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SPEAKERS

Intro Voice, Baruch Korman

Intro Voice 00:00

Hi, Shalom and welcome to via hafte Israel, a Hebrew phrase, which means you shall love Israel. We hope you'll stay with us for the next 30 minutes, as our teacher, Dr Baruch, shares his expository teaching from the Bible. Dr Baruch is the senior lecturer at the Zera Avraham Institute based in Israel. Although all courses are taught in Hebrew at the institute, Dr Baruch is pleased to share this weekly address in English. To find out more about our work in Israel, please visit us on the web@loveisrael.org That's one word, loveisrael.org Now here's Baruch with today's lesson.

Baruch Korman 00:41

Again, we are going to learn why Shaul was such a failure and why God found comfort in the fact that Shaul is going to be removed from the kingship. Take out your Bible and look with me, if you would, again to First Samuel and chapter 15. First, Samuel and chapter 15. Now in this passage of Scripture, and we're going to begin in verse 10. In a moment, we're going to see something. It's very important that we read the words correctly, rather than translating them in the way that makes sense to a human intellect, we need to see that there is a difference between scriptural truth and how you and I think, and therefore we must always defer to the Word of God and learn what Scripture says if we want to rightly understand the will of God, how to serve Him and how to be pleasing in His sight. So again, First Samuel, chapter 15, and we're going to begin in verse 10, where it says, And it came about the word of the Lord to Samuel saying, now when we look at the next verse, verse 11, there is going to be a word, and more often than not, Bibles mistranslate this. It will say that that God regretted, or God was was remorseful in regard to what he did, understand, something, everything that God does, it is perfect. Now we need to remember the context. It was not God's choice to choose Shaul. He gave the people according to their desire what they wanted to receive. They were interested in having a king that looked like the other kings, one who was tall, one who was big, and one who they thought would bring about deliverance from their enemies in their behalf. But we see something. Look, if you would, to verse 11. There's a word here. Now. This is the same word that we find in the New Testament that parallels the Hebrew word for Capernaum. Now, Capernaum in Hebrew is kaphar, which means a village, and the word Nahum, which is comfort. And this verb that is found here does not mean to regret or to repent, it means to find comfort. So why is God finding comfort in the fact that King Shaul failed, acted selfishly, acted in a prideful way, and did not obey? The answer is easy to understand. God never wanted Shaul

to be king. This was not the order that God had selected. We know something we talked about this last week. The kings of Israel were going to be from the tribe of Judah, and they were going to be of the household of King David. We find something. We find, without any surprise, that Sheol was not from that lineage. He was not connected to David at all. In fact, Sheol over and over, and we'll see this in the weeks to come. He wanted to kill King David, The Lord's anointed. So what we find here is that God is finding satisfaction, or literally, God is taking comfort in the fact that there's now a change that he's going to make. Look again at verse 11. What it literally says is this, I am comforted because I have enthroned Saul as king. Now, what he's saying is, now at this time, I am comforted. Why? Well, I put Saul as king. It wasn't what God wanted, it wasn't what God knew that was best. And now God asked. After sheul's failure, God found comfort in this. Why? Because he's going to go back to his original plan. Now learn something. This word in a noun form is Nechama, and it means comfort. And this word comfort, when we find it in the Scripture, we find it in regard to the will of God. In other words, this is what we're learning. We're learning here that God is going back to his original plan. He is going to choose someone from the tribe of Judah. So God is comforted by this, that there's going to be a change, and there's going to be a restoration back to the order of God. That's what this scripture is saying. Learn that this word for comfort always represents a restoration to the will of God. So he says here, because he has turned from after me, meaning he's not following after the Lord, and in actuality, sheul never did. So again, he has turned from after me and my words he did not establish. He simply wasn't committed to the words of God. Now this tells us something, if we are going to be people whom God is well pleased with, that have a praiseworthy testimony, a witness that is honoring to God, what's the foundation of that? We don't have to speculate. The word of God tells us it is obedience to the Word of God, a disciple, and I'm speaking about a disciple of Yeshua, Jesus, of Nazareth. We need to be people who are committed to the Word of God. It is the foundation of everything that is spiritual. If we're not committed to the Word of God, we are going to be failures in the same way that King Saul failed God. So we read here my words he did not establish. And notice the outcome. It says here, and it was displeasing to Samuel. Now that word for displeasing, it's a word for being hot, in the sense of hot anger. So this was very disappointing. It was grievance them to Samuel, and it says, here we have that word. Most Bibles say he cried out, but it's a stronger word. It's a word for screaming, and this shows discomfort. This shows how grieved Samuel was because Shaul failed God, and he did. There's no other way to understand it. If we keep reading. It says he screamed to the Lord all the night, verse 12. Now oftentimes in the Bible, when there's a new day, there's a change, and that's what's going to happen here. Look now to verse 12, where it says And Samuel, get up early. Now that word for getting up early in the Bible, we see that we use it also in modern Hebrew. In fact, if you're staying at a hotel and you want a an early morning wake up call and you are in Israel, it's a hashema. It's that same word for getting up early. So we read, look at the text where it says, And Samuel got up early to meet Shaul in the morning, and it was told to Samuel, saying, Shaul has went to Carmel, behold and notice something very important. This word for behold, we have a word that means, pay attention. What is going to be said is of great importance. That's why that Hebrew word hinay is there. It lets us know something significant is going to be said, something that provides you and me, the reader, the Bible student, valuable information. What does it say? Behold, he has set up for himself a monument. Now, why did he do this? Well, it's very simple. He thought he had brought about victory, so he went to Carmel. What's there? Well, Carmel is a high mountain range, and he went up to a high place. Why? In order to set a monument for himself, this again, shows us his pride, his arrogancy, that he was selfish. He was always thinking about himself. So we read in this text, it was told to Samuel, saying. Saul has

