

## **A KING'S DISOBEDIENCE (1 Samuel 15:1-31)**

### **I. Saul blamed the people.**

- A. 1 Samuel 15:14-15, 20-21.
- B. The Lord told Saul in 1 Samuel 15:3 what was required of him, and when he was confronted about his disobedience- he blamed the people.
- C. This is an age old problem: "Passing the Buck" ... It is the "I am never to blame attitude."
- D. Do you remember when this problem first occurred? - the garden of Eden.
  - 1. In Genesis 3 the serpent tempted Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit – she did and gave also to Adam.
  - 2. As a result their eyes were open to their nakedness, and they hid from God.
  - 3. Notice what happened in Genesis 3:9-13 - each one blamed the next one involved.
- E. How do people "pass the buck" today?
  - 1. Blame others for their not coming to worship, etc.
  - 2. Blame others for what is not being done, when they themselves are doing little or nothing.
  - 3. By always passing responsibility on to someone else.
- F. Remember, when you point the finger there are three more pointing right back at you.
- G. In the day of judgment there will be no "passing of the buck" (John 12:48; 2 Corinthians 5:10).

### **II. Negligence is doing evil.**

- A. 1 Samuel 15:19-20.
- B. Saul evidently thought that doing only part of God's command was alright.
- C. Samuel informed Saul that to do a part of God's will to the neglect of other commands is doing evil.
- D. There are many in the world who think they are doing the good, but are only partially obedient – therefore do evil.
  - 1. Many denomination do some good things, but they also do evil in neglecting many of God's commands; for example:
    - a. Neglect to teach God's complete plan of salvation;
    - b. Neglect to worship as God has authorized;
    - c. Neglect to have the proper organization;
  - 2. There are many in the Lord's church who are involved in "cafeteria style religion."
  - 3. Doing some good things is not enough.
- E. Remember the parables in Matthew 25 – they were all lost because of something they neglected to do.
- F. Are we obeying parts of God's law to the neglect of others?
- G. If so, we are involved in evil. Are we involved in evil by:
  - 1. Not telling others of Christ and His church?
  - 2. Not encouraging one another?

3. Giving as we have been prospered?
4. Attending faithfully? etc.

**III. God desires obedience rather than sacrifice.**

- A. 1 Samuel 15:22-23.
- B. Saul disobeyed God, but thought it was alright since it was done to worship Him.
  1. The sheep and oxen were used to worship God.
  2. But God said destroy all.
- C. From this we see that simply worshipping is not enough.
  1. It must be done in obedience.
  2. Worship not prescribed by God is rejected.
- D. John 4:24.

**IV. Saul feared the people and not God.**

- A. 1 Samuel 15:24.
- B. This is one of the reason there is so much error in the world today – because man fears man instead of God.
- C. Saul blamed his error on fearing the people – what about today?
  1. Afraid of losing friends, or not being popular;
  2. Afraid of losing social status;
  3. Afraid of losing a promotion.
- D. Notice what Jesus said ... (Matthew 10:28).
  1. Proverbs 29:25.
  2. “Fear God and give him glory ...” (Rev. 14:7).

From a sermon by Tom Moore