

FIRST SAMUEL STUDY

CHAPTER 15:1-35

TAPE NUMBER WNX327 JANUARY 23, 2002

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“When All Else Fails...”

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Obedience, Blessings, Warnings

INTRODUCTION

to the text

I Samuel 15:1-23

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

1.) *Follow what God says*

vv. 1-3

a.) Samuel reminds Saul – You’re the King-Ding-a-Ling

Verse 1

Samuel also said to Saul, "The LORD sent me to anoint you king over His people, over Israel. Now therefore, heed the voice of the words of the LORD.

Listen With the Intent to Do...

Saul had been pretty weird thus far to following instructions

INSTRUCTIONS

Are No Big Deal – *if everything goes right*

INSTRUCTIONS

Are Cool if You Don't Need Them.
They Can be Scary - *when you need them!*

Like on your first solo flight / like snorkeling in Hawaii /
like your wedding day

Saul! – Listen, Don't Blow This Next Command of God

Verse 2-3

Attack Amalek

This Amalek is a Succession of Amaleks that attack the People of God

These Guys – The Amalekites were a pain in the armor!!!

Follow what God says

b.) He Knows Things That You Don't

Verse 2-3

"Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'I will punish Amalek for what he did to Israel, how he ambushed him on the way when he came up from Egypt. 3 'Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.'"

Wait a Minute

This sounds like the Quran Chapter 9
Kill the Christians and Jews where They Stand

He Knows Things That You Don't

What does God have against Men?
What does God have against Women?
What does God have against Infants?
What does God have against Nursing Children?
What does God have against Ox, Sheep, Camels, Donkey?

Romans 11:33

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

Deuteronomy 32:4

He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He.

We've Already Learned from Moses That God is Loving and Gentle and Merciful and Compassionate

Then Why Kill Everything "Amalekite"?

Many of the pagan cultures practiced the grossest, immoral and aberrant
Mental Disease / Venereal Disease / Communicable Disease

1.) Follow what God has said

vv. 1-3

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

2.) Obey Him in that thing

vv. 7-9

And Saul attacked the Amalekites, from Havilah all the way to Shur, which is east of Egypt. 8 He also took Agag king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. 9 **But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them.** But everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed.

Verse 8

He also took Agag alive

Everybody knows that as long as the king lives, there's no real victory

Kill the King, Capture the Kingdom

Osama went after the world trade center = symbol of global commerce

Osama went after the pentagon = symbol of global power

Osama went after the pentagon = symbol of global strength

Osama went after the white house = symbol of global freedom

Osama went after the President = symbol of global democracy

Kill the King, Capture the Kingdom

Verse 9

But everything despised and worthless,
that they utterly destroyed.

Who Made Them the Judge – The Moral Squad

a.) *Can You Receive Instruction?*

b.) *Can You Take Orders?*

c.) *Can Respond Even if You Don't Understand*

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

1.) *Follow what God has said* vv. 1-3

2.) *Obey Him in that thing* vv. 7-9

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

3.) *Humble Yourself* vv. 10-13

Now the word of the LORD came to Samuel, saying, 11 "I greatly regret that I have set up Saul as king, for he has turned back from following Me, and has not performed My commandments." And it grieved Samuel, and he cried out to the LORD all night. 12 So when Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul, it was told Samuel, saying, "Saul went to Carmel, and indeed, he set up a monument for himself; and he has gone on around, passed by, and gone down to Gilgal." 13 Then Samuel went to Saul, and Saul said to him, "Blessed are you of the LORD! I have performed the commandment of the LORD."

James 4:6-8

But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

4.) *Accept it and Move on*

vv. 14-16

But Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?" 15 And Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed." 16 Then Samuel said to Saul, "Be quiet! And I will tell you what the LORD said to me last night." And he said to him, "Speak on."

Never Underestimate a Man's Ability to Justify Himself

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

5.) *Do What's Right*

vv. 22-23

Then Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams. 23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he also has rejected you from being king."

a.) *Blessings Come When We Do*

"Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams..."

b.) Affliction Comes When We Don't

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he also has rejected you from being king."

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

6.) You Probably will too

vv. 24-30

a.) Because Refusing Him Hurts You

Verse 24-26

Then Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. 25 "Now therefore, please pardon my sin, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD." 26 But Samuel said to Saul, "I will not return with you, **for you have rejected the word of the LORD**, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel."

b.) Resort to Hypocrisy

Verse 27-30

And as Samuel turned around to go away, Saul seized the edge of his robe, and it tore. 28 So Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. 29 "And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent. 30 Then he said, "I have sinned; yet honor me now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the LORD your God."

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS

7.) *All feel the pain*

vv. 31-35

So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul worshiped the LORD. 32 Then Samuel said, "Bring Agag king of the Amalekites here to me." So Agag came to him cautiously. And Agag said, "Surely the bitterness of death is past." 33 But Samuel said, "As your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women." And Samuel hacked Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal. 34 Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house at Gibeah of Saul. 35 And Samuel went no more to see Saul until the day of his death. Nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul, and the LORD regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel.