; **the last**

**Adam** was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.

**The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second**

**man is the Lord from heaven.** As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

**1 Corinthians 15:44-49**

## Ruddy of Heart

The Sort of Red that is Despised on this Red Earthen Planet

And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab (the first born), and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD sees not as man

sees; for man looks on the outward appearance, but **the LORD**

**looks on the heart** . . . And he sent, and brought (David) in.

**Now he was ruddy**, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.

## **1 Samuel 16:6-7,12**

And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, **he disdained him**: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance.

## **1 Samuel 17:42**

### **The First Adam - The Old Man**

Of this Earth - earthy. Clay Red, and bearing the look and behavior of the Earthen realm. The Product of the First Creation out of the Red Earth.

### **The Second Adam - Jesus**

Of Heaven - heavenly. Blood red, and bearing the look and behavior of the Holy Heavenly Kingdom. The Bringer of the New Creation in His Blood.

And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

## **1 Corinthians 15:45**

And He (Jesus) was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God.

## **Revelation 19:13**

### **Heavenly Ruddy**

Jars of Earthen Clay that bear the Heart of God inside

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us . . . always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you.

## **2 Corinthians 4:7, 10-12**

## Wearing the 2nd Man

Putting off the Old Man and His Deeds, Putting on the New Man

## The Return of Ruddy Shepherd Boys

**Ruddy** - The Twice-Born, those clothed in Blood, the Men of Life, Men with a fiery Heart after God, Men of the Fellowship of the Burning Heart

**Shepherd** - The lowliest occupation

**Boys** - Men in a state of immaturity and unreadiness

## Shepherds

The Lowly and Most-miserable Occupation

In Israel . . . the shepherd held a subordinate position. The office of the eastern shepherd . . . was attended with much hardship, and even danger. He was exposed to the extremes of heat and cold, his food frequently consisted of the precarious supplies afforded by nature, such as . . . locusts and wild honey . . . He had to encounter the attacks of wild beasts, occasionally of the larger species, such as lions, panthers and bears. Nor was he free from the risk of robbers or predators hordes.

**Smith's Bible Dictionary**

## Shepherding

The Occupation of the 2nd Man

And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

**Genesis 4:2**

## Shepherding

Despicable to those that are Earthen Ruddy

That ye shall say, Thy servants' trade hath been about cattle from our youth even until now, both we, and also our fathers: that ye may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians.

**Genesis 46:34**

## Shepherding

The Expression of the Ruddy Nature of Heaven

- The Protector
- The Life-Preserver
- The Patriot
- The Gentle toward the Sheep
- The Fierce toward the Wolf
- The Ever-Watchful
- The One who lays down his life that his sheep might live

## The Return of Ruddy Shepherd Boys

**Ruddy** - The Twice-Born, those clothed in Blood, the Men of Life, Men with a fiery Heart after God, Men of the Fellowship of the Burning Heart

**Shepherd** - Men built to protect, preserve, and spend their life for that which is under their care

**Boys** - Men in a state of immaturity and unreadiness

## Boys

Are we supposed to stay young or grow up?

And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,  
And said, Verily I say unto you, **Except you be converted,**  
**and become as little children, you shall not enter**

into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

**Matthew 18:2-4**

Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: **That we henceforth be no more children,** tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

**Ephesians 4:13-15**

God gave (George Muller) from the outset a very simple, childlike disposition toward Himself. In many things he was in knowledge and in strength to outgrow childhood and become a man, for it marks immaturity when we err through ignorance and are overcome through weakness. But in faith and in the filial spirit, he always continued to be a little child. Mr. J. Hudson Taylor, well reminds us that while in nature the normal order of growth is from childhood to manhood and so to maturity, in grace the true development is perpetually backward toward the cradle: we must become and continue as little children, not losing, but rather gaining, childlikeness of spirit. **The disciple's maturest manhood is only the perfection of his childhood.** George Muller was never so really, truly, fully a little child in all his relations to his Father, as when in the ninety-third year of his age.

**Arthur T. Pierson**

*George Muller of Bristol, p43*

The wise and prudent are the men who are conscious and confident of their power of mind and reason to aid them in their pursuit of Divine Knowledge. The babes are those whose chief work is not the mind and its power, but the heart and its disposition....With the wise and prudent, head-



knowledge is the first thing; from them God hides the spiritual meaning of the very thing they think they understand. With the babes, not the head and its knowledge but the heart and feeling, the sense of humility, love and trust, is the first thing, and to them God reveals, in their inner life and experience, the very thing they know they cannot understand . . . All Evangelical Christians believe in regeneration. How few believe that when a man is born of God, **a babe-like dependence on God for all teaching and strength ought to be his chief characteristic** . . . The first and chief mark of being a child of God, of being like Jesus Christ, is an absolute dependence upon God for every blessing, and specially for any real knowledge of spiritual things . . . The first disposition needed for receiving that revelation is a babe-like spirit.

