

Changing the focus to faith in God

16 As for me, I will call upon God, And the Lord shall send me.
17 Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice.
18 He has redeemed my soul from **peace** from the battle that was against me, For there were many against me.
19 God will hear, and afflict them, Even He who abides firm of old. **Sin**! Because they do not change, Therefore they do not fear God.
20 He has put both his hands against those who were at peace with him; He has broken his covenant.
21 The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, But war was in his heart, His words were softer than oil, Yet they were drawn swords.
22 Cast your sword on the Lord, And **He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.**

The promise of God

8.10.17

Fear and Love

Love is absolute obedience:

1 Samuel 15:1-25 (NKJV)

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**
2 **Thus says the Lord of hosts:**

Outline

1 I will punish Amalek for what he did to Israel, how he afflicted him on the way when he came up from Egypt.
2 Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But do not touch man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey."
4 So **Saul** gathered the people together and numbered them in Tain, two hundred thousand foot soldiers and ten thousand men of Judah.
5 And **Saul** came to a city of Amalek, and lay in wait in the valley.
6 Then **Saul** said to the Kenites, "Go, depart, get down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them. For you showed kindness to all the children of Israel when they came up out of Egypt." So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.
7 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.

Saul's opinion was superior to discipline

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 **deplined and worthless, that they utterly destroyed.**
10 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 **S** 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 late. **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."
14 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."

Best obedience where I really wanted

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."
17 So **Samuel** said, "When you were little in your own eyes, were you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the Lord anoint you king over Israel?
18 Now the Lord sent you on a mission, and said, 'Go, and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.'
19 Why then did you not obey the voice of the Lord? Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do evil in the sight of the Lord?"

Saul's opinion was superior to discipline

20 And **Saul** said to **Samuel**, "But I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, and gone on the mission on which the Lord sent me, and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.
21 But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal."

22 So **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.

Obedience is better than prayer and memorizing Scripture alone

Witchcraft And Idolatry

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."

24 Then **Saul** said to **Samuel**, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord and your words, because I kept the people and obeyed their voice.
25 Now therefore, please punish 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."
27 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 be for me, for he is not a man, that He should relent."
30 Then he said, "I have sinned; yet stand the now, please, before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may worship the Lord your God."
31 So **Samuel** turned back after **Saul**, and **Saul** worshipped the Lord.
32 Then **Samuel** said, "Bring Agag king of the Amalekites here to me." So Agag came to him cautiously. And Agag said, "Sunny 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 hanged 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 registered that he had made **Saul** king over Israel.

He would be better because he would be humble and wisely obedient to his discipline

The song of Saul: I Did It My Way

Peer is basic to spiritual death; it is basic to the sin nature

1 Samuel 28:1-25 (NKJV)

1 Saul's happened in three days Saul's secondly knew that you will go out without to battle, you and your men.
2 So David said to Achish, "Sendy you know what your servant can do?" And Achish said to David, "Therefore I will make you one of my chief warriors tomorrow."
3 Now **Samuel** had died, and all Israel had lamented for him and buried him in Ramah, in his own city. And **Saul** had put the mediums and the spiritists out of the land.
4 Then the Philistines gathered together, and came and encamped at Bethshem. So Saul gathered all Israel together, and they encamped at Gilboa.

5 When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, **he was afraid**, and his heart trembled greatly.
6 And when **Saul** inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams or by Urim or by the prophets.

Referring to his 4400, that terror and fear have engulfed his thought processes
So his decisions are now being controlled by his emotions



I am (Saul) I got what I want I mean using his fear, be afraid, panic, in a state of terror, anxiety

Doing the right thing in the wrong way:

Psalm 90:1-13 (NKJV)
1 For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised, He is to be feared above all gods.
2 For all the gods of the peoples are idols, But the Lord made the heavens.
3 When He makes His power and strength, He is to be feared, He is to be feared, He is to be feared.
4 Give to the Lord, O families of the nations, Give to the Lord glory and strength.
5 Give to the Lord the glory due His name: Bring an offering, and come into His courts.
6 O Lord, hearing the Lord in the beauty of holiness, Tremble before Him, all the earth.
7 The Lord sits among the nations, The Lord reigns, The world also is firmly established, it shall not be moved. He shall judge the peoples righteously.
8 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; Let the sea roar, and all its fulness.
9 Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it. Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice before the Lord.
10 For He is coming, for He is coming to judge the earth. He shall judge the world with righteousness, And the peoples with His truth.

