

We will now begin the Sixth lecture on 1 Samuel. /Today we will begin with 1 Samuel 14:24.

/Read verses 24-25. /Now the men of Israel were in distress that day, because Saul had bound the people under an oath, saying, "Cursed be any man who eats food before evening comes, before I have avenged myself on my enemies!" So none of the troops tasted food. The entire army entered the woods, and there was honey on the ground.

/The Israelites and the Philistines went to battle against each other. /At that time, Jonathan fought with the Philistines and won. /In today's passage, Jonathan dipped the tip of his staff into a honeycomb and ate it. /Then Jonathan's eyes were brightened.

/However, Saul had bound the men under a strict oath. /"Cursed be any man who eats food today." /Hence, the people were not allowed to eat anything. /King Saul gave a wrong order.

/It is good to fast. /However, we must fast according to our faith. /It was foolish to go to battle and not eat anything.

/Because of Saul's wrong oath, the people did not anything and fought all day. /Thus, the people were hungry and tired. /However, Jonathan did not hear about Saul's oath and command.

/Hence, Jonathan went into the woods and ate honey from the honeycomb. /Then Jonathan's eyes brightened and his strength was renewed.

/Verses 31-32. /That day, after the Israelites had struck down the Philistines from Micmash to Aijalon, they were exhausted. They pounced on the plunder and, taking sheep, cattle and calves, they butchered them on the ground and ate them, together with the blood.

/In the evening, the people butchered the sheep, cattle, and calves that they plundered, and they ate them. /They ate meat together with the blood. /They did wrong before God. /Leviticus 17:10 says, do not eat blood.

/Verse 33. /Then someone said to Saul, "Look, the men are sinning against the LORD by eating meat that has blood in it." "You have broken faith," he said. "Roll a large stone over here at once."

/Someone went to Saul and told him that the men were sinning against God by eating meat with blood in it. /Saul told him to bring a large stone and slaughter the plundered animals and eat them.

/Saul told him to eat the meat, but not the blood. /We must not eat blood today in the New Testament period. /Acts 15:29.

/Verse 35. /Then Saul built an altar to the LORD; it was the first time he had done this.

/Saul built an altar to the LORD. /This was the first time Saul had built an altar to God.
/Saul did well in building an altar for God. /However, this was the first time he formally built an altar before God.

/Verse 36. /Saul said, "Let us go down after the Philistines by night and plunder them till dawn, and let us not leave one of them alive." "Do whatever seems best to you," they replied. But the priest said, "Let us inquire of God here."

/Saul went down after the Philistines at night and gained victory. /Then he inquired of God.

/Verse 37. /So Saul asked God, "Shall I go down after the Philistines? Will you give them into Israel's hand?" But God did not answer him that day.

/Saul prayed to God. /However, God did not answer him. /Saul wanted to find out why God did not answer him. /He wanted to see who it was that was the cause of this.

/Verse 41. /Then Saul prayed to the LORD, the God of Israel, "Give me the right answer." And Jonathan and Saul were taken by lot, and the men were cleared.

/Saul and the Israelites cast lots. /Saul and Jonathan was on one side, and the men were on the other side. /Lots were cast, and Saul and Jonathan were taken by lot.

/Verse 42. /Saul said, "Cast the lot between me and Jonathan my son." And Jonathan was taken.

/The lot was cast between Saul and Jonathan, and Jonathan was taken. /King Saul then said, "Tell me what you have done." /Jonathan said that he merely tasted a little honey with the end of his staff. /Jonathan then said, "Now must I die?"

/Verse 45. /But the men said to Saul, "Should Jonathan die-- he who has brought about this great deliverance in Israel? Never! As surely as the LORD lives, not a hair of his head will fall to the ground, for he did this today with God's help." So the men rescued Jonathan, and he was not put to death.

/Jonathan was taken by lot. /King Saul was going to kill Jonathan according to his oath. / However, the people stood and asked of the king. /"He did this today with God's help."

