

Setting the scene:

- Period of Judges – Cycle
- Samuel, Last Judge
 - Prayed for, Hannah 1:11, 17-18, 20
 - Apprenticed to Eli 1:28
 - Called by God to be a Prophet 3:10-11
 - **People** want a **King** 8:6

1. Saul Enters, 9:2

- a. Appearance
 - i. Goodly
 - ii. None better
 - iii. Taller than all others – lucky
- b. Lost his donkeys, 9:3
 - i. Not an accident, providence
 - ii. Servant suggests to go see the Seer, 9:6
 - iii. Samuel is told of God that Saul is the one, 9:17
- c. Saul is humble, 9:21
 - i. Samuel takes him in and treats him like royalty, 9:24
 - ii. Anointed, 10:1
 - iii. Appointed, 10:17-25

2. Saul Destroys the Ammonites

- a. Hears of it, 11:4
 - i. God is with Saul, 11:6
 - 1. Great sense of confidence with this.
 - 2. Heb. 13:5
 - ii. Saul gives an example if anyone goes against using oxen, 11:7
 - iii. Fear covers the people.
 - 1. Saul is attempting to lead the people in a God fearing manner.
 - 2. Don't be too quick to assume.
 - 3. Jumping to conclusions is a poor form of exercise.
- b. Prepares the army, 11:8
 - i. Israel = 300,000 men
 - ii. Nashville = 654,610, half 327,305
 - iii. Judah = 30,000 men
 - iv. Lebanon, TN = 30,262
 - v. Promised deliverance, 11:9
 - 1. Provokes gladness.
 - 2. Great news.
 - 3. It is great going into a battle, game, etc., knowing that you have already won.

- a. Final Jeopardy! When there is no way to be caught
 - b. Being the best basketball team playing the worst
 - c. Christians, John 16:33
 - c. The attack, 11:11
 - i. Slew the Ammonites in the heat of the day
 - ii. This would catch the army off guard
 - iii. The other people were scattered, so much that there were not even two people together.
 - d. Aftermath, 11:12-15
 - i. People question to Samuel, 11:12
 - ii. Saul points the glory to God, 11:13
 - iii. Samuel goes to leave, 11:14
 - iv. People officially make Saul the king, 11:15
 - v. Traditionally, the king or leader would have to prove himself in battle.
 - e. Currently, Saul is putting accurate trust in God.
- 3. Saul grows impatient, 13:1
 - a. Philistines Move in
 - i. Saul's Army, 13:2
 - 1. 3,000 Israel (Belle Meade, TN = 3017)
 - a. 2,000 with Saul in Michmash
 - b. Spring City, TN (Rhea County) = 2009
 - c. 1,000 with Jonathan in Gibeah
 - d. Lone Oak, TN (Dunlap) = 1000
 - 2. Jonathan's group slew some Philistines.
 - ii. Philistine Army, 13:5
 - 1. 30,000 chariots
 - 2. 6,000 horsemen
 - 3. Innumerable people
 - iii. People hide themselves, 13:6
 - b. Saul – Wait!
 - i. Told to wait 7 days, according to Samuel, 13:8
 - ii. Samuel does not come when Saul wants him to and the people grow worried.
 - iii. Saul thinks he knows best, 13:9
 - 1. Offers his own burnt offering
 - 2. On his own accord
 - iv. Samuel appears as Saul is finishing, 13:10
 - v. Saul goes to greet Samuel not thinking anything is wrong
 - vi. Arrogant nature of Saul, shifts the blame, 13:11
 - vii. God is not pleased with Saul and Saul's kingdom will not last. Not a dynasty. 13:14-15
 - viii. The people have dropped to only 600 (size of Eagleville).
 - c. Saul disobeys, again.
 - i. Given clear instructions, 15:3
 - ii. Partial obedience, 15:7-9

- iii. Does not equal full obedience.
 - iv. Samuel confronts Saul, 15:12
 - 1. Questions why he is hearing animals, 15:14
 - 2. Saul blames the people, again, 15:15
 - 3. Rebuked, 15:19
 - 4. Doesn't fully answer all the questions, 15:20
 - 5. Key Verse, 15:22
 - v. Saul is sorrowful, yet still must face the consequences, 15:24-26
 - 1. Saul attempts to keep Samuel from leaving, 15:27
 - 2. Lord uses this as a lesson, 15:28
 - vi. Samuel does what Saul should have done in the first place, 15:33
 - vii. No more visits from Samuel, 15:35
- d. Saul dies, Ch. 31. Continues in battles with the Amalekites – should have been eradicated!

Lessons to be learned from the life of Saul:

- 1. 8:7 – People are not rejecting you, they are rejecting God.
- 2. 8:11-18 – Be careful of what you wish for. The people got a king and everything that comes with a king.
- 3. 11:13 – Be sure to give the credit where credit is due.
- 4. 13:11-13 – Do not attempt to pass the blame on to someone else for your actions. You did them. Gal. 6:7
- 5. 15:7-9 – Partial obedience is not full obedience.
- 6. 15:24-26 – We must pay for our actions.

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