

A Tale of 3 Kings



I Am Who God Says I Am

Lisa Peters ~ July 22, 2018

1 Samuel 15:10-24 NLT

Then the Lord said to Samuel, "I am sorry that I ever made Saul king, for he has not been loyal to me and has refused to obey my command." Samuel was so deeply moved when he heard this that he cried out to the Lord all night.

Early the next morning Samuel went to find Saul. Someone told him, "Saul went to the town of Carmel to set up a monument to himself; then he went on to Gilgal."

When Samuel finally found him, Saul greeted him cheerfully. "May the Lord bless you," he said. "I have carried out the Lord's command!"

"Then what is all the bleating of sheep and goats and the lowing of cattle I hear?" Samuel demanded.

"It's true that the army spared the best of the sheep, goats, and cattle," Saul admitted. "But they are going to sacrifice them to the Lord your God. We have destroyed everything else."

Then Samuel said to Saul, "Stop! Listen to what the Lord told me last night!"

"What did he tell you?" Saul asked.

And Samuel told him, "Although you may think little of yourself, are you not the leader of the tribes of Israel? The Lord has anointed you king of Israel. And the Lord sent you on a mission and told you, 'Go and completely destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, until they are all dead.' Why haven't you obeyed the Lord? Why did you rush for the plunder and do what was evil in the Lord's sight?"

"But I did obey the Lord," Saul insisted. "I carried out the mission he gave me. I brought back King Agag, but I destroyed everyone else. Then my troops brought in the best of the sheep, goats, cattle, and plunder to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal."

But Samuel replied,

*"What is more pleasing to the Lord:
your burnt offerings and sacrifices
or your obedience to his voice?"*

*Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice,
and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.*

*Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft,
and stubbornness as bad as worshiping idols.*

*So because you have rejected the command of the Lord,
he has rejected you as king."*

Then Saul admitted to Samuel, "Yes, I have sinned. I have disobeyed your instructions and the Lord's command, for I was afraid of the people and did what they demanded."

Three Observations

Compromise

Fear

Insecurity

Application

1. Live out of a tenacious _____ that Jesus be first

C.S. Lewis

"The more I let Jesus take me over, the more truly myself I become."

John Eldredge:

"For to come to know Jesus intimately, as He is, as He wants to be known, is to release a redemptive landslide in your life. There will be no stopping the goodness. The first purpose of your existence will be resolved, and from there you are set to fulfill all of God's other purposes for you."

2. Live with tenacious _____ in community

Apprenticeship Prayer Partner Questions:

1. Where am I vulnerable to insecurity and how am I responding to this?
2. Have I given Jesus full access in my life or am I still holding something of myself back from Him?