

SAUL'S DISOBEDIENCE AND REJECTION

BIBLE TEXT: I Samuel 13:5-14; 15:1-35

LESSON 207 Senior Course

MEMORY VERSE: "Hath 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 hearken than the fat of rams" (I Samuel 15:22).

BIBLE TEXT in King James Version

1 Samuel 13:5-14

⁵ And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which *is* on the sea shore in multitude: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Bethaven.

⁶ When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait, (for the people were distressed,) then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits.

⁷ And *some of* the Hebrews went over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he *was* yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

⁸ And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel *had appointed*: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.

⁹ And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering.

¹⁰ And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him.

¹¹ And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and *that* thou camest not within the days appointed, and *that* the Philistines

BIBLE REFERENCES:

I An Occasion of Distress

1 The Philistines brought a great army of reprisal against Israel,

1 Samuel 13:3-5

³ And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that *was* in Geba, and the Philistines heard *of it*. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, Let the Hebrews hear.

⁴ And all Israel heard say *that* Saul had smitten a garrison of the Philistines, and *that* Israel also was had in abomination with the Philistines. And the people were called together after Saul to Gilgal.

⁵ And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which *is* on the sea shore in multitude: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Bethaven.

Genesis 34:30

³⁰ And Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, Ye have troubled me to make me to stink among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites: and I *being* few in number, they shall gather themselves together against me, and slay me; and I shall be destroyed, I and my house.

Exodus 5:21

²¹ And they said unto them, The LORD look upon you, and judge; because ye have made our savour to be abhorred in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to slay us.

2 Israel was without adequate arms for battle, and was badly demoralized, I Samuel 13:6-8,

1 Samuel 13:19-22

¹⁹ Now there was no smith found throughout all the land of Israel: for the Philistines said, Lest the Hebrews make *them* swords or spears:

²⁰ But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, to sharpen every man his share, and his coulter, and his axe, and his mattock.

²¹ Yet they had a file for the mattocks, and for the coulters, and for the forks, and for the axes, and to sharpen the goads.

²² So it came to pass in the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people that *were* with Saul and Jonathan: but with Saul and with Jonathan his son was there found.

Exodus 14:10-12

¹⁰ And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD.

¹¹ And they said unto Moses, Because *there were* no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt?

¹² Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For *it had been* better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.

II A Presumptuous Offering and the Ire of God

gathered themselves together at Michmash;

¹² Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the LORD: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering.

¹³ And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever.

¹⁴ But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him *to be* captain over his people, because thou hast not kept *that* which the LORD commanded thee.

1 Samuel 15:1-35

¹ Samuel also said unto Saul, The LORD sent me to anoint thee *to be* king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the LORD.

² Thus saith the LORD of hosts, I remember *that* which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid *wait* for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

³ Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.

⁴ And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

⁵ And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.

⁶ And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I

1 Saul waited anxiously and impatiently for Samuel seven days, I Samuel 13:8;

Romans 5:3-4

³ And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

⁴ And patience, experience; and experience, hope:

James 1:4

⁴ But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

2 Saul imprudently ordered a burnt offering to be made, I Samuel 13:9, 10;

Numbers 16:1

¹ Now Korah, the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On, the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took *men*:

Numbers 16:3

³ And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, *Ye take* too much upon you, seeing all the congregation *are* holy, every one of them, and the LORD *is* among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD?

Numbers 16:40

⁴⁰ *To be* a memorial unto the children of Israel, that no stranger, which *is* not of the seed of Aaron, come near to offer incense before the LORD; that he be not as Korah, and as his company: as the LORD said to him by the hand of Moses.

2 Chronicles 26:16-20

¹⁶ But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to *his* destruction: for he transgressed against the LORD his God, and went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense.

¹⁷ And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him fourscore priests of the LORD, *that were* valiant men:

¹⁸ And they withstood Uzziah the king, and said unto him, *It appertaineth* not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the LORD, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast trespassed; neither *shall it be* for thine honour from the LORD God.

¹⁹ Then Uzziah was wroth, and *had* a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, from beside the incense altar.

²⁰ And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and, behold, he *was* leprous in his forehead, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the LORD had smitten him.