/"Jonathan brought about this great deliverance in Israel." /They said, "Jonathan must not be killed." /Hence, Saul did not kill Jonathan.

/Saul listened to the men and did not kill Jonathan. /Saul did right in not killing Jonathan. /Saul was wrong in rashly ordering the people to fast during battle.

/Jonathan was not present when Saul put the men under oath. /Jonathan did not hear the order that they were not to eat. /Jonathan also laid down his life for Israel and was faithful. /Saul did right in not killing Jonathan.

/Verse 47. /After Saul had assumed rule over Israel, he fought against their enemies on every side: Moab, the Ammonites, Edom, the kings of Zobah, and the Philistines. Wherever he turned, he inflicted punishment on them.

/After Saul assumed rule over Israel, he defeated their enemies on every side. /Saul defeated the Philistines, Zobah, and Edom. /Saul defeated the enemies that plundered Israel. /Saul gained victory with God's grace and God's help.

/From verse 49 is a short genealogy of Saul.

/Verse 52. /All the days of Saul there was bitter war with the Philistines, and whenever Saul saw a mighty or brave man, he took him into his service.

/There was always war between Israel and the Philistines. /Therefore, Saul took all mighty and brave men into his service. /Saul trained all brave young men as soldiers. /This was a good thing.

/Saul brought up competent men and raise up the nation of Israel. /In the same way, we must raise up leaders. /We must also raise up children of faith. /We must do this so that they could fight the good fight for the kingdom of God.

/We will continue with 1 Samuel chapter 15. /The title is, "Saul's Sin." /Let's look at the main points.

/First, God commands Saul to destroy the Amalekites. /Verses 1-5. /Second, the Kenites are told to flee. /Verse 6. /Third, Saul spares Agag and the best animals. /Verses 7-9. /Fourth, Saul's rise to power, and Samuel's grief. /Verses 10-16.

/Fifth, Samuel's rebuke and Saul's excuse. /Verses 17-21. /Sixth, to obey is better than sacrifice. /Verses 22-23. /Seventh, Saul attempts to take advantage of Samuel. /Verses 24-31. /Eighth, Samuel kills King Agag. /Verses 32-33. /Ninth, Samuel does not see Saul again. /Verses 34-35.

/In today's passages, God tells Saul to completely destroy the Amalekites. /The Amalekites were people who were against the Israelites. /Thus, God would judge the Amalekites. /However, Saul disobeyed. /Hence, God rebuked King Saul.

/Verses 1-2. /Samuel said to Saul, "I am the one the LORD sent to anoint you king over his people Israel; so listen now to the message from the LORD. This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'I will punish the Amalekites for what they did to Israel when they waylaid them as they came up from Egypt.

/Samuel went to King Saul and gave him a command from God. /When the Israelites left Egypt, the Amalekites attacked them. /Therefore, God commanded Saul to destroy the Amalekites.

/“Totally destroy everything that belongs to them. Do not spare them; put to death men and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep.” /When the Israelites left Egypt, they participated in God’s movement of salvation. /When the Amalekites attacked the Israelites, they attacked God.

/The Amalekites disrupted the movement of salvation. /Deuteronomy 25:17-19. /About forty years had passed since the Israelites came out of Egypt. /God said that he would punish the Amalekites through Saul.

/God became angry and judged whoever interrupted Israel’s movement of salvation. /Today, God becomes angry when unbelievers harm the church and persecute believers. /God carries out his movement of salvation through the church.

/No one should attack the church or persecute believers today. /God uses the church as an instrument of salvation. /Jesus said in Matthew 18:6-7, /if anyone causes a little one to sin, /it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and be drowned in the depths of the sea.

/Verses 4-5. /So Saul summoned the men and mustered them at Telaim-- two hundred thousand foot soldiers and ten thousand men from Judah. Saul went to the city of Amalek and set an ambush in the ravine.