went towards Carmel. Behold, he has set up for himself a monument, and he has turned and he passed and he went down to Gogol. Now he's there. Why? Well, Gogol is a specific place. It's near Jericho. It is where the children of Israel began. This this, this time in the land of Israel. It is where they entered into the promised land. It is where they kept Passover. The first time, it's where they went through a mass circumcision. And what does circumcision teach the death of the flesh. So this is a place Gogol is known as a place of spiritual renewal. So Saul went to this location. Move now to verse 13,

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and Samuel went to Shaul. And He said to him, this is Shaul. Shaul said to him, Blessed are you of the Lord? I have have kept the word of the Lord. Now that's what what Shaul thinks. King Saul thinks he's obedient, but we know he's not. He has not done what God has told them to do, and we're going to see that he is going to be exposed by Samuel in the upcoming verses. So look with me to verse 14, but Samuel said, and what is the sound of this flock in my ears and the sound of the cattle which I am hearing now, there's noise going on. What is supposed to be done? Well, God emphatically told Shaul, all the spoil you are to destroy both of man and beast. Everything is to be offered up to the Lord. But now, when Samuel comes to him, What does he hear? He hears the sound of sheep, the sound of cattle, and all of this he is hearing in his ears the Scripture is saying, and what was, was Saul's response. Well, just keep reading. Look now, if you would, to verse 15, and Saul said, from the Amalek, I have brought them, which the people not him, Oh no, not not King Shaul. But he says, The people have had pity upon concerning the better things of the flock and of the cattle. And why did they do this? Oh, he makes it so spiritual. See, those who are sinful, oftentimes, they know how to talk spiritually, but it's really nauseating. Why he says, on account that it can be sacrifice unto the Lord your God. Now notice he says, The Lord your God? Why isn't isn't sheul saying the Lord our God? Why it is to tell the reader. This shows that Saul knows he is disobedient, that he is distant from God, because he did not keep the word of the Lord. He did not do as God said over and over, destroy utterly all of Amalek, both the young and the old, all their possessions, offer them up as a devotion unto the Lord, so he blames the people. And look at the end of verse 15, where it says, but the rest the rest, not the best things, but the other things we have utterly destroyed verse 16, and Samuel said to Shaul, and we have a word hereph, now, what is that? Well, it's probably, if we want to know the best English word, it would be the word desist, meaning cut it out, or stop. I think most Bibles will say Be silent, but it doesn't mean be silent. It means stop what you're doing. No more do. Says he want to hear of these excuses. And he says, I will tell you what the Lord spoke unto me last night, meaning during the night. And he said, that is that that the people said to him, speak now verse 17. And Samuel said, Surely, since you were small in your eyes. Now, again, as I was going through this passage with my wife, I found that her Bible really didn't translate it correctly. And. What it says here, look again at verse 17, and Samuel said, Surely, since small Are you in your eyes now, now she'll know something. He wasn't some great individual. In fact, he rightly points out that he was small in his own eyes. And then he says, the leader of the tribes of Israel, were you? And the answer is, No, you were not the leader of the tribes of Israel. But he says, Nevertheless, you the Lord anointed to be king over Israel. Now what it's saying here, he's reminding him You have been so blessed by God in your own eyes, you knew that you were insignificant, that you were nothing. You worked of the leaders of the tribes of Israel. But nevertheless, we see that God did something, that God anointed you Shaul to be king over Israel. What has God done? He has blessed you abundantly. You were nothing in your own eyes, but nevertheless, God chose you. Now again, he chose him because of the requests of the people that they were rejecting God. They were rejecting