Hebrews 5:1

¹ For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things *pertaining* to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins:

3 Samuel appealed on the scene within the promised time, and questioned Saul about his actions, I Samuel 13:10-12;

Genesis 3:13

¹³ And the LORD God said unto the woman, What *is* this *that* thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.

Genesis 4:10

¹⁰ And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

Joshua 7:19

¹⁹ And Joshua said unto Achan, My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession unto him; and tell me now what thou hast

destroy you with them: for ye shewed 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 smote the Amalekites from Havilah *until* thou comest to Shur, that *is* over against Egypt.

⁸ And he took Agag the 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, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all *that was* good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing *that was* vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

¹⁰ Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,

¹¹ It repenteth me that I have set up Saul *to be* king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.

¹² And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

¹³ And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed *be* thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD.

¹⁴ And Samuel said, What *meaneth* then this bleating of the sheep in mine 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 of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

done; hide *it* not from me.

4 Saul admitted to Samuel that he had violated his conscience, I Samuel 13:12;

Psalm 50:16-21

¹⁶ But unto the wicked God saith, What hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or *that* thou shouldest take my covenant in thy mouth?

¹⁷ Seeing thou hatest instruction, and castest my words behind thee.

¹⁸ When thou sawest a thief, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with adulterers.

¹⁹ Thou givest thy mouth to evil, and thy tongue frameth deceit.

²⁰ Thou sittest *and* speakest against thy brother; thou slanderest thine own mother's son.

²¹ These *things* hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether *such an one* as thyself: *but* I will reprove thee, and set *them* in order before thine eyes.

Romans 1:32

³² Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

5 Samuel informed Saul that the kingdom was severed from him, and was to be given to another, I Samuel 13:13, 14;

1 Samuel 2:30

³⁰ Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, I said indeed *that* thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.

1 Samuel 15:28

²⁸ And Samuel said unto him, The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, *that is* better than thou.

Psalm 78:70

⁷⁰ He chose David also his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds:

Acts 13:21-23

²¹ And afterward they desired a king: and God gave unto them Saul the son of Cis, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, by the space of forty years.

²² And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the *son* of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

²³ Of this man's seed hath God according to *his* promise raised unto Israel a Saviour, Jesus:

III Fruits of Reprobation

1 Saul was told by the Lord to destroy every living thing of the Amalekites, which he did not do, I Samuel 15:1-9;

Jeremiah 22:21

²¹ I spake unto thee in thy prosperity; *but* thou saidst, I will not hear. This *hath been* thy manner from thy youth, that thou obeyedst not my voice.

Titus 3:3

³ For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, *and* hating one another.

2 God revealed to Samuel that Saul had not carried out His commandment, I Samuel 15:10-13;

Acts 5:3

³ But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back *part* of the price of the land?

¹⁶ Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.

¹⁷ And Samuel said, When thou *wast* little in thine own sight, *wast* thou not *made* the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?

¹⁸ And the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

¹⁹ Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the LORD?

²⁰ And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

²¹ But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.

²² And Samuel said, Hath 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 hearken than the fat of rams.

²³ For rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from *being* king.

²⁴ And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

²⁵ Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the

2 Samuel 12:7-9

⁷ And Nathan said to David, Thou *art* the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;

⁸ And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if *that had been* too little, I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.

⁹ Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife *to be* thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.

- 3 Questioned about his disobedience, Saul refused to acknowledge his guilt, remaining unrepentant, I Samuel 15:14-21;

Genesis 3:12

¹² And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

Genesis 4:9

⁹ And the LORD said unto Cain, Where *is* Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: *Am* I my brother's keeper?

John 8:44

⁴⁴ Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

- 4 Samuel told Saul that "to obey is better than sacrifice" and that because he had rejected the Lord's word he was rejected, I Samuel 15:22-29;

Romans 1:28

²⁸ And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

Jeremiah 6:30

³⁰ Reprobate silver shall *men* call them, because the LORD hath rejected them.