**Andrew Murray**

## Boyish Faith

The sort of faith needed to bring down the Giant (the very Giant that has all the adults trembling in their boots)

## The Return of Ruddy Shepherd Boys

**Ruddy** - The Twice-Born, those clothed in Blood, the Men of Life, Men with a fiery Heart after God, Men of the Fellowship of the Burning Heart

**Shepherd** - Men built to protect, preserve, and spend their life for that which is under their care

**Boys** - Men of child-wonder - Men who simply believe their God to be precisely who He says He is and sure to perform everything He promises to perform. Men who do not need armor and swords to fight against impossible odds, but with childlike faith, go out to meet the behemoth with nothing but a satchel full of real, honest-to-goodness faith

## Visiting The Valley of Elah

The Place of the Great Terebinth

## The Readyng of the Ruddy Shepherd Boy

- The Shepherding
- The Exploring of the Valley of Elah
- Living in a cave
- The Slight (the oversight)
- The Anointing
- The Return to the Sheep
- Climbing the Great Tree
- The Lion
- The Bear
- The Service unto Saul
- The Return to the Sheep
- The Errand Boy
- The Moment - at the Place of the Great Terebinth

## Being Proven for the Task

Now when the words which David spoke were heard, they reported them to Saul; and he sent for him. Then David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine."

And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are a youth, and he a man of war from his youth."

But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep his father's sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock, "I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from its mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard, and struck and killed it. "Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God." Moreover David said, "The LORD, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." And Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you!" So Saul clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail. David fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not proved them. And

David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these, for I have not proved them."  
So David took them off.

**1 Samuel 17:31-39**

## The School for Ruddy Shepherd Boys

Proving God Faithful and Being Proved by God as Faithful

### The Four Restraints of the RSB

#### 1. Restrained to not claim a position that has not yet been given

Then Abishai said to David, "God has delivered your enemy into your hand this day. Now therefore, please, let me strike him at once with the spear, right to the earth; and I will not have to strike him a second time!"

But David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him; for who can stretch out his hand against the LORD's anointed, and be guiltless?"

**1 Samuel 26:8-9**

#### 2. Restrained to Serve Unnoticed and Unappreciated

- Serve Family
- Serve Unnoticed
- Serve Unappreciated
- Respond with Heroic Action even when no one notices
- Sprint unto every challenge with confidence
- Serve the Church currently plagued with Weakness
- Deliver bread and cheese unto your elders

#### 3. Restrained to the Simple Shepherd's Artillery - Faith in the Lord of Battles

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. ... So it was, when the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

**1 Samuel 17:40,48**

#### 4. Restrained to Always Take the Lowest Place, and Never Presume a Higher One

And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron *was*. So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but *it was* He who said to Him: You are My Son, today I have begotten You.

**Hebrews 5:4-5**

But when you are invited, go and sit down in the lowest place, so that when he who invited you comes he may say to you, Friend, go up higher. Then you will have glory in the presence of those who sit at the table with you.

**Luke 14:10**

He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.

**Luke 16:10**

### The Four Ingredients of the Extraordinary Story

1. The Place of a Famous Tree
2. The Preparations of a Young Boy from Bethlehem, Judah
3. The Boasting of a Giant
4. Five Smooth Stones

Then he (David) 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.

**1 Samuel 17:40**

## The Storyline of the Kingdom

The Ordinary, Everyday Kid that Proves the Unlikely Hero and Changes the Course of History

## The Vision

The Return of Ruddy Shepherd Boys to Israel, Who live in the shadow of the Great Terebinth and remember His Almighty Power. And who reach into the Brook and grab five smooth stones instead of just one.

## The Four Additional Stones in the Shepherd's Bag

*2 Samuel 21:16-21, 1 Chronicles 20:4-7*

1. Ishbi-benob, of the sons of the Giant, slain by Absihai, the son of Zeruiah {David's sister}
2. Saph, of the sons of the Giant, slain by Sibbchhai, the Hushathite
3. Lahmi, the brother of Goliath, slain by Elhanan, a Bethlehemite
4. The 6-Fingered Giant, of the sons of the Giant, slain by Johnathan, the son of Shammah

## Sharing in the Ignominy

Our purposeful maneuver to strip off our dignity and wear a leathern girdle, trade out our filet mignon for locust and wild honey, and throw out the gel and let our hair go frizzy

## Sharing in the Ignominy, that we might Share in His Glory

Give up the hip, the cool, the politically correct, and accept that fact that God's ruddy shepherd boys (the ones that truly change the world) are the most hated men in this red earth

# The ~~Four~~ Five Ingredients of the Extraordinary Story

1. The Place of a Famous Tree
2. The Preparations of a Young Boy from Bethlehem, Judah
3. The Boasting of a Giant
4. Five Smooth Stones
5. An All-out Sprint

And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that **David hasted**, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.

**1 Samuel 17:48**