

"THE TIMELY DEMISE OF A CARNAL CHRISTIAN"

I Samuel 31

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. Pairing contrasts in addressing adversity (pruning): (See Jn. 15:2)
 - 1. Contrasting branches "in Me":
 - a. David: (I Sam. 13:14; 16:7, 13)
 - b. Saul: (I Sam. 10:9; 12:24)
 - 2. The "pruning" of both with adversity:
 - a. David – 15 +13 years: (I Sam. 16:1-11; 30:1-6a)
 - b. Saul: (I Sam. 13:1-11; 15:1-29; 17:1-16; 28:1-6)
 - 3. Two choices for "branches":
 - a. David – the spiritual choice: (See I Sam. 30:6b)
"If this is where you have me, Lord, I am yours here."
 - b. Saul – the carnal (fleshly) choice: (See I Sam. 13:14; 15:11; 28:7-20)
- B. Two truths to understand about God:
 - 1.
 - 2.
- C. The carnality of a "foolish" believer: (I Sam. 13:13; 26:21; 15:17, 23)
 - 1. Disobedience and stubbornness to repent: (I Sam. 13:13; 15:23)
 - 2. Blaming and justifying disobedience and refusing to repent: (I Sam. 13:8-14; 15:20-26)
 - 3. Unanswered prayer: (I Sam. 28:6; Ps. 66:18; Pro. 15:29b; 28:9; Lam. 3:44; Jn. 9:31)

II. THE OBITUARY OF A FOOLISHLY, "FRUITLESS" BRANCH:

- A. The battle: vv. 1-2
 - 1.
 - 2.
- B. Saul's pre-mature death: vv. 3-6 (I Cor. 11:30; I Jn. 5:16)
 - 1.
 - 2.
- C. God's testimony tarnished: vv. 7-10 (Ex. 19:6; Isa. 42:6; 49:6)
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

III. PRINCIPLES TO PERSONALLY APPLY:

(Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

- A.
- B.
- C.

SINNERS PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father, I was made by you and I was made for you, but I have been living for myself. I am sorry for that self-rule you call sin. I believe that Jesus Christ being my creator God, died, was buried, and rose again to pay the insurmountable debt that my sin has created since birth. So right now, I am turning from a life of going my own way, to by faith, place my trust in Jesus Christ, to pay the debt of all my sin, and to get me to heaven, when I breathe my last breath. Lord Jesus, from today on, I am yours. Thanks for saving me, this very moment, in Jesus name, amen.