

1 Samuel 15 - LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE TEXT

Texts: 1 Samuel 15: 1-35

1 Corinthians 10:1-12

I. GOD REMEMBERS EVIL

A. Verse 2

B. Psalms 10:11 (KJV)

C. Psalms 10:13 (KJV)

D. *Don't think that God will not remember our evil – simply because we have forgotten it!*

II. LISTEN CAREFULLY

A. Verse 3

B. *Listen to exactly what God says.*

C. *Sometimes “upon” vs. “in” and “or” instead of “and” makes a difference!*

III. PARTIAL OBEDIENCE IS NOT OBEDIENCE

A. Verses 4-9

B. *Did MOST of it.*

C. *Claimed did all of it – Verse 13, 20*

D. *Expected God to be pleased with a majority performance!*

1. Many do so today! “I’ve done pretty well here, God will have to be satisfied with this!”

E. *Verse 19 – “did not obey the voice of the Lord”!*

IV. EXCUSE MAKING WILL NOT PLACATE GOD’S ANGER

A. Verse 15, 21

B. *Blamed others – he was king, he was responsible.*

C. “the rest have we utterly destroyed” (everything that was vile and refuse”)

D. Verse 9 said they “would not utterly destroy” – “utterly” = “devote”?

E. Result? – Verse 22, 26, 35

V. PRINCIPLE OF PRESUMPTIOUS SIN

A. Verses 14-15, 21

B. Saul presumed to design “acceptable” worship to God.

C. Many do similar thing today.

1. Instruments of music.
2. Incense.
3. Sacred “signs”
4. Special “sacraments”
5. Brethren altering God’s design in organization and work, calling it “good.”

VI. FAILURE TO OBEY IS REBELLION

A. Verse 23

B. Note “stubbornness” – I’ll show you that I’ll do it my way!

C. This attitude manifests itself in trying to live as close to the world as possible!

1. In dress, speech, and actions!
2. This is the person asking, “how long is long and how short is short?”

D. Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft – a capitol crime in O.T. times!

VII. TO OBEY IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE

A. Verse 22

B. Reminds us again that what God says He wants is what is important! God doesn’t accept less than He requires!

C. God wants obedience!

VIII. GOD EXPECTS OBEDIENCE!

A. Verse 1 “hearken”

B. Verse 22 “to obey” “To hearken”

IX. DON'T REDEFINE GOD'S TERMS.

A. Verse 3

B. Defined in context

C. Saul changes definition by sparing Agag and the best of spoil.

1. Claimed different definition – Verse 13, 15

D. Samuel redefines term “utterly” – verse 18,19 – using Saul's mis-definition!

E. Saul shows that he really did understand the term – verse 21

F. People do the same today

1. “Fellowship”

2. “Baptism”

3. “Modesty”

X. CONCLUSION:

A. Be careful to listen.

B. Be careful to obey.

C. Don't make excuse.

D. Don't be stubborn.

E. Don't rebel.