



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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I- Begin in Humility:

For a man who would turn so much to ego and pride during the ensuing years Saul had a humble start. *1 Samuel 10:21b ...and when they sought him, he could not be found.*

God reveals to them that he was hiding. *1 Samuel 10:22-23 Therefore they enquired of the LORD further, if the man should yet come thither. And the LORD answered, Behold, he hath hid himself among the stuff. 23 And they ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward.*

They bring him out of hiding and he is appointed to be the king of Israel. Notice the response of the people in *1 Samuel 10:24 And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the LORD hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king.*

The Lord gave deliverance to Israel at the hand of Saul recorded in *1 Sam 11:1ff*. After this the nation gathers in Gilgal as recorded in *1 Samuel 11:14-15 Then said Samuel to the people, Come, and let us go to Gilgal, and renew the kingdom there. 15 And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the LORD; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.* They now have their king.

III- First Act of Disobedience:

The first act of Saul in disobedience occurred after his second year. *1 Samuel 13:1 Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel...* God gave victory over the Philistines after which Saul goes to Gilgal to offer a sacrifice. *1 Samuel 13:8-14 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 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*



Coordinates:

1 Samuel 10:1-15:23

Sights to See:

- 1- God was in control of the events that transpired to bring Saul to Samuel to intersect his life with God's will.
- 2- Saul began his public ministry with a humility that was fitting but allowed the position to go to his head.
- 3- Saul disobedience in matters of the sacrifice should be a warning to us that we should not get so comfortable to think we can bend the rules because of who we are.
- 4- Many times the will of God is clearly revealed and we need only react with obedience.
- 5- Saul convinced himself that the destruction of all the animals was not what was best in spite of it being the command of God. He reconditioned the will of God.
- 6- God knew all the events that were transpiring in the battle and the disobedience in the camp of Israel.
- 7- Saul said he kept them so that he could sacrifice them to God which was not God's desire.
- 8- Obedience is the greatest sacrifice that we can make to God. To follow His instructions is a sweet savor to Him.



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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. This is the first mention of the king to come, King David. Reese's Chronological Bible dates the birth of David eight years after this event.

Over the next period of years, God used Saul to fight battles and gave victories. God used Saul to lay the groundwork for the coming of the kingdom of David. *1 Samuel 14:47-48 So Saul took the kingdom over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, and against the children of Ammon, and against Edom, and against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines: and whithersoever he turned himself, he vexed them. 48 And he gathered an host, and smote the Amalekites, and delivered Israel out of the hands of them that spoiled them.*

V- Completely Destroy the Amalekites:

The second act of disobedience of Saul is found in *1 Sam 15* some 13 years after the first. God sends Samuel with a message from God to destroy Amalek. *1 Samuel 15:3 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.* He was to destroy all and not spare person or animal.

Saul musters an army of 210,000 people who attack. Now notice the results. *1 Samuel 15:7-9 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.* The instructions were to destroy the Amalekites.

IV- Bah, Bah Black Sheep:

God speaks to Samuel and tell him of Saul disobedience. *1 Samuel 15:10-13 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.*

When Samuel arrives, Saul says he had been obedient to the commandment of God. Samuel asks him what is that he hears. *1 Samuel 15:14 And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear? Bah, Bah black sheep...*

Notice the excuse of Saul. *1 Samuel 15:15 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.*

Samuel tells him in *1 Samuel 15:22 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.*