

## 1 Samuel 15: Concerning Obedience

For Redeemer Growth Groups week comm 9/10/23

Warm up question: A woman with a non-Christian upbringing remembers just one thing from a Bible in schools lesson about God: They learned a chorus O-B-E-Y your parents.

What is your attitude towards obedience in general? What about obeying God? (be realistic).

1. What is the main idea that repeats throughout (regarding response to God)?
2. Is this new for Saul? (see previous chapters... e.g. 13:13-14)
3. What is a difficulty this chapter raises?
4. What's the deal with the Amalekites? Does the context help? Ex. 17:8-16, Deut 25:17-19
5. Trace and describe Saul's responses to God / Samuel. Eg. Initial obedience & care v 4-7; then disobedience v8-9...
6. In assessing Saul:
  - a. what is God's assessment?
  - b. What is Saul's self-assessment?
  - c. What is Samuel's assessment?
7. What does God require from his king and from his people?
8. Why does God require obedience?

Lots of reasons A main one: how you respond to his word, is how you respond to him personally.

9. What is the connection between Jesus' obedience to God and ours?

There is more than one answer. For example: (1) his obedience reassures us that our disobedience wont count against us on the judgement day, because (2) his obedience is credited to us; as a result (3) his obedience motivates ours.

10. Does Jesus obedience motivate yours? If not why not?

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For Reference: Ch 15 Reading Guide Questions

Chain of command tool: Describe who is responsible to whom in 15:1 and what this means Saul is to do.

'God's delayed judgement has come' tool: How does the context of Exodus 17:8-16 and Deuteronomy 25:17-19 inform the Lord's command to destroy the Amalekites? Is God's justice here reasonable to you?

Leader assessment tool: Is Saul's care (15:6) and almost complete obedience (15:20-21) commendable for the king of God's people?

Consider: What does God require from the person who is king over his people? Why does he require this?