

OLD TESTAMENT BIBLICAL LITERACY

1 SAMUEL – PART ONE

THE RISE AND FALL OF KING SAUL

Lesson 20

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BACKGROUND

- I Samuel a compilation by a later prophet.
- Historical account of transition from “theocracy” to “monarchy.”

THE RISE OF KING SAUL

- Israel had been wanting a king (8).
- God/Samuel warned them of Taxes, the draft, and servitude (8:10-18).
- People still insisted on a king.

SAUL ANNOINTED KING

- Saul is a big fellow (9:2).
- Family donkeys lost.
- Saul needs the help of a “seer”

SAUL ANNOINTED KING

- Family donkeys lost.
- Saul needs the help of a “seer”

I Sam. 9:9

(Formerly in Israel, if a man went to inquire of God, he would say, “Come, let us go to the seer,” because the prophet of today used to be called a seer.)

SAUL ANNOINTED KING

- Family donkeys lost.
- Saul needs the help of a “seer.”
- Saul begins his calling with some humility (9:21).
- Saul is privately anointed king (10:1).
- “As Saul turned to leave Samuel, God changed Saul’s heart” (10:9).

SAUL PROCLAIMED KING

- People are summoned.
- Saul is chosen – still a big guy!
(10:23)
- Saul goes home with some on his side, others not (10:26-27).

SAUL BECOMES KING

- Big troubles at Jabesh.
- Nahash the Ammonite's tough terms.
- “When Saul heard their words, the Spirit of God came upon him in power and he burned with anger (11:6).”
- Now Saul is King!

SAMUEL BOWS OUT - PUBLICALLY

- People have Saul
- Samuel gives farewell speech.
- Samuel warns of disobedience.
- Saul is king 42 years.

THE FALL OF SAUL

- The troops assemble at Gilgal (13).
- The people are hiding in fear (no blacksmiths!) (13:19).
- Saul waits seven days.
- Saul then impatiently offers his own sacrifices (13:7-10) just a few minutes too soon.

THE FALL OF SAUL

- The prophecy that Saul's Kingdom will not endure because God has appointed a leader who is a man "after his own heart (13:14)."
- Jonathan attacks.
- Israel routs.
- Jonathan eats honey.
- The soldiers eat un-kosher meat.

SAUL – A HORRIBLE LIAR

- The command: “Go attack the Amalekites and totally destroy them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys.” (15:3).

SAUL – A HORRIBLE LIAR

■ The disobedience:

“But Saul and the army spared Agag (the king) and the best of the sheep and cattle, the fat calves and lambs – everything that was good. These they were unwilling to destroy completely, but everything that was despised and weak they totally destroyed.” (15:9).

SAUL – A HORRIBLE LIAR

- To makes matters worse: Saul sets up his own monument!

SAUL – A HORRIBLE LIAR

Saul:

- We did it all!
- Soldiers brought to sacrifice!
- Repeated lie.

- I sinned – they made me!
- Don't you dare.

Samuel:

- What's the bleating?
- Stop! God is not happy!
- To obey is better than sacrifice.
- I'm leaving.

- Kingdom is torn from you.

THE FALL OF SAUL

- Humility is gone.
- Obedience is gone.
- Common sense is gone.
- Courage is gone.
- Sanity is gone.
- Anointing is gone (to David).
- David looked upon in heart....

DAVID AND GOLIATH

- Goliath of Gath – a big fellow too!
- Soldiers in fear.
- David sees as God.

“Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?” (17:26)

- David’s experience with God.

DAVID AND GOLIATH

- David sticks with God.
- “I cannot go with these because I am not familiar with them.” (17:39).
- Trash talk....
- One walks away...the one with God on his side.

SAUL FINISHED OFF

- Saul jealous.
- Saul tries every way to kill David.
- David refuses to kill Saul.
- Jonathan helps David.
- Priests of Nob help David.
- Beware Doeg the Edomite.
- The witch at Endor.
- The End of Saul.

POINTS FOR HOME

- Heart is the key.
- Obedience shows the right heart.
- Humility shows the right heart.
- Money, success and power seduces and cultivates pride, arrogance, self importance, and sin.
- God is bigger than the tall and the really tall!
- God's timing... etc.