

THE CHARACTERS AND DRAMA OF 1 SAMUEL

[PART 25]

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

Reading: 1 Samuel 16: 1 - 7

Introduction

- Obedience to God is an act of faith but disobedience is the result of unbelief.
- The cost of obedience is small compared to the cost of disobedience to God.

1 The Cost Of King Saul's Disobedience

- Saul had proven to be disobedient to God twice:
- [13:13] Regarding going ahead and sacrificing instead of waiting for Samuel.
- [15:19] Regarding not utterly destroying the Amalekites.
- He forfeited his throne and kingdom [13:13] and [15:26].
- [15:28] the kingdom was '**torn**' from him just as Saul had torn Samuel's robe.
- [Vs 35] Samuel never went to see Saul again after that.
- Consider [1 Corinthians 10:11]. '**For our admonition**'
- Is there an area you are being disobedient to God in?
- Don't lose your heavenly crown and reward.

2 The Search For A New King

- Consider [1 Samuel 13:14].
- The search for a new king began with the search for a heart.
- When the Bible uses the word 'heart' it refers mainly to the feelings, emotions, will and intellect.

- It refers to the real you inside that God knows us to be.
- The word **'heart'** is used approximately 956 times in the Bible.
- Consider the following usages of the word:
- [1 Samuel 1:8], [John 14:1, 27], [Jeremiah 17:9/10], [Matthew 15:18/19], [Psalm 44:21], [Matthew 5:8] and [1 Samuel 10:26].
- God deals with us according to our hearts.
- How would we fare on His ECG machine?

3 The Heart Of The New King

- The selection of Saul had been based on his family pedigree and his outward appearance. [1 Samuel 9:1/2].
- What was outside looked good but what mattered was in the inside and it wasn't good.
- Samuel was sent to the house of Jesse the Bethlehemite where God had provided Saul's successor.
- Samuel was going to anoint Eliab based on what he saw on the outside.
- Consider the key verse, [1 Samuel 16:7].
- God doesn't look at outward appearances, He examines/studies the heart.
- David certainly wasn't anointed on the basis of his outward appearance (shepherd boy).
- David was always conscious of his heart.
- Consider [Psalm 9:1], [19:14], [24:3/4], [51:10].
- David became an expert regarding his own heart and was often in God's heart clinic.

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