/Saul summoned all the soldiers in the nation. /There were two hundred thousand foot soldiers. /There were ten thousand men from Judah. /Many soldiers gathered.

/Verse 6. /Then he said to the Kenites, "Go away, leave the Amalekites so that I do not destroy you along with them; for you showed kindness to all the Israelites when they came up out of Egypt." So the Kenites moved away from the Amalekites.

/The Kenites lived near the Amalekites. /The Kenites helped the Israelites when they came out of Egypt. /The Kenites were the people of Moses’ father-in-law.

/Moses’ father-in-law helped the Israelites when they came out of Egypt. /Jethro advised Moses to select men as officials over tens, fifties, hundreds, and thousands. /Exodus 18:17-23.

/God does not forget those who help God’s salvation movement. /God does not forget them, and God will help them avoid disaster, even if it is four hundred years later. /Matthew 9:41.

/When we give a cup of water to a prophet in Christ’s name, God will not forget to reward us. /God is the God of justice and the God of love. /God remembers those who

stand in the way of the salvation movement and judges them.

/God surely rewards those who cooperate and help God's salvation movement.

/Therefore, we must help the church no matter what, and we must also help believers.

/Verses 7-9. /Then Saul attacked the Amalekites all the way from Havilah to Shur, to the east of Egypt. He took Agag king of the Amalekites alive, and all his people he totally destroyed with the sword. But Saul and the army spared Agag 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.

/God told King Saul to completely destroy the Amalekites. /However, Saul did not kill King Agag, but only captured him. /Then Saul also did not kill the best of the sheep and cattle, but only killed the despised and weak. /The people wanted to eat the good animals.

/Verses 10-11. /Then the word of the LORD came to Samuel: "I am grieved that I have made Saul king, because he has turned away from me and has not carried out my instructions." Samuel was troubled, and he cried out to the LORD all that night.

/In verse 11, it says that God grieved that he made Saul king. /This was because King Saul disobeyed God's command. /God is not man so he does not regret anything.

/Yet, from man's point of view, it seemed as if God was grieved. /In verse 11, it says that Samuel was troubled and cried out to God all that night. /Samuel cried and prayed to God all night asking God to forgive Saul of his sins.

/Verse 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."

/Saul set up a monument in his own honor in Carmel. /Samuel set up a monument because he believed that he defeated the Amalekites. /He boasted of himself.

/Saul was only able to defeat the Amalekites because of God's grace. /However, Saul thought that he defeated the Amalekites. /Saul was arrogant. /We must not boast of ourselves. /Everything is God's grace.

/Verse 13. /When Samuel reached him, Saul said, "The LORD bless you! I have carried out the LORD's instructions."

/Samuel approached Saul. /Saul said to the prophet Samuel, "I have carried out the LORD's instructions." /However, the prophet Samuel said, "'What then is this bleating of sheep in my ears? What is this lowing of cattle that I hear?"

/God commanded Saul to kill all the Amalekites. /However, King Saul set aside the good

things, saying he wanted to give them as sacrifices to God. /Saul obeyed just a part of God's command.

/Verse 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.

/Samuel rebuked King Saul. /"Although you were once small in your own eyes, did you not become the head of the tribes of Israel?" /9:21. /God uses the humble. /Proverbs 15:33.

/When we obey God's command, we must not make excuses. /We must not make excuses or add conditions. /We must obey God's command just as it is given to us.

/Verse 19. /Why did you not obey the LORD? Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the LORD?"

/King Saul did not obey God, but pounced on the plunder.

/Verse 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.

/Why didn't King Saul kill King Agag? /Saul probably felt empathetic towards King Agag. /Saul also took sheep and cattle because he was afraid of the people. /Refer to verse 24.

/Saul also gave in to the public and mob mentality. /He also plundered the good things to eat them. /Verse 19. /The public opinion is not important, but God's command is important.

