

SAMUEL, SAUL, & GOD 1 SAMUEL 15

1 Samuel is the intersection of Samuel, Saul and God. Looking at Samuel's role:

I. God calls us to the ministry of **obedience!**

John 13:17 If ye know these things, **happy (μακάριοι)** are ye if ye **do** them.

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

John 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, **If a man love me, he will keep my words:** and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. **John 14:24** He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

Thoughts:

- **God calls us to salvation**
- **That call to salvation **includes** a call to ministry / service**
- **All ministry is a matter of obedience**
- **Obedience of various kinds:**

- **An obedience that God is quite serious about!**

II. God's call is inevitably **conflicted!**

1 Samuel 15:1 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.

1 Samuel 15:10 Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying, **1 Samuel 15:11** **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. **1 Samuel 15:12** 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.**

1 Samuel 15:34 Then Samuel went to Ramah; **and** Saul went up to his house to Gibeath of Saul. **1 Samuel 15:35** **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.

1 Samuel 16:1 **And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel?** fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.

Thoughts:

- **Samuel was conflicted in the beginning**
- He didn't think a king was a good idea from the **first** mention!**
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- **Samuel obeyed **even though** he was conflicted!**

1 Samuel 8:6 **But the thing **displeased** Samuel,** when they said, Give us a king to judge us. **And Samuel prayed unto the LORD.**

1 Samuel 8:7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, **Hearken** unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. **1 Samuel 8:8** According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. **1 Samuel 8:9** **Now therefore **hearken** unto their voice: howbeit **yet** protest solemnly unto them, **and** shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.**

1 Samuel 8:19 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us;

1 Samuel 8:22 And the LORD said to Samuel, **Hearken unto their voice**, and make them a king. And Samuel said unto the men of Israel, Go ye every man unto his city.

1 Samuel 10:17 And Samuel called the people together unto the LORD to Mizpeh; **1 Samuel 10:18** And said unto the children of Israel, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms, and of them that oppressed you: **1 Samuel 10:19** **And ye have this day rejected your God**, who himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, but set a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes, and by your thousands.

1 Samuel 12:1 And Samuel said unto all Israel, **Behold, I have hearkened unto your voice in all that ye said unto me, and have made a king over you.** **1 Samuel 12:12** And when ye saw that Nahash the king of the children of Ammon came against you, ye said unto me, Nay; but a king shall reign over us: when the LORD your God was your king. **1 Samuel 12:13** Now therefore behold the king whom ye have chosen, and whom ye have desired! and, behold, the LORD hath set a king over you.

➤ Samuel's conflict was **compounded** by Saul's disobedience & eventual rejection

➤ Samuel's calling caused him real grief

1 Samuel 15:11 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.**

1 Samuel 15:35 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.

Samuel had resisted the king idea, obeyed God concerning the king, anointed, supported and even encouraged the actual king → now?

➤ Samuel's conflict even has a theological dimension!

1 Samuel 15:10 Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying, **1 Samuel 15:11** **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.

1 Samuel 15:35 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.**

1 Samuel 15:29 And also the Strength of Israel will **not lie nor** repent: **for** he is not a man, that he should repent.

Numbers 23:19 God is **not** a man, that he should lie; **neither** the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

III. God calls us to **further** and **continued** ministry - **despite** our conflict

1 Samuel 16:1 And the LORD said unto Samuel, **How long** wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? **fill** thine horn with oil, and **go**, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: **for** I have provided me a king among his sons.