

The King & The Kingdom

1 Samuel 15 Discussion Questions

Rebellion is anything other than complete and immediate obedience

1. God calls Saul to go to war against the Amalekites not leaving anyone or anything alive (v.3). How would you respond to someone who said they have a difficult time understanding why God would do this?
2. According to v.9, in what ways does Saul not fully obey the Lord? Like Saul, we often think that if we are obeying in the “big areas” or in “most areas” of our lives, then we are doing well. Why do we think like this? Why is this wrong?
3. The next mistake we make like Saul is to think we can worship and sacrifice and it will “make up” for our sin. What are some indications that God won’t accept this? Why will God not accept this?
4. Another way we are like Saul is we say we will obey but we delay instead of obeying immediately. How do we see this in vv.15 & 21? What are some common examples of areas where we delay in our obedience? Why is this rebellious?

Rebellion is drive by greed

5. What are some indications in the text that Saul was driven by greed in his disobedience (vv.12 & 30)?
6. What are some indications in the text that Saul’s repentance was superficial and not legitimate?
7. In vv.11 & 35 God says that He regrets making Saul king. How would you explain this to someone?
8. In the sermon, it was mentioned that intentional sin is always ultimately driven by greed and having too high a view of ourselves and too low a view of God. Give some examples of specific sinful actions and explain how the root of each of these sins is ultimately driven by greed.
9. Why is it essential for a person to identify this root cause of sin? What happens if a person merely tries to modify their sinful behavior without identifying the root cause of sin? Have you ever done this?

Rebellion is irrational and leads to more rebellion

10. Saul doesn’t learn his lesson from chapter 13. Instead, he continues in sin. Explain what happens in vv.13-14 and how this reveals the irrationality of Saul’s sin. Why is sin always irrational?
11. Explain how Saul deflects and tries to pass the blame onto others in v.15? Have you ever tried to blame others for your sin?
12. In v.17, Saul is reminded that God is the King and his rebellion against the king is not wise. Have you ever come to a point in your life when you realized your sin was irrational and you changed direction?

Rebellion can be overcome

13. According to Hebrews 10:4, it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Why?
14. Explain Hebrews 10:5-10. What has Jesus accomplished?
15. Why should what Jesus has accomplished for us compel us to turn away from rebellion and live a life of obedience?