/Saul wanted to win the favor of the people, gain popularity, and maintain his royal authority for a long time. /However, Saul disobeyed God, and this was a great sin.

/Verses 22-23. /But Samuel replied: "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. 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."

/To obey is better than sacrifice. /Obedience is worthwhile. /Saul made the excuse that he brought the animals to sacrifice to God. /However, God is not pleased with sacrifice that does not come from obedience.

/The giving of sacrifice is the act of breaking down the wall of sin that stood before God and us. /Sacrifices are given to become closer to God. /Sacrifices are given to please God.

/Therefore, when we disobey God's command, God becomes angry. /God is pleased with

obedience more than sacrifice. /In the Old Testament times, believers gave sacrifices to God with faith.

/In the Old Testament times, it was a good thing for believers to give sacrifices with faith. /However, the people did not truly love God with their hearts, and God did not receive sacrifices that did not come from obedience.

/In verse 22, it says, "to heed is better than the fat of rams." /This meant that listening to God's word was better than sacrifices. /Romans 10:17. /Faith has a standard, and the standard is God's word.

/Therefore, it is important that we listen to God's word. /We must also listen and believe God's word. /Next, we must believe and obey. /This is true faith.

/In verse 23, it says that rebellion is like the sin of divination. /Saul disobeyed God, which means that he left God. /He also showed contempt for God. /He was stubborn, which means that his heart had become hardened.

/When our hearts are stubborn, we cannot be moved. /Then, we will grow far from God. /Therefore, we must not be stubborn, but be gentle and humble in heart. /We must have gentle and humble faith like Jesus did. /We must have innocent hearts like little children.

/Verses 24-25. /Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned. I violated the LORD's command and your instructions. I was afraid of the people and so I gave in to them. Now I beg you, forgive my sin and come back with me, so that I may worship the LORD."

/Saul did not truly repent before God. /Saul feared the people more than he feared God.

/Verse 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!"

/King Saul rejected the word of the LORD, and so the LORD would reject Saul. /When we reject God's word, God will reject us.

/Verse 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."

/Saul sinned, but he still asked Samuel to honor him before the elders and the people. /Saul still did not repent. /Saul was filled with vanity and arrogance.

/Verse 31. /So Samuel went back with Saul, and Saul worshiped the LORD.

/Samuel went back with Saul. Samuel had told him about the problem of the truth. /Now, Samuel followed Saul because he had compassion for him. /Samuel hated sin but loved the person.

/Verse 32. /Then Samuel said, "Bring me Agag king of the Amalekites." Agag came to him confidently, thinking, "Surely the bitterness of death is past."

/If Saul had the thought to truly repent after being reprimanded by Samuel, Saul should have killed Agag. /Saul should have immediately killed Agag and all the animals of the Amalekites the moment he received rebuke from Samuel. /However, Saul did not repent. /Hence, Samuel brought Agag out and killed him.

/Verse 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.

/Samuel resolutely put Agag to death. /The prophet Samuel obeyed God's command. /Samuel was not empathetic. /It was good to kill those whom God told them to kill..

/If God told them to let someone live, it was good to let him live. /It is right for us to obey God's word without adding or taking away from his word. /Also, Samuel killed King Agag, which meant that he got rid of sin.

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

/Samuel returned to Ramah, his home. /Saul went to his home in Gibeah. /Until the day Samuel died, he did not go to see Saul again. /Saul disobeyed God's command, but he did not even think to repent.

/There was no need anymore for Samuel to encourage Saul. /God gave Saul the chance to repent through Samuel. /Yet, Saul continuously did not repent. /Saul missed his chance to repent.

/When we are given the chance to repent, we must immediately repent. /We must repent for all the times we disobeyed God's command. /Saul disobeyed God's command, and his kingship did not last a long time.

/Here we will conclude the sixth lecture on 1 Samuel. /Thank you.