

# FIRST SAMUEL STUDY

## CHAPTER 13:1-23

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER WNX325     JANUARY 2, 2002

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

### **“The Wrong Type of Worship”**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Discipleship, Obedience, Waiting,**

#### **INTRODUCTION                      *to the text*                      *I Samuel 13:1-23***

### The Value and Place of Worship in the Christian Church has Taken a Beating

We Have Been Saved to Serve Him - *fish*  
And We Have Been Saved to Worship Him – *bless Him*

## THE WRONG TYPE OF WORSHIP

#### **1.) *Begins with an independent spirit*                      vv. 1-7**

#### **a.) *We need to watch out for us***

#### **Verse 2**

Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel, 2 Saul chose for himself three thousand men of Israel. Two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in the mountains of Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin. The rest of the people he sent away, every man to his tent.

# The Flesh (Philistines) are Back in the Scene!

“Saul chose for himself three thousand men of Israel...”

There is an “Independence” that Shouldn’t Destroy Us...

It Comes From a “Dependence” Upon God

In The World, Independence from God = is Slavery

In The World, Dependence upon God = is Freedom

Saul’s Greatest Threat to Himself, was Himself!

Saul had had the Example of Worship; But He Hadn’t Entered into Worship

## Worship Demands a Cost

2 Samuel 24:24

...I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God  
with that which costs me nothing.

## David was a Worshipper

Because you cannot come to the Throne of God in  
Worship without being Sacrificed

Romans 12:1

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice,  
holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

Leviticus 2:13

'And every offering of your grain offering you shall season **with salt**; you shall not allow the salt of the  
covenant of your God to be lacking from your grain offering. With all your offerings **you shall offer salt**.

Matthew 5:13

**"You are the salt of the earth**; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for  
nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

# ***Watch out for the you-factor when Worshipping...***

...“Saul chose for himself

***Begins with an independent spirit***

***b.) We could be tempted to take the credit***

## ***Verse 3-4***

And Jonathan attacked the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. Then Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, **"Let the Hebrews hear!"** 4 Now all Israel heard it said **that Saul had attacked** a garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel had also become an abomination to the Philistines. And the people were called together to Saul at Gilgal.

## **Danger Zone**

Taking Credit for What Isn't Ours

**“...Well I Blew the Trumpet!**

THE MOST FRIGHTENING WORDS I'VE HEARD IN CHURCH IS...

**“I am/want to be the Worship Leader!”**

## **Petrifying Position**

**“...I Blow the Trumpet!**

**“...I Toot the Horn!**

**“...I Sing the Songs!**

**“...I Lift My Hands!**

Jonathan Fought the Fight *While Saul Tooted his Horn...*

What Do We Know already about worship?

# That Worship and Warfare Are Inseparable Acts of the Christian Faith

## Jesus in the Upper Room, Before the Battle

Matthew 26:30

And when **they had sung a hymn**, they went out  
to the Mount of Olives.

### *Begins with an independent spirit*

**c.) *We could blind ourselves to the truth***

#### **Verse 5-7**

Then the Philistines gathered together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the seashore in multitude. And they came up and encamped in Michmash, to the east of Beth Aven. **6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in danger (for the people were distressed), then the people hid in caves, in thickets, in rocks, in holes, and in pits. 7 And some of the Hebrews crossed over the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was still in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.**

#### **Verse 5**

Then the Philistines gathered together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the seashore in multitude. And they came up and encamped in Michmash, to the east of Beth Aven.

Here – A Massive Invasion of the “Flesh”

## It's God's Will

That the Flesh in Our Lives Should be Killed

## The Flesh is the Old Life of Jack

Romans 6:6

Know this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

**1 Peter 1:18-19**

knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, 19 but with the precious blood of Christ,

**Romans 6:14**

For sin shall not have dominion over you,  
for you are not under law but under grace.

## Take Yourself to the Cross

**Galatians 2:20**

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

## An Example of Connecting the Cross in Daily Life

**2 Corinthians 10:4-6**

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal – (FACT) but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 (ONE) **casting down** arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, (TWO) **bringing every thought** into captivity to the obedience of Christ, 6 and (THREE) being ready to **punish all disobedience...**

## THE WRONG TYPE OF WORSHIP

*Begins with an independent spirit - We could blind ourselves to the truth*

## When We're Worshipers

We Can Take Cover

If we cave, if we fold, We can Take Cover !!!

**1 Corinthians 10:13-14**

No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make **the way of escape**, that you may be able to bear it. 14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry.

**2 Timothy 2:22**

**Flee** also youthful lusts...

## There is a Great Difference

In running away in Doubt and Fear  
verses running towards God in Dependence and Victory

Psalm 61:2-4

From the end of the earth I will cry to You, when my heart is overwhelmed; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. 3 For You have been a shelter for me, a strong tower from the enemy. 4 I will abide in Your tabernacle forever; I will trust in the shelter of Your wings. Selah

## THE WRONG TYPE OF WORSHIP

### 2.) *Causes us to use the things of God* **vv. 8-15**

#### a.) *The Using of a Ministry that isn't ours to use*

##### **Verse 8**

Then he (Saul) waited seven days, according to the time set by Samuel. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. 9 So Saul said, "Bring a burnt offering and peace offerings here to me." And he offered the burnt offering.

Saul Here Acts in Samuel's Place - He Begins to Assume Things of God and Take Upon Himself a Ministry That He Wasn't Called To...