It's up to the people to appropriate what God has given through divine revelation

Witchcraft And Idolatry

7 Then **Saul** said to his servants, "Find me a woman who is a medium, that I may go to her and inquire of her." And his servants said to him, "In fact, there is a woman who is a medium at En-Dor."
8 So **Saul** disguised himself and put on other clothes, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night. And he said, "Please conduct a séance for me, and bring up for me the one I shall name to you."
9 Then the woman said to him, "Look, you know what **Saul** has done, how **he has cut off the mediums and the spiritists from the land**. Why then do you lay a snare for my life, to cause me to die?"
10 And **Saul** swore to her by the Lord, saying, "As the Lord lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing."

All the gods of all human religious systems are idols:
1 Corinthians 10:20-21 (NKJV)
20 Forth, And the things which the Gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to **demons**, and not to God, and I do not want you to have fellowship with **demons**.
21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of **demons**; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of **demons**.
1 Timothy 4:1-3 (NKJV)
1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of **demons**.
2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron.
3 forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

11 Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up for you?" And he said, "**Bring up Samuel** for me."
12 When the woman saw **Samuel**, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman spoke to **Saul**, saying, "Why have you deceived me? For you are **Saul**."
13 And the king said to her, "Do not be afraid; what did you see?" And the woman said to **Saul**, "I saw a spirit ascending out of the earth."
14 So he said to her, "What is his form?" And she said, "An old man is coming up, and he is covered with a mantle." And **Saul** perceived that it was **Samuel**, and he stooped with his face to the ground and bowed down.

15 Now **Samuel** said to **Saul**, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" And **Saul** answered, "I am deeply distressed, for the Philistines make war against me, and God has departed from me and does not answer the signs, neither by prophets nor by dreams. Therefore I have called you, that you may reveal to me what I should do."
16 Then **Samuel** said, "So why do you ask me, seeing the Lord has departed from you and has become your enemy?"

Consequence

17 And the Lord has done for Himself as He spoke by me. For the Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David.
18 Because you did not obey the voice of the Lord nor execute His fierce word upon Amalek, therefore the Lord has done this thing to you this day.
19 Moreover the Lord will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines. And tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The Lord will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines."

20 Immediately **Saul** fell full length on the ground, and was dead. **Samuel** was afraid because of the words of **Samuel**. And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten no food all day or all night.
21 And the woman came to **Saul** and saw that he was severely troubled, and said to him, "Look, your maidservant has obeyed your voice, and I have put my life in my hands and heeded the words which you spoke to me.
22 Now therefore, please, heed also the voice of your maidservant, and let me set a piece of bread before you; and eat, that you may have strength when you go on your way."
23 But he refused and said, "I will not eat." So his servants, together with the woman, urged him, and he heeded their voice. Then he arose from the ground and sat on the bed.
24 Now the woman had a baked calf in the house, and she hastened to kill it. And she took flour and kneaded it, and baked unleavened bread from it.
25 So she brought it before **Saul** and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.

1 Samuel 27:6 (NKJV)
6 So Saul, his three sons, his armorbearer, and all his men died together that same day.

Promises of God:

Psalm 90:12 (NKJV)

12 So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV)
5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding;
6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV)

31 But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 41:10 (NKJV)

10 Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Philippians 4:6-7 (NKJV)

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;
7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 26:3 (NKJV)

3 You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.

Isaiah 65:8 (NKJV)

8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever."

Stabilizing the Unstable