

What to Do When Your World Falls Apart

Introduction to the AMAZING PEOPLE of 1 Samuel Chris Mueller 4-26-2020

Introduction:

Transitions

Old Testament review

What was it like in 1 Samuel?

#1 Don't try to change your situation, but change your _____

1 Samuel 4:2 And the Philistines drew up in battle array to meet Israel. When the battle spread, Israel was defeated before the Philistines who killed about four thousand men on the battlefield.

1 Samuel 4:3 When the people came into the camp, the elders of Israel said, "Why has the Lord defeated us today before the Philistines? Let us take to ourselves from Shiloh the ark of the covenant of the Lord, that **it may come** among us and deliver us from the power of our enemies."

10-11 So the Philistines fought and Israel was defeated, and every man fled to his tent, and the slaughter was very great; for there fell of Israel thirty thousand foot soldiers. And the ark of God was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died.

1 Samuel 7:3 Then Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, "If you return to the Lord with **all your heart, remove** the foreign gods and the Ashtaroath from among you and direct your hearts to the Lord and **serve Him alone**; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines." **4** So the sons of Israel removed the Baals and the Ashtaroath and served the Lord alone. **5** Then Samuel said, "Gather all Israel to Mizpah, and I will **pray** to the Lord for you." **6** And they gathered to Mizpah, and drew water and poured it out before the Lord, and **fasted** on that day, and said there, "**We have sinned** against the Lord." and drew water and poured it out before the Lord, and **fasted** on that day, and said there, "**We have sinned** against the Lord."

1 **D** _____ yourself to Him alone

2 **D** _____ any idol, any competition

3 **D** _____ your sin to God

1 Samuel 8:5, 7 Now appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations... And the Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them."

#2 Don't try to offer a sacrifice, but _____ His Word

1 Samuel 15:1-3 Then Samuel said to Saul, "The Lord sent me to anoint you as king over His people, over Israel; now therefore listen to the words of the Lord. Thus says the Lord of hosts, 'I will punish Amalek for what he did to Israel, how he set himself against him on the way while he was coming up from Egypt. 'Now go and strike Amalek and **utterly destroy all** that he has, and **do not spare him**; but put to death both man and woman, child and infant.'"

1 Samuel 15:7, 9 So Saul defeated the Amalekites...But Saul and the people spared **Agag** and the **best** of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was **good**, and were not **willing** to destroy them **utterly**; but everything despised and worthless, they utterly destroyed.

1 Samuel 15:11 I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following Me, and has not carried out My commands. And Samuel was distressed and cried out to the Lord all night.

1 Samuel 15:20-23 Then Saul said to Samuel, "I did obey the voice of the Lord, and went on the mission on which the Lord sent me, and have brought back Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. "But the people took some of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the choicest of the things devoted to destruction, to **sacrifice** to the Lord your God at Gilgal." And Samuel said, "Has the Lord as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, **to obey is better than sacrifice**, and to **heed** than the fat of rams. "For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king."

TAKE HOME: What to do when your world falls apart?

A - Don't try to change your situation, but change your _____

B - Don't pursue the world's ideas, but pursue God's _____

C - Don't try to offer ideas, tell others the _____

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. Describe a time in history that might have been most like the time of the beginning of 1 Samuel.
2. Why is OUR HEART so important to God?
3. What does it mean to have a right heart before God?
4. Why is obedience more important than sacrifice to God?
5. Which character do you know the best in 1 Samuel, and which main character do you know the least?
6. Why are examples so important to the Christians and to our growth in Christ?
7. What steps will you take this week to actually live out some of the truths you learned in 1 Samuel?



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