

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

PERIOD FIVE

ONE KINGDOM - SAUL

LESSON 20

Time	PERIOD FIVE ONE KINGDOM			
Main thought	THE MAKING OF A KINGDOM			
Great men	SAMUEL	SAUL	DAVID	SOLOMON
Chapters that tell of each part	1 Samuel 1:1 to 25:1	1 Chronicles 10:1-14 1 Samuel 9 to 31:13	1 Chronicles 11:1 to 29:30 1 Samuel 16:1 to 2 Kings 2:10	1 Chronicles 29:22 to 2 Chronicles 9:31 1 Kings 1:28 to 11:43
what this part tells about	Prophet, priest and judge. Made kings and kingdoms.	First king. A great warrior.	Second king. Made Jerusalem the capital of Israel. Won a war in his own country. Made Israel a strong nation. Took more land for Israel. Wrote some of the Psalms.	Was a king and lived like a king. Built the temple. Built a big house for himself. Was very wise. Wrote Proverbs, Song of Solomon, Ecclesiastes.

In this lesson we want to study the life of Saul as King, as warrior, as friend and enemy of David, and as a defeated man.

1 Samuel 9:1 - 31:13; 1 Chronicles 10:1-14.

1. SAUL BECAME KING, 1 Samuel 9:1 - 12:25.

A. Saul, the young man, 1 Samuel 9:1 - 10:27.

READ 1 SAMUEL 9:1 - 10:27.

What did Saul look like (1 Samuel 9:2)?

Was Saul a good worker (1 Samuel 9:3-5)?

What did Saul do when he knew he was going to be chosen king (1 Samuel 10:21,22)?

Do you think he would be a good king? Why?

B. Saul made king, 1 Samuel 11:1 -11:15.

READ 1 SAMUEL 11:1-15.

The Ammonites wanted to fight against Jabesh-Gilead. Saul heard the news. Who came upon Saul then (1 Samuel 11:6)?

This person gave Saul the power and wisdom to lead the army.

Almost all the men of Israel came to help Saul fight the Ammonites.

After the war, all the people wanted to make Saul king. What did some people want to do to those who did not follow Saul (1 Samuel 11:12)?

What did Saul say (1 Samuel 11:13)?

Where was Saul made king (1 Samuel 11:14,15)?

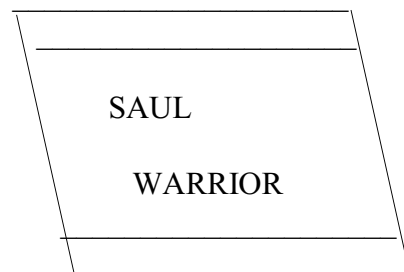
2. SAUL BECAME A GREAT WARRIOR, 1 Samuel 13:1 - 15:35.

A. War with the Philistines, 1 Samuel 13:1 -14:45.

READ 1 SAMUEL 13:1-15.

A large army of Philistines came against Israel. Saul's soldiers saw them. They were afraid. They started to run away. THIS MADE SAUL AFRAID.

Samuel was to meet Saul at Gilgal in seven days. He was to make an offering for Saul. However, Samuel



did not come when he said he would. Many of Saul's men ran away. What did Saul do (1 Samuel 13:9)?

What did Samuel say when he came (1 Samuel 13:13,14)?

It **was wrong for Saul to do the work of a priest**. The Lord gave the work of priests to the family of Aaron. Saul was not of the family of Aaron (Exodus 28:1). Saul was of the tribe of Benjamin.

Did the people of Israel have anything to fight with (1 Samuel 13:22)?

What two men went against the Philistines (1 Samuel 14:12)?

What did the Lord send to help them (1 Samuel 14:15)?

Saul and his men saw the Philistine camp break up. They saw the Philistines run away. Saul checked his men. Jonathan was missing. Saul called his men and went after the Philistines. Saul killed many Philistines.

Saul wanted to kill all the Philistines. He did not want his men to stop and eat. **What foolish thing did he do** (1 Samuel 14:24)?

Because of this the men became very hungry. They could not fight the way they should. What did Jonathan do (1 Samuel 14:27)?

Jonathan did not know what his father had said about eating.

Saul asked the Lord if they were to go after the Philistines that night. Because Jonathan ate of the honey, the Lord would not tell Saul what to do.

When the Lord would not answer, Saul knew something was wrong. He drew lots. The lot showed that Jonathan had done wrong. Did Saul want to kill Jonathan for eating honey (1 Samuel 14:44)?

What did the people want to do (1 Samuel 14:45)?

The men in Saul's army were very hungry after they won the war. They killed animals and ate them. They even ate the blood. God had told them, "never eat the blood of

animals.” How did Saul help them eat the meat in the right way (1 Samuel 14:34,35)?

B. War with other nations, 1 Samuel 14:47-52.

What nations did Saul fight (1 Samuel 14:47)?

What nation did he defeat (1 Samuel 14:48)?

Saul was not able to win all the wars against the Philistines.

C. War with Amalek, 1 Samuel 15:1-35.

What was Saul to do to the people of Amalek (1 Samuel 15:3)?

Saul did not do what God wanted him to do (1 Samuel 15:9).

Who did Saul blame for bringing back the animals and the king (1 Samuel 15:15)?

What did they say they wanted to do with the animals (1 Samuel 15:21)?

Was God happy with these kinds of sacrifices (1 Samuel 15:22)?

