

Strong Tower Bible Study

Agenda

Lesson #27

Time 6:00pm -7:30pm

Topic: The Cost of Disobedience

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Scripture text: 1 Samuel 15:10-35

¹⁰ Then the word of the Lord came to Samuel: ¹¹ “I regret that I have made Saul king, because he has turned away from me and has not carried out my instructions.” Samuel was angry, and he cried out to the Lord all that night.

¹² Early in the morning Samuel got up and went to meet Saul, but he was told, “Saul has gone to Carmel. There he has set up a monument in his own honor and has turned and gone on down to Gilgal.”

¹³ When Samuel reached him, Saul said, “The Lord bless you! I have carried out the Lord’s instructions.”

¹⁴ But Samuel said, “What then is this bleating of sheep in my ears? What is this lowing of cattle that I hear?”

¹⁵ Saul answered, “The soldiers brought them from the Amalekites; they spared the best of the sheep and cattle to sacrifice to the Lord your God, but we totally destroyed the rest.”

¹⁶ “Enough!” Samuel said to Saul. “Let me tell you what the Lord said to me last night.”

“Tell me,” Saul replied.

¹⁷ Samuel said, “Although you were once small in your own eyes, did you not become the head of the tribes of Israel? The Lord anointed you king over Israel. ¹⁸ And he sent you on a mission, saying, ‘Go and completely destroy those wicked people, the Amalekites; wage war against them until you have wiped them out.’ ¹⁹ Why did you not obey the Lord? Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the Lord?”

²⁰ “But I did obey the Lord,” Saul said. “I went on the mission the Lord assigned me. I completely destroyed the Amalekites and brought back Agag their king. ²¹ The soldiers took sheep and cattle from the plunder, the best of what was devoted to God, in order to sacrifice them to the Lord your God at Gilgal.”

²² But Samuel replied:

“Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices
as much as in obeying the Lord?

To obey is better than sacrifice,
and to heed is better than the fat of rams.

²³ For rebellion is like the sin of divination,
and arrogance like the evil of idolatry.

Because you have rejected the word of the Lord,
he has rejected you as king.”

²⁴ Then Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned. I violated the Lord’s command and your instructions. I was afraid of the men and so I gave in to them. ²⁵ Now I beg you, forgive my sin and come back with me, so that I may worship the Lord.”

²⁶ But Samuel said to him, “I will not go back with you. You have rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you as king over Israel!”

²⁷ As Samuel turned to leave, Saul caught hold of the hem of his robe, and it tore. ²⁸ Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to one of your neighbors—to one better than you. ²⁹ He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a human being, that he should change his mind.”

³⁰ Saul replied, “I have sinned. But please honor me before the elders of my people and before Israel; come back with me, so that I may worship the Lord your God.” ³¹ So Samuel went back with Saul, and Saul worshiped the Lord.

³² Then Samuel said, “Bring me Agag king of the Amalekites.”

Agag came to him in chains. And he thought, “Surely the bitterness of death is past.”

³³ But Samuel said,

“As your sword has made women childless,
so will your mother be childless among women.”

And Samuel put Agag to death before the Lord at Gilgal.

³⁴ Then Samuel left for Ramah, but Saul went up to his home in Gibeah of Saul. ³⁵ Until the day Samuel died, he did not go to see Saul again, though Samuel mourned for him. And the Lord regretted that he had made Saul king over Israel.

Things to know:

- God appointed Saul to be King over Israel
- God called Samuel anoint Saul as King

- There is a cost for disobedience
- Saul was given specific instructions
- God will use our disobedience to teach many lessons
- Samuel warned Saul before he was anointed King
- Partial obedience is complete disobedience

Discussion Questions

1. Why was Samuel angry? Vs 10-11
2. What action did Samuel take the next day? What was He told by Saul's people?

Vs 12
3. What was Saul's reaction when he saw Samuel? Was that the correct response? Did Saul follow God's instructions? How did Saul justify his actions? Did Saul disown God Vs 13-15
4. How did Samuel rebuke, and correct Saul? Vs 16-19
5. Why does Saul believe he obeyed God? What is his argument? Vs 20-21
6. Was Samuel's reply clear? What is Saul's consequence Vs 22-23
7. Can you see repentance in action? Vs 24-26 How?

8. What was Saul's reaction to Samuel's rejection? How did Saul's reaction bring his consequence into reality? Vs 27-29

9. Do you believe Saul was remorseful? What gives you evidence?
Vs 30-31

10. How did Samuel show Saul how to obey the word of the Lord? Vs 32-33

10a. What made both Samuel and God sorrowful? Vs 34-35

Faith in Action:

- Pray with a relative in your home
- Spend 15 minutes thanking God for all that He has done in your day
- Share biblical words of encouragement with a young person

Challenge of the Week:

Reprioritize your goals for the week to center around your relationship with God. (Take it one day at a time).

Are any of the following included: Prayer, Reading scripture, Fasting from an additional pleasure, Sharing your testimony, Tithing, or Obeying the Holy Spirit.

Scripture Application:

1 Samuel 12:15-How can you provide a different example for the future generation?

Luke 6:46- How can we obey God with the life He has given us?

Closing Prayer