



"Failed Faith and the Life of Saul"

Living by Faith Series

June 2, 2024

Introduction

"those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed."

Those who fail to live by faith...

1. ... _____ God.

1) **Saul was a believer who _____ well.**

- 1 Now Nahash the Ammonite came up and besieged Jabesh-gilead; and all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, "Make a covenant with us and we will serve you." 2 But Nahash the Ammonite said to them, "I will make [it] with you on this condition, that I will gouge out the right eye of every one of you, thus I will make it a reproach on all Israel." ... 6 Then **the Spirit of God came upon Saul mightily** when he heard these words, and he became very angry. [1Sa 11:1-2, 6 NASB95]
- 47 Now when **Saul** had taken the kingdom over Israel, he **fought against all his enemies on every side**, against Moab, the sons of Ammon, Edom, the kings of Zobah, and the Philistines; and wherever he turned, he inflicted punishment. 48 **He acted valiantly and defeated the Amalekites**, and delivered Israel from the hands of those who plundered them. [1Sa 14:47-48]
- 23 "Saul and Jonathan, beloved and pleasant in their life, And in their death they were not parted; They were swifter than eagles, They were stronger than lions. 24 "O **daughters of Israel, weep over Saul**, Who clothed you luxuriously in scarlet, Who put ornaments of gold on your apparel. 25 "How have the mighty fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan is slain on your high places. [2Sa 1:23-25 NASB95]

2) **How did Saul _____ the Lord.**

✳ **Stress made public his personal _____.**

- 5 Now the Philistines assembled to fight with Israel, 30,000 chariots and 6,000 horsemen, and people like the sand which is on the seashore in abundance; and they came up and camped in Michmash, east of Beth-aven. 6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait (for **the people were hard-pressed**)... [1Sa 13:5-6a]

✳ **Fear _____ his faith in God.**

- ...then **the people hid** themselves in caves, in thickets, in cliffs, in cellars, and in pits. 7 Also [some of] the Hebrews crossed the Jordan into the land of Gad and Gilead. But as for Saul, he [was] still in Gilgal, and **all the people followed him trembling**. [1Sa 13:6b-7]

✳ **The violation to " _____ on the Lord".**

- 8 Now he waited **seven days**, according to **the appointed time set by Samuel**, but Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattering from him. [1Sa 13:8]

✳ **He abused the king's _____ acting as a priest.**

- 9 So Saul said, "Bring to me the burnt offering and the peace offerings." And **he offered the burnt offering**. [1Sa 13:9]

19 But **Uzziah**, with a censer in his hand for burning incense, was enraged; and **while he was enraged with the priests, the leprosy broke out on his forehead** before the priests in the house of the LORD, beside the altar of incense. [2Ch 26:19 NASB95]

✳️ He justified disobedience to God's word with _____ religion.

10 As soon as he finished offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him [and] to greet him. 11 But Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "Because I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the appointed days, and that the Philistines were assembling at Michmash, 12 therefore I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and **I have not asked the favor of the LORD.**' So I forced myself and offered the burnt offering." [1 Sam13:10-12]

✳️ He did not keep what the Lord _____ him.

13 Samuel said to Saul, "You have acted foolishly; **you have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, for now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever.** 14 "But now your kingdom shall not endure. The LORD has sought out for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has appointed him as ruler over His people, **because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.**" [1Sa 13:13-14 NASB95]

▶️ Our Lord's adequacy will _____ our inadequacies.

6 And without faith it is impossible to please [Him,] for he who comes to God must **believe that He is and [that] He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.** [Heb 11:6 NASB95]

2. ...shall be lightly _____.

1) **Guard your responsibility to God's _____.**

✳️ **Take care to fulfill the call to God's _____.**

1 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. 2 "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. 3 **'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, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.'**" [1Sa 15:1-3]

✳️ **Complete responsibly your God-given _____.**

20 And he looked at Amalek [offspring of Esau] and took up his discourse and said, "Amalek was **the first of the nations, But his end [shall be] destruction.**" [Num 24:20]

8 Then Amalek came and **fought against Israel at Rephidim.** [Exo 17:8 NASB95]

17 "Remember **what Amalek did to you along the way when you came out from Egypt,** [Deu 25:17 NASB95]

14 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this in a book as a memorial and recite it to Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven." ... 16 and he said, "The LORD has sworn; **the LORD will have war against Amalek from generation to generation.**" [Exo 17:14, 16 NASB95]

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2) Beware of the god of this world deceiving you in _____.

- 10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. [Eph 6:10-11]

✳ Do not turn your _____ from following the Lord.

- 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 not willing to destroy them utterly; but everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed. 10 Then the word of the LORD came to Samuel, saying, 11 "I regret that I have made **Saul king, for he has turned back from following Me and has not carried out My commands.** [1Sa 15:9-11a]
- " And Samuel was distressed and cried out to the LORD all night. 12 Samuel rose early in the morning to meet Saul; and it was told Samuel, saying, "Saul came to Carmel, and behold, **he set up a monument for himself**, then turned and proceeded on down to Gilgal." [1Sa 15:11b-12]

✳ Beware of becoming a _____ - _____.

- 20 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. 21 "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." [1Sa 15:20-21 NASB95]

✳ Avoid any _____ toward God that leads to rebellion.

- 22 So Samuel said: "Has the LORD [as great] 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. 23 For **rebellion [is as] the sin of witchcraft**, And **stubbornness [is as] iniquity and idolatry.**[1Sa 15:22-23 NKJV].

✳ To reject God's _____ is to reject the Lord.

- Because **you have rejected the word of the LORD**, He also has rejected you from [being] king." [1Sa 15:22-23 NKJV]
- 27 As Samuel turned to go, [Saul] seized the edge of his robe, and it tore. 28 So Samuel said to him, "**The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to your neighbor**, who is better than you. 29 "Also the Glory of Israel will not lie or change His mind; for He is not a man that He should change His mind." [1Sa 15:27-29]

Conclusion

_____ - "**Do not fear. You have committed all this evil, yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart.** [1Sa 12:17-20]