

When God is the Enemy
1 Samuel 28
January 17, 2021

I. David Among the Philistines (V. 1-2)

A. Previously, on That All the Earth May Know...

II. Saul's Silent God (V. 3-7)

A. When we make sin our _____, we make God our enemy (James 4:4).

B. When God is our enemy, the answer is honest _____, not more religious activity (Isaiah 1:15-17, 59:1-2).

1. People turn to witchcraft when they tire of _____ religion, either out of ignorance or rejection, and search for anything they can be sure is real, even if it is evil.

III. Saul's Continued Depravity (V. 8-25)

A. When God is our enemy, anything short of repentance only leads to more _____ and _____.

B. When God is our enemy, it does not matter who is our _____.

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Samuel 28
2. Why wouldn't God answer when Saul went to Him in the prescribed way (visions, priests, or prophets)? What should have Saul done to mend his relationship with God?
3. What is the appropriate response from you and me when we feel far from God?
4. Why do you think Saul decided to seek out a witch? What are some reasons people pursue witchcraft today?
5. What stood out to you from Haley's testimony on Sunday morning?
6. Is there any other way to God besides repentance and confession of sin? What happens when we try to find other ways?
7. Share about a time in your life when you tried to overcome your separation with God in all the wrong ways before being restored to Him.
8. Pray for each other, that God would protect all of you from replacing confession with religion. Consider attending this Sunday's Zoom Prayer Meeting at 7 pm!

Church Bible Reading Plan

Bible Reading Plan: Isaiah 8-10

January Memory Verses: Isaiah 8:11-13

1 Timothy 2:1-6

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, 2 for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

BEFORE Sunday Night Prayer Meeting:

If you have not done so already, register from the www.apollobaptist.org home page by clicking the image for the Prayer Meeting. YOU DO NOT NEED TO REGISTER AGAIN until after Easter Sunday.

Register with your name and email address.

Click on the emailed Zoom link at time of the Prayer Meeting.

DURING Sunday Night Prayer Meeting:

PRAYING revival in our college ministry.

Pray for Our Church Family Needs:

- Those struggling with fear, anxiety and employment issues because of COVID
 - Raymond C. (missionary who had to return home due to COVID, struggling with housing and food)
- Church members and/or their friends/families who have COVID
- Families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones
 - Rebecca R. (brother), Ray and Sue J. (daughter-in-law, Lynette), Dan and Shirley S. (Dan's father), Nancy C. (father, Pete), April H. (husband, Gary), Ken R. (sister, Joan), Darlene R. (aunt, Peggy and great-nephew Derek), Randie A. and Bonnie V. (mother), Tim, Alexa, and Erika P. (grandfather), Dick T. (aunt, Rosia), Family of Victoria A.
 - Grief Share participants
- Those struggling with cancer issues:
 - Mary C. (breast cancer), Brenda R. (blood cancer and possible donors of bone marrow), Leroy D. (his brother), Chris and Beth L. (3 yr. old daughter with inoperable brain tumor), Jerry M. (friend of Dan S. has pancreatic cancer)
- Those struggling with health issues:
 - Rezwana D. (migraines), Michelle L. (overwhelming stress), Mary R. (possibly starting dialysis, also has appt re: kidney transplant), Ruthie C. (hospitalized for heart and stomach issues), Jimmy (grandson of Raul and Cindy O. has autism and migraines), Larry D. (brain bleed not completely healed), Don R. (sciatica pain), Wayne and Twyla D. (Wayne's Parkinson's, and he is now living in an assisted living facility and Twyla cannot be with him), Floyd W. (Pat's dementia), Gretchen E. (father regaining strength & Gretchen having severe head pain), Anna (April H., friend who has muscular dystrophy), Jose M. (sister miscarried), Cecelia S. (family members have Covid)
- Those awaiting surgery:
 - Brenda R. (bone marrow transplant), Warren Y. (hernia surgery on Jan. 12)
- Those recovering from surgery:
 - Jonathan B. (hand surgery), Laura M. (vertebrae surgery and right arm movement), Dale O. (knee replacement), Susan K.'s son-in-law (recipient of liver transplant), Pastor Jamal B. (liver transplant), April H. (cousin Randie, heart surgery), Warren Y. (recovering from surgery), Floyd W. (recovering from 9 day hospital stay)
- Those struggling with family relational issues:
 - Julia B. (family), Ketty B. (friend), Marge D. (a son)
- Those needing employment:
 - Larry S., Billy H.
- Others that you are aware of