

The Beginning of the End
1 Samuel 13:1-15
September 27, 2020

I. A New Enemy (V. 1-7)

- A. The state of the Israelite army under King Saul.
- B. Believing the trials of the _____ were greater than God's work in the _____ was the beginning of the end for Saul.

II. The Unlawful Sacrifice (V. 8-15)

- A. Believing he could _____ God in order to gain His favor was the beginning of the end for Saul.
- B. Review: The prophet/priest proclaims the word of God to people. The Lord's anointed king leads the people in obeying the word of God.
- C. The broken commandment: _____ the office of priest/prophet (2 Chronicles 26:16).
- D. _____ others for his own sin was the beginning of the end for Saul (V. 11).
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____

III. So What?

- A. Be _____ to God about your sin.

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Samuel 13:1-15
2. Compare the Israelite response to the Ammonite invasion some time before this in 11:7-8 to their response to the Philistine counterattack in 13:5. Why would people who have seen God do great things in the past cower at the circumstances of the present?
3. Is it possible to gain the favor of God by disobeying Him, as Saul claims to be doing in verse 12? In what ways are people today tempted to do the right thing the wrong way?
4. Considering sacrificing to the Lord is not against God's law, what commandment of God was Saul breaking by offering the sacrifice by himself (V. 11-14)? Why was what Saul did such a big deal to the Lord?
5. What should we do when the Lord confronts us about sin in our life?
6. Saul blamed his sin on 1) the sin of others, 2) God, and 3) bad circumstance (V. 11). Which of these excuses are you most often tempted to offer for your sin when confronted? How can you repent of these tendencies?
7. Pray for each other, that God would lead us all to be better confessors of sin and more honest to God and others about it. Review the Prayer Guide about prayer needs throughout the congregation.

Church Bible Reading Plan

This Week: Read 2 Samuel 10-13

September Memory Passage: 1 Samuel 17:45-47

Join us for Prayer: Tuesday Evenings at 7:00PM — Dial 701-802-5374 and at the prompt enter 5160582#

Romans 8:26

“In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words;”

Our Vision: To create a culture of discipleship that leads to worship and compels us to be on mission.

- PRAY for us as a church family to grow in our devotion and our discipleship.
- PRAY that we would be faithful in all our individual areas of ministry.
- PRAY that God will draw many to Himself in this difficult time.
- PRAY for YOUR ONE to be saved.
- PRAY for the ASU West college ministry
- PRAY for the AWANA ministry every Wednesday evening at 6:00PM at the church.
- PRAY for the people of Puluk in Indonesia to have the opportunity to hear and respond to the Gospel.
- PRAY for Dr. John and Karen T. and Dr. Doug and Cheryl D. to be able to return to the mission-field soon.

Our Mission: To Care as Jesus CARES:

- PRAY for God's protection from the COVID virus as we open the doors of Apollo Baptist
- PRAY that we will love and encourage each other by reaching out to our membership. Go through the church directory and try to connect with someone *each day*.
- PRAY that God will continue to use the FOOD BOX MINISTRY to bring people to Himself and that we will keep the food pantry stocked.
- PRAY for the hospital workers, first responders and police officers to be drawn to God and to be filled with His strength, love, and ability.
- PRAY for all our schools/teachers/administrators/workers in this school year with difficulties never before encountered.
- PRAY for us all to be a source of light in the darkness of racial prejudice.
- PRAY that we will each be faithful to give financially to Apollo Baptist Church so that we can have the funds to continuing ministering.

Our Church Family:

- PRAY for Pastor Gary and our other pastors (Pastor Jim, Pastor Reginald, Pastor Brian) as they seek God's way to lead our church.
- PRAY for our deacons to be able to keep up with their families and contacts effectively.
- PRAY for our Sunday School leaders to find ways to keep in touch with their class/department.
- PRAY for Kevin Geiser as he serves with Arizona Southern Baptist Disaster Relief. He is in Louisiana helping hurricane Laura victims.

Pray For Our Church Family Needs:

- Those struggling with fear and anxiety because of the pandemic
- Families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones
 - The loss of Jane S. (pray for grieving siblings)
 - The loss of Jayla S.
 - The loss of Mary S.
 - Rebecca R's brother died
 - Grief Share participants
- Those struggling with cancer issues:
 - Mary C. (breast cancer), Brenda R. (blood cancer), Lynette J. (Ray and Sue J's daughter-in-law in hospice)
- Those struggling with chronic health issues:
 - Michelle L. (migraines), Rezwana D (migraines), Mary R.(starting dialysis), Ruthie C. (severe weight loss), Diane F. (stroke and in hospital), Jimmy (grandson of Raul O. and Cindy O. has autism), Laura M. (neck vertebrae with ruptured disc causing extreme pain), Larry D (brain bleed not completely healed), Gary F.(emotional and physical challenges)
- Those awaiting surgery:
 - Brenda R. (bone marrow transplant); Floyd C. (cataract surgery Sept. 29); Mary R. (needs mapping procedure and surgery for dialysis); Laura M., eye surgery, Oct. 2 & appt. with neck surgeon Oct. 14
- Those recovering from surgery:
 - Kevin M.(Vertebrae surgery), Butch L. (skin cancer surgery)
- Those struggling with family relational issues:
 - Julia B. (family), Ketty B. (friend)
- Those needing employment:
 - Larry S., Kevin M. (due to pending surgery)
- Others that you are aware of