Isaiah 1:22

²² Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water:

- 5 Samuel executed Agag, and departed from Saul, to see him no more, I Samuel 15:30-35

NOTES:

Fearful Hearts

Saul had reigned as king but two years when Jonathan, his son, smote a garrison of the Philistines, thereby precipitating a full-scale invasion of Israel by the Philistines. Although the Israelites had no weapons of war, other than their axes and mattocks, Saul blew the trumpet and summoned the men of Israel to the coming battle: Even so, Saul found himself facing the thousands of the Philistines with only six hundred men near him.

Decisive Hour

Adversity has ever been the test for moral principles; and these circumstances tested Saul's character to the limit. He was a general without much of an army at his command, and was faced with a number of circumstances that indicated immediate and inevitable disaster. Faced with the momentary possibility that the Philistines would attack in an overwhelming rush, Saul saw that the situation demanded that some kind of constructive action be taken or the cause would be lost.

Saul doubtless felt his need of divine aid, but Samuel, the Prophet of God, was not there. Previously, Samuel had told Saul of this day, and had told him to wait seven days. Samuel also promised Saul that then he would come, offer sacrifices and burnt

LORD.

²⁶ And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.

²⁷ And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his mantle, and it rent.

²⁸ And Samuel said unto him, The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, *that is* better than thou.

²⁹ And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for he *is* not a man, that he should repent.

³⁰ Then he said, I have sinned: *yet* honour me now, I pray thee, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the LORD thy God.

³¹ So Samuel turned again after Saul; and Saul worshipped the LORD.

³² Then said Samuel, Bring ye hither to me Agag the king of the Amalekites. And Agag came unto him delicately. And Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past.

³³ And Samuel said, As thy sword hath made women childless, so shall thy mother be childless among women. And Samuel hewed Agag in pieces before the LORD in Gilgal.

³⁴ Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house to Gibeah of Saul.

³⁵ And Samuel came no more to see Saul until the day of his death: nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul: and the LORD repented that he had made Saul king over Israel.

offerings in supplication to the Lord that God might aid them, and Saul would then be told what to do. But Samuel had not come! The seventh day had dawned, but the Prophet was not there.

Imprudent Act

Filled with anxiety and impatience because Samuel did not arrive at the earliest possible moment of his promise, Saul took matters into his own hands to find a way out of his difficulties. He commanded burnt offerings to be brought to him, and he offered them in supplication to the Lord.

Saul had sufficient knowledge of God's power that he feared to enter battle without divine aid in his behalf. Nevertheless, Saul's presumption in offering sacrifices without Samuel, God's appointed man for such work, was a hasty expedient, and a dangerous thing to do. Furthermore, it was an affront to God's holiness and majesty that God could not overlook.

The administering of offerings and sacrifices was limited to those ordained to do so and all others who dared do so were immediately under penalty of certain death, which penalty was to be exacted without delay. (**Numbers 18:7** ⁷ Therefore thou and thy sons with thee shall keep your priest's office for every thing of the altar, and within the vail; and ye shall serve: I have given your priest's office *unto you* as a service of gift: and the stranger that cometh nigh shall be put to death. **Leviticus 17:3-9** ³ What man soever *there be* of the house of Israel, that killeth an ox, or lamb, or goat, in the camp, or that killeth *it* out of the camp, ⁴ And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer an offering unto the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD; blood shall be imputed unto that man; he hath shed blood; and that man shall be cut off from among his people: ⁵ To the end that the children of Israel may bring their sacrifices, which they offer in the open field, even that they may bring them unto the LORD, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest, and offer them *for* peace offerings unto the LORD. ⁶ And the priest shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar of the LORD *at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and burn the fat for a sweet savour unto the LORD. ⁷ And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations. ⁸ And thou shalt say unto them, Whatsoever man *there be* of the house of Israel, or of the strangers which sojourn among you, that offereth a burnt offering or sacrifice, ⁹ And bringeth it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, to offer it unto the LORD; even that man shall be cut off from among his people.). The New Testament says of this matter: "For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins" (Hebrews 5:1).

There were men prior to Saul's time who had dared to usurp the priest's office, doing so to their own destruction. Korah, Dathan, and Abiram had become jealous of Moses, and dared to question his God-given authority to administer the worship of God. God vindicated Moses by opening up the earth and swallowing his accusers alive. Fire also went out from God and consumed 250 of the princes of Israel for being in sympathy with them. Such was the seriousness of Saul's act. (See Numbers 16:1-50 or Lesson 105.)

