

7/23/23

Sunday service

Obedience

1 Samuel 15:17-27

The world has developed a lot, but they say that it's getting more and more difficult. In this age you don't have much freedom and it seems like you have to continuously work hard in order to achieve something. This is the case especially for the spiritual things. (Daniel 12:4) It seems like there is no rest for the body, mind, and soul as you fall into your thoughts and the physical things. Things like AI and the virtual world may confuse you and lead you to feel anxious regarding the future. In this age you have been promised the Gospel that resolves the root cause. This promise fundamentally resolves curses and eternally crushes the serpent's head. This promise completed the eternal way to meet God. That promise is the precious blood of Christ. No matter what happens in the world, the one who possesses this precious blood will receive salvation. The three offices that Christ has fulfilled is the promise of salvation that can never be affected by the things of the world.

1. Obedience

- 1) Today's bible passage records the story of the war that arose against the Amalekites during the age of King Saul. God commanded Samuel to fight against the Amalekites until they are all consumed. He told them not to spare them, and to kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey. (1 Samuel 15:2-3)
- 2) However, King Saul took King Agag alive and the best of the sheep, oxen, calves, and lamb. All that were destroyed were those that were despised and worthless. (1 Samuel 15:8-9)
- 3) Samuel rebuked these actions but Saul and the people made the excuse that they sacrificed the best of the things devoted to destruction to the Lord. Samuel replied to this by questioning, "Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord?" He also states, "For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has also rejected you from being king." (Verse 21-23)
- 4) When the situation became urgent, Saul requested Samuel to return with him to bow before the Lord. However, Samuel rejected him and Saul seized the skirt of his robe, to the point in which it tore.
- 5) Verse 33 states that Samuel hacked Agag to pieces before the Lord in Gilgal. Verse 35 states that Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death.
- 6) Unlike Saul who simply dismissed God's Word as mere words and did not follow after it, Samuel mercilessly hacked Agag to pieces before the Lord.
- 7) God was on Samuel's side even though he was merciless. God has abandoned King Saul who appeared as one who was filled with love. 1 Samuel 31 records the death of King Saul. He was badly wounded by the archers and eventually fell upon his sword and died with him. That day, his three sons died with him.
- 8) You must also become like Samuel as you follow God's Word mercilessly. It is impossible to follow all of the words in the Bible, but you must at least follow after the Word of this age. It is the fundamental Christ and world evangelization that testifies of Christ. This is for the Remnant disciple movement.
- 9) You must not discard these words and you must not stand in the way that disrupts this. The reason the Lord came to a decision to kill the Amalekites were because they opposed the Israelites on the way when they came up out of Egypt and into the land of Canaan. (1 Samuel 15:2)
- 10) It was God's historical will for the Israelites to enter the land of Canaan, but the Amalek disrupted this. This is why the Lord commanded destruction upon all people including infants, ox, sheep, camel, and donkey, and stated not to spare them. Entering the land of Canaan was a tremendous and important event to this extent.

- 11) Exodus 17 records the story of when the Amalek fought against the Israelites. Exodus 17:14 states, "I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven," and Exodus 17:16 states, "The Lord will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."
- 12) Likewise, entering the Land of Canaan was a historic event for the Israelites. Destructing an entire people group was necessary to do this. Christ was relayed and the historical plan of saving the world was planned. This is world evangelization that was relayed through the four resurrection messages.
- 13) During the important time when the historical prophecy was fulfilled, Saul discarded God's Word and followed himself. It is a very sad incident and you must not be like this.

2. **Humanism**

- 1) Saul was people centered. If he was centered on the Word, such events would not have occurred. If Saul kept the Word until the very end, He would've received blessing from God and lived a peaceful life. However, he and his three sons died on the battlefield. Also, he was abandoned from God.
- 2) To be centered on people means they are centered on themselves. 1 Samuel 15:12 "Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set up a monument for himself." 1 Samuel 15:24 "Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice."
- 3) The king of the people must fear the people. However, if the king that God has appointed fears the people, then they will perish. The kings and politicians must fear the people. It is because the king's authority comes from the people that appoints them to which they must please the people.
- 4) However, if the kings, prophets, and servants of the Lord that God appoints fears the people, they will perish. The people must be governed by them. It is rightful of them to love, understand, and go together with the people. However, if they listen and follow the words of the people, then they will perish. If the words of the people are aligned to the Words of God then, they must go and be strengthened together.
- 5) However, Saul directly received God's command. Saul did not keep the Word until the end. As a result, he feared the people and obeyed their words instead. If the people did not listen to the Word of God, Saul should've rebuked them, if not punish them. However, Saul got to his knees and followed their words.
- 6) Saul did not have the spiritual power. You must have the spiritual power to obey the Word of God. May you ask yourself where you stand right now. Especially for the ministers who are being used by God, may you check where you stand. At times, you may speak of words that are centered on the words of others.
- 7) Humanism is a way to reject and discard God's Word. Humanism is the same as fortune-telling and bowing down to the evil spirit. It should never be forgotten that Samuel hacked the Amalek king, Agag, to pieces. It was commanded that even the mothers to be childless as well.
- 8) To that extent, God wants you to keep and obey the Word. May you keep the Word of God of the 4 resurrection messages, 237, Healing, and Summit. May you be blessed and live a life of conquest as you obey the Word.