The Things of God Being "Things" & "Positions"

## DANGER ZONE

In Ministry, When A Man Loses the Fear of the Lord - He Will begin to see the Beauties of Ministry *as Something owed to Him*

"God is Good and He Blesses Us.  
He Does Not Bless Us Because We're Good"

### ***Personally:***

It's a Wonderful Thing When a Church Loves it's Pastor and Blesses Him Out of Their Hearts, It's another thing when the Minister says,  
"They Ought to Love Me, They Should Follow Me..."

## Verse 8

... so the people were **scattered** from him, so he used Samuel's office to influence the people...

## Verse 9

So Saul said, "Bring a burnt offering and peace offerings here to me." And **he offered the burnt offering.**

THE ACT OF WORSHIP WAS PRESCRIBED IN SCRIPTURE BUT

### The Motive was Wrong

WHICH MADE THIS ACT OF WORSHIP AN ABOMINATION TO THE LORD

## There are Three Fatal Assumptions Here

#1

"These stupid people won't figure it out

#2

what does God care as long as it looks good

#3

I can take care of things better myself

## Situational Ethics in Ministry

"the end justifies the means / God hasn't judged me yet / look how big we are"

***The Using of a Ministry that isn't ours to use***

## THE WRONG TYPE OF WORSHIP

***Causes us to use the things of God***

***b.) The Using of Power to cover sin***

## Verse 10-12

10 Now it happened, as soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, that Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might greet him. 11 And Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "When I

saw that the people were scattered from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered together at Michmash, 12 "then I said, 'The Philistines will now come down on me at Gilgal, and I have not made supplication to the LORD.' Therefore I felt compelled, and offered a burnt offering."

## Notice The Timing

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If you're faithless like Saul, you'll say that God was setting Saul up

If you're faithful like Samuel, you'll say "why didn't you trust in the Lord?"

*The Using of Power to cover sin*

### Power Can Corrupt

If you live for power and influence for personal gain

### Power Can Bless

If you live to be a conduit for the work of God

### All Human Beings Desire Recognition, But;

*There are men who desire to achieve recognition through the striving for power*

*There are men who desire to achieve recognition through the striving for wealth*

*There are men who desire to achieve recognition through the striving for authority*

**ALL OF THESE THINGS GOD CAN GIVE, - HIS WAY, in His time**

Matthew 6:32-33

"For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

## INSECURITY

will eat a man alive and leave those around him broken and used, he will think himself something while others are prostituted - for one man's ambition!

Philippians 3:18-19

For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame-- who set their mind on earthly things.



1 Timothy 6:9-10

But those who desire to be rich (IN MANY AREAS) fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

## It's Sad But;

Very Few Men Can Handle Wealth, Power and Authority  
But to those who can, God gives them more...

TLB – Wisdom Galore

Luke 16:9-12

Can you buy friendship through cheating? Will this ensure your entry into heaven? 10 I tell you no! For unless you are honest in the small matters of life, you won't be honest in the larger things of life. If you cheat even in the smallest of things, you won't be honest with the greater things. 11 And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the riches that are for the kingdom of heaven? 12 And if you are not faithful with other people's money, why should you be entrusted with money of your own?

## THE WRONG TYPE OF WORSHIP

*Causes us to use the things of God*

**c.) *The Using of the Kingdom to advance self***

### **Verse 13-14a**

13 And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you. **For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever.** 14 **"But now your kingdom shall not continue.**

**God was Willing – But Saul was Controlling**

Jeremiah 45:5

"And do you seek great things for yourself seek them not?"

When the Sauls of Life have had their Time,  
God Replaces Them with a New Work

## Verse 14b

14b...The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you." 15 Then Samuel arose and went up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people present with him, about six hundred men.

## THE WRONG TYPE OF WORSHIP

### 3.) *Results ultimately in defeat*

vv. 17-23

#### *a) Because wrong worship doesn't affect the heart of God*

## Verse 16-18

Saul, Jonathan his son, and the people present with them remained in Gibeah of Benjamin. But the Philistines encamped in Michmash. 17 Then raiders came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies. One company turned to the road to Ophrah, to the land of Shual, 18 another company turned to the road to Beth Horon, and another company turned to the road of the border that overlooks the Valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness.

**Because the nation was not led to the Throne of God, they had come to the valley of decision...**

## THE WRONG TYPE OF WORSHIP

### *Results ultimately in defeat*

**Our Worship is to God – Not Us!!!**

WORSHIP

Is not something that is to entertain us  
*Even though it does*

WORSHIP

Is not something that is to excite us  
*Even though it does*

## WORSHIP

Is not to prepare our hearts  
*Even though it does*

- But if we gather in church to be **entertained** – it's wrong worship
- But if we gather in church to be **excited** – it's wrong worship
- But if we gather in church to only **receive** – it's wrong worship

That's Why Tithing Kills The Flesh  
*It requires the giving of what you shouldn't be trusting in*

Matthew 2:2

The Magi - said, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

## THE WRONG TYPE OF WORSHIP

*Results ultimately in defeat*

**b.) Because wrong worship is powerless**

### Verse 19

Now there was no blacksmith to be found throughout all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, "Lest the Hebrews make swords or spears."

Spiritual Worship Empowers and Protects

## THE WRONG TYPE OF WORSHIP

*Results ultimately in defeat*

**c.) Because wrong worship leaves you helpless**

### Verse 22

So it came about, on the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people who were with Saul and Jonathan. Only Saul and Jonathan his son had a weapon. 23 And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the pass of Michmash.

## When the Day of Battle Came

The people had no real weapons to fight with because nothing can be done without  
worship being right and true...

There is a lot of noise, a lot of color, a lot of energy  
But is it worship?

We Need To Respond When Touched  
We Need To Respond When Awed  
We Need To Respond When Met

We Need To Respond to Him When He  
Plucks Our Hearts Strings

## My Prayer for This Church

John 4:23-24

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."