A Violated Conscience

No sooner had Saul finished offering the burnt offering than Samuel appeared and asked Saul for an explanation of his actions.

Saul's answer was the confession of a guilty conscience, "I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering."

Saul did not repent of this act of irreverence, and it doubtless was the groundwork for all his further and continued disobedience to the commands of God. Samuel, because of Saul's unrepentant attitude, told him that he had done foolishly, that his kingdom should not continue, and that God would find another to be captain over His people, who would be a man after his own heart (I Samuel 13:13, 14).

Whatever inclinations Saul had in the past to serve God in spirit and in truth seemed to have departed from him in this crucial hour. Sinful motives came to the front, and he began to appear as a man who was proud, domineering, rash, and irreverent. There is a dark future for any man who lets such emotions as these enter his heart to guide him through life, and Saul began a life of extreme sinfulness and disobedience.

Continued Disobedience

The word of the Lord came to Saul that he was to go and destroy every living thing of the Amalekites, both man and beast — sparing nothing. Saul gathered his army and attacked the Amalekites, slaying all the people but the king, and all the animals but those which were the best,

The Lord revealed to Samuel Saul's disobedience, and told him, "It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments" (I Samuel 15: 11). When he met Samuel, Saul said that he had performed the commandment of the Lord.

This second act of Saul's disobedience was deliberate, and was evidently performed with little concern for the right or the wrong. Saul did not hesitate to blame his people for any transgressions that were committed, and had nothing but self-justifying excuses for his disobedience..

Samuel's reply to Saul's excuses was God's own answer to all such cases of deliberate and continual disobedience: "Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry." God further told Saul, through the Prophet Samuel, "Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king" (I Samuel 15:23).

Godly Obligation

Saul's continual refusal to obey God was the revelation of the cancerous nature of sin in the heart of Saul. These acts might have seemed small but were enormous in their result. "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much" (Luke 16:10). So it was with Saul; he could see no value in being obedient in little things, not realizing that great things are made up of many countless small matters.

Modern science has proved that even things great in size are made up of countless minute atoms. All the vast universe, scientists say, is made up of intricate atomic patterns, each regulated in its own region and orbit. If then, God's great creation must be obedient to the Creator's design, surely men who are made in God's own image must respect the will of God if they desire the favor of God.

In the armed forces of the United States there is a standing rule for the men to the effect that they must first learn to take commands, before they can give them. This is only another way of saying the thing Samuel so ably said to Saul, "To obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" (I Samuel 15:22).

There is no place in the kingdom of God for rebels. Saul proved himself a rebel, and the result was that Samuel rent the skirt of his mantle in demonstration of how God would rend the kingdom from him. God gave the kingdom to David, a man after His own heart. David respected God's laws and commands, and obeyed them, even though it cost him great personal sacrifice.

A great many people fail to gain entrance into the Kingdom of God because of a continual disobedience to God's Word in what they think are small inconsequential matters. God does not speak words of vanity. What He speaks is of incalculable value, for the simple reason that He is the Almighty God and there is none other besides Him. Therefore, for men to place a small value on any part or portion of what God has said or revealed is to disparage the whole of what God has said or done.

The world is full of religion, philosophies, and schemes of men that use portions of the Bible as basis and a claim for the truth of their precepts. They cast aside the rest of God's words as of little value; or they say they are outdated and of no use for men of modern times. Of such people God has said: "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book" (Revelation 22:18, 19).

(Deuteronomy 4:1-2 ¹ Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do *them*, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you. ² Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish *ought* from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you)

Saul took away from the Word of the Lord, and God took away his name out of the Book of Life, and gave the kingdom to another. His lack of repentance brought its day of reaping — a harvest of sorrow — and, in the end, a suicide's death.

QUESTIONS

- 1 In what way did Saul first disobey the command of God?
- 2 Who should have offered burnt offerings unto the Lord?
- 3 What was Saul's second act of disobedience?
- 4 How did Samuel know of this act of disobedience?
- 5 What were Saul's excuses for his disobedience?
- 6 What did God say of this?
- 7 What will happen to all who disobey God?