Samuel as a leader, and we see that this was was painful for Samuel, and it was displeasing to God, but that is the reality of the situation. Now look, if you would, to verse 18, and the Lord sent you on the way. So this is, and somebody will say, on a mission, what was that mission? To be king, to lead the people, to obey the Word of God, and especially in this last situation, to utterly destroy Amalek, every person, all their animals and all their possessions. And in this it's undeniable that King Shaul, he failed miserably, and he said to you, you shall utterly destroy. And notice he's talking about Amalek, but notice how Amalek is spoken of, and you shall utterly destroy among him, all the sinners. That's what he's supposed to do among Amalek, destroy all the sinners. And then he says, Amalek, and you shall fight against him until and then we have the word that you all and it means the children of Israel. You all have utterly destroyed them. So again, what is God's will? Very simple, to destroy all of Amalek, all their animals, all their possessions, and to take no spoil from the mouth of Shaul. We have seen they did indeed take the spoil, and this is going to be pointed out in a very, very harsh way in a moment. Look, if you would, now to the next verse, verse 19. Why did you not hear the voice of the Lord? So he wasn't listening, he wasn't obeying. He was not doing what God had commanded him to do. But notice the next word. Now, the next word, if we look at this word, AIT, it is a name of a bird. Now here, it is not a noun or a name of a bird, but it is a verb. And what does it mean? Well, it's speaking about this bird that has the tendency to swoop down upon its prey. So it uses that term. And what do we find here? Well, this is what God is saying. He said you did not hear the voice of the Lord, but rather in contrast to that, you swooped down upon the plunder and you did evil in the eyes of the Lord. Now learn the principle we've talked about this several times. When I do what is right in my eyes, it will be evil in the eyes of the Lord, when I am motivated by self, when my utmost desire is to please myself or to exalt myself, I am going to be humiliated. In the end, I am going to be made ashamed, and instead of exalting myself before God, God is going to move against me as right now he's going to move against King Shaul, and he is going to remove him from being King over Israel. Look now to verse 20, and Shaul said to Samuel, he.

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Have heard the voice of the Lord, and I will go. And I went on the mission which the Lord has sent me. And I brought agog, the king of Amalek. And Amalek I have what utterly destroyed? Well, there is a problem. Amalek is still alive. He has not put all the people to death and the animals. We have learned over and over, the animals, the Scripture says the best of them. What has he done? He has kept them for the people that he would be popular. Now I share frequently. There's a verse of Scripture, a verse of Scripture that is most meaningful to me. It's found in Galatians, chapter one and verse 10, where Paul is speaking and He says, if I was still trying to please men, I would not be a slave of Messiah. I think that is one of the most profound verses in all of Scripture. When you are committed to pleasing people, you are not a servant of God. Certainly, you should not think of yourself as we ought to, as slaves of Messiah. Now that's a hard term, a slave. Yes, a slave, because he is our master. What he says we do, we don't come to before him in arguing or sharing our own opinion or telling him what we think would be better. That's not how a disciple responds to their master. We need to do things correctly. We need to understand this relationship we have with the living God, the God of Israel. So Saul is not speaking the truth. He says, I have heard or obeyed the word of the Lord. I have went on the mission which the Lord has sent me, and I brought agog, the king of Amalek and the amalite. I have what I have, utterly destroyed. He is not speaking truth. We need to understand something if we are going to be in God's will. If we are going to be in the capacity to hear from God and understand His revelation, we need to