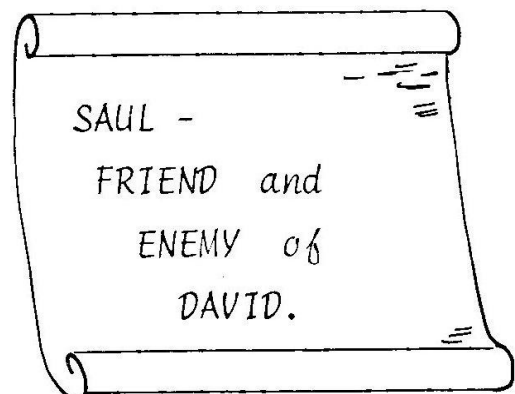
Saul wanted to show what a **great warrior he was**. He brought the king of Amalek with him.

What did Samuel do to the king of Amalek (1 Samuel 15:33)?

Saul became proud. He would not obey the Lord. Samuel never went to see Saul again.

3. SAUL MET DAVID, 1 Samuel 16:14 - 26:25.

God told Samuel to anoint David to be king. Of course, Saul was not to know about this. What happened to Saul when David was anointed (1



Samuel 16:14)?

It is hard to understand why God would send an evil spirit to a person. Look at Job 1:6-12. In these verses we see that God let Satan go to Job. Satan and the evil spirits must obey God. They cannot bother God's children unless God lets them. Saul disobeyed the Lord. **The Lord let an evil spirit bother Saul.**

Sometimes God lets evil spirits bother Christians today. If a Christian will not obey the Lord, an evil spirit may come and bother him. When a Christian obeys the Lord and lives close to the Lord, the evil spirits cannot bother him. A Christian does not have to be afraid of the evil spirits (Hebrews 2:14).

At times an evil spirit came and bothered Saul. Saul learned that music helped him at these bad times. David was known for playing the harp. Saul asked David to come to his place. David would play for Saul when he had bad times. But David also went back to keep his father's sheep (1 Samuel 17:15).

A. Saul loved David, 1 Samuel 16:14 - 18:2.

David's brothers were fighting in the army of Saul. One day David's father sent him to see how his brothers were doing. What happened while was David there (1 Samuel 17:23,24)?

What did David say when he heard this (1 Samuel 17:26)?

God helped David kill Goliath. When Saul saw what David did, he wanted David to live with him. Jonathan also became a close friend of David.

B. Saul jealous of David, 1 Samuel 18:6 - 19:24.

David came back from the war with the Philistines. The women sang in the streets. What did they sing (1 Samuel 18:6,7)?

What did Saul do when he heard this (1 Samuel 18:8)?

What did Saul try to do when David played for him (1 Samuel 18:10,11)?

Saul had two daughters. He said he would give his oldest daughter to David for a wife. He told David he could have her if he would fight the Philistines. What did Saul want to happen to David (1 Samuel 18:17)?

Saul did not give David his oldest daughter. He said David could have his second daughter. But he asked David to kill 100 Philistines to get her (1 Samuel 18:20-28). **Saul hoped the Philistines would kill David.** They did not kill him.

C. Saul hated David, 1 Samuel 19:1 - 26:25.

Jonathan loved David. However, Saul began to hate David. An evil spirit made Saul hate David (1 Samuel 19:9,10).

Saul tried to kill David. He asked his men to kill David. David had to hide. Saul tried to catch David many times.

Saul had more and more hate in his heart. He killed 85 of the priests' families because they helped David (1 Samuel 22:6-23).

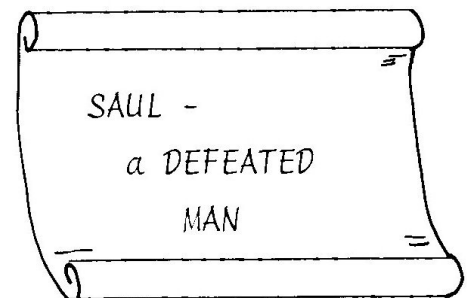
David showed his trust in the Lord. He knew God had made Saul king. David also knew that he would be king. David was willing to wait to be king. He knew the Lord would work it out in the right time. Two times David could have killed Saul, but he did not kill him (1 Samuel 24:3-12; 26:5-20). This did not take away Saul's hatred. **He still tried to kill David.**

4. SAUL, A DEFEATED MAN, 1 Samuel 28:3 - 31:13.

A. Saul without God, 1 Samuel 28:3-25.

The Philistines came against Saul. Saul went to ask the Lord what to do. **The Lord did not answer him.** This made Saul afraid. He did not know what to do.

What did Saul do at last (1 Samuel 28:7,8)?



God had told the people of Israel to kill those who were witches (1 Samuel 28:9).

Who appeared to the woman (1 Samuel 28:14)?

It is wrong to ask witches for messages from those who have died (Leviticus 19:26,31). Many people do this today. They do this because they do not know God. They are afraid of what is happening.

What did Samuel tell Saul (1 Samuel 28:17-19)?

B. Saul died, 1 Samuel 31:1-13.

God let the Philistines defeat Israel.

Who died in the war (1 Samuel 31:2)?

How did Saul die (1 Samuel 31:3,4)?

5. IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

How different Saul's life would have been if he had not become proud, but had followed the Lord. If Saul had not become proud, but had followed the Lord, he would have become a great king. Saul's son would have been king after him. Saul would have been a happy man and the evil spirits would not have bothered him.

WORDS TO LEARN

1. witch - a person who talks with spirits.