



Failure to follow “Thee instructions”

April 9, 2018

THE INSTRUCTIONS

1 SAMUEL 15:3: NKJV – (3) Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.”

THE COMPROMISE

1 SAMUEL 15:7-9 NKJV – (7) And Saul attacked the Amalekites, from Havilah all the way to Shur, which is east of Egypt. **(8)** He also took Agag king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. **(9)** 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 unwilling to utterly destroy them. But everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed.

THE CONSEQUENCES

1 SAMUEL 15:13-16 NKJV – (13) Then Samuel went to Saul, and Saul said to him, “Blessed are you of the LORD! I have performed the commandment of the LORD.” **(14)** But Samuel said, “What then *is* this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?” **(15)** And Saul said, “They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.” **(16)** Then Samuel said to Saul, “Be quiet! And I will tell you what the LORD said to me last night.”

THE CONCLUSION

Saul was an example of disobedience leading to failure. Jesus is the supreme example of obedience leading to victory and salvation. The story of Saul teaches the importance of obedience to God, but it does not teach that our obedience can earn God’s approval and salvation.

You are saved “by grace ... through faith (in Christ) and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not of works, so that no one can boast” (**Ephesians 2:8-9**). In other words, “IT IS NOT ABOUT US!” Obedience to God is important! In what ways are you disobedient? In what ways are you justifying your disobedience? Ask God to reveal areas of disobedience in your life; ask for his forgiveness; and commit to obey God by His grace and power.

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 JOHN 5:3

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Man says.... Show me and I’ll trust you. God says....Trust me and I’ll show you.