speak truth before God, and we need to receive the truth of God. Those two things are closely related. I want to say that again, if we are going to grow mature, if we're going to have a testimony or bear witness in a way that is pleasing to Him, a way that finds favor before God and honoring God, then we need to do something. We need to embrace the truth of Scripture, and we need to speak to him truthfully. We can't conceal something. We can't represent. Misrepresent something. We need to come before God honestly. If we don't, God is not going to deal with us. And remember, we know that when, when Shaul in a few weeks ago, when Shaul prayed and wanted to entreat the Lord. God was silent. There was no response from him. So if you're hearing silence from God, there's a reason for that. God is not pleased. God is not hearing you speak to him in a truthful way. Well, let's look at our last verse, verse 21 where it says and he's just blaming the people, and that's what sinners do. They blame everyone there. Everyone else is the problem, not them, he says here, but the people took from the spoil of the flock and of the cattle. And it says the best things, the best things they did not destroy. But what did they do? The best of these things they wanted to sacrifice to the Lord your God, at Gilgal, all of that is an empty excuse. Saul wasn't speaking honestly before God. And understand something, if you don't come before God honestly in truth, it is going to greatly affect your relationship when you are coming to God in a prayerful manner, and you're lying to him and you're not coming clean, you're not coming before him with a contrite heart. It is going to cause God to be silent before you. That's not good. That's not what we want. We want to hear from God. But here's the key. Why do you hear from God? Here's the reason why? Because you come. For him, and you say to him, Oh God, whatever you command me to do, whatever is your will, whatever would be pleasing to you, whatever are your instructions for me, I will do. Doesn't matter. He's who. He's the Lord of lords. He's the king of kings. He's our master. And therefore what he says goes, and it's only when you are humble enough and wise enough to make your decisions based upon the revelation of God. Where do we find God's revelation right here in this book, it is only when you are willing to say God, what I read, I am going to implement into my life. I am going to obey. I am going to do because your word is truth. It is only when you have an absolute commitment to God and His Word that you are going to begin to grow spiritually. That God is going to be working in your life through whom, through the Holy Spirit. And that Holy Spirit is going to minister to you. He is going to bring change into your life. You are going to grow. You are going to mature. You are going to hear from God. And here's the good news, you are going to be able to do the will of God, and that's where we find joy, not in disobedience, not in our will, not in our desires, not in our plans. If you want true joy, then you have to agree with God. You must be committed to His purpose, His will, and when you are you are going to see how that anointing from the Holy Spirit begins to empower you, begins to change you, begins to teach you, in order that you will know everything that you need to know for what purpose, very simply, to be able to carry out the will of The Lord, that is what is good, not your will, not my will, but only the will of God. We need to be committed to his will. Why? When we are we are displaying ourselves as servants of the living God, it is only when we say, I am. And this word I'd like to use, it's a Hasidic term. It's only when I need baby tool, I have been canceled out. I'm nothing. I realize that he is everything, and everything that is good, everything that is worthy, it all comes from Him. And it's only when I have that mindset, then God will begin to move in my life. He will begin to use me, and I will be inviting joy and pleasure and satisfaction into my life. Well, I'll close with that until next week. Shalom from Israel.

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Well, we hope you will benefit from today's message and share it with others. Please plan to join us each week at this time and on this channel for our broadcast of loveisrael.org again, to find out more about us, please visit our website, loveisrael.org There you will find articles in numerous other lectures by Baruch. These teachings are in video form. May download them or watch them in streaming video until next week, may the Lord bless you in our Messiah, Yeshua, that is Jesus, as you walk with Him, Shalom from Israel. You.