

- · Bible is history
- Supernatural history
- · How God brings victory over evil salvation

### Goliath

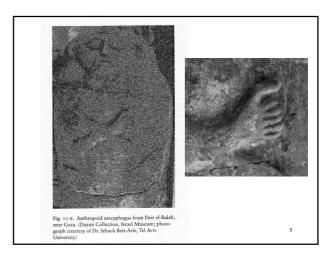
**1 Samuel 17v4:** And there came out from the camp of the <u>Philistines</u> a champion named Goliath, of <u>Gath</u>, whose height was six cubits and a span.

- $\rightarrow$  Philistine
- $\rightarrow$  Gath
- $\rightarrow \sim 3m \text{ tall} + \text{strong}$

#### More giants?

**2** Samuel 21:20-22: There was again war at <u>Gath</u>, where there was a man of <u>great size</u>, who had <u>six</u> fingers on each hand, and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in number; he too was descended from the <u>giants</u>. When he taunted Israel, Jonathan son of David's brother Shimei, killed him. These four were descended from the <u>giants</u> in <u>Gath</u>; they fell by the hands of David and his servants.

• "giants" = *Raphah* a variant of *Rephaim* 



## Spies entering Canaan

Numbers 13:32: So they brought to the Israelites an unfavourable report of the land that they had spied out, saying, "The land that we have gone through as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people that we saw in it are of great size." Spies entering Canaan

**Numbers 13:28:** Yet the people who live in the land are strong, and the towns are fortified and very large; and besides, we saw the descendants of <u>Anak</u> there.

**Deuteronomy 2:10-11:** The Emim—a large and numerous people, <u>as tall as the Anakim</u>—had formerly inhabited it. Like the <u>Anakim</u>, they are usually reckoned as <u>Rephaim</u>, though the Moabites call them Emim.

 $\rightarrow$  the *Anakim* were giants: *Rephaim*.

#### Where were the Anakim left?

**Joshua 11:21-22:** At that time Joshua came and wiped out the <u>Anakim</u> from the hill country, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the hill country of Judah, and from all the hill country of Israel; Joshua utterly destroyed them with their towns. None of the <u>Anakim</u> was left in the land of the Israelites; some remained only in Gaza, in <u>Gath</u>, and in Ashdod.

 $\rightarrow$  Most Anakim killed. A few left in Philistine areas.

#### More giants?

**Deuteronomy 3:11:** (Now only King Og of Bashan was left of the <u>remnant of the Rephaim</u>. In fact his bed, an iron bed, can still be seen in Rabbah of the Ammonites. By the common cubit it is <u>nine cubits long and four cubits wide</u>.)

- $\rightarrow$  His bed was 13 feet long, 6 feet wide
- → Og was also at the end of a line of giants that were dying out



## Where did the giants come from?

Numbers 13:33: There we saw the Nephilim (the Anakites come from the Nephilim); and to ourselves we seemed like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them.

 $\rightarrow$  Nephilim probably means "fallen ones"

### Where did the giants come from?

Genesis 6:1-4: When people began to multiply on the face of the ground, and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that they were fair; and they took wives for themselves of all that they chose. Then the LORD said, "My spirit shall not abide in mortals forever, for they are flesh; their days shall be one hundred twenty years." The <u>Nephilim</u> were on the earth in those days <u>—and also</u> <u>afterward</u>—when the sons of God went in to the daughters of humans, who bore children to them. These were the <u>heroes that were of old, warriors of renown.</u>

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#### Who are the 'sons of God'?

**Jude 6-7:** And the angels who did not keep their own position, but <u>left their proper dwelling</u>, he has kept in eternal chains in deepest darkness for the judgment of the great Day. Likewise, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which, <u>in the same</u> <u>manner as they</u>, indulged in sexual immorality and pursued <u>unnatural lust</u>, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.

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## Sins of the 'sons of God'

- Crossing boundaries God had made to create a race of 'super men' redefining marriage
- Violent warriors before the flood the earth was 'filled with violence' (Genesis 6v11)

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#### God's response (1)

- · Judgement of flood
- Destroy remnants of the race of giants using a weak nation Israel the people of God
- Destroy one of the last giants (Goliath) using a young shepherd (David) with <u>no</u> <u>sword</u> (1 Samuel 17v47, 50)

### God's response (2)

- God becomes a man Jesus Christ a descendent of David
- Jesus dying in weakness on the cross to defeat the evil powers:

**Colossians 2v15**: And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

## Hebrews 2v14-16: defeat of Satan

...Jesus shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death – that is, the devil – and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendents.

## 1 Peter 3v18-22: defeat of fallen angels

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built... ...by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand – with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

## God's response (2)

- God to become man Jesus Christ a descendent of David
- Jesus dying in weakness on the cross to defeat the evil powers (Colossians 2v15)
- Makes a new people rescued from sin, and who are being made like Christ – sons of God (Romans 8v12-17)

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# Rescue of all creation

**Romans 8v19-21:** The creation waits in eager expectation for the <u>sons of God</u> to be revealed...the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God.

## What does it mean for us?

- We cannot save ourselves
- Spiritual world is real including real evil powers now defeated by the cross
- God's people triumph in weakness and through suffering like Christ

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