

## 1 Samuel 13/ War

### Chapter 12 Review: **Godly Rebuking / Chopping wood**

**John 15: 2** *"Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit.*

- Correct response to Godly correction is gratefulness and repentance
- Relationship between fear, love and service
- Perfect love casts out all fear
- Love is shown by keeping Jesus commands

**John 14:15** *If you love Me, **you will** keep My commandments.*

**John 15:12** *"This is My commandment, **that you love one another, just as I have loved you.** 13"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. 14"**You are My friends if you do what I command you.***

- Jesus showed His love by serving and washing the disciples feet
  - Fear is cast out as we serve. We show ourselves to be friends of the Judge!!
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## 1 Samuel Chapter 13

1Saul was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty two years over Israel. 2Now Saul chose for himself 3,000 men of Israel, of which **2,000** were with Saul in Michmash and in the hill country of Bethel, while **1,000** were with **Jonathan** at Gibeah of Benjamin.

- 1<sup>st</sup> mention of **Jonathan**: Saul's oldest son
- David's best friend and an example to us
- Saul took 2000 men, Jonathan 1000
- Ongoing war with the Philistines (like Palestinians of today)

2b But he sent away the rest of the people, each to his tent. 3**Jonathan smote the garrison** of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it Then Saul blew the trumpet throughout the land, saying, "Let the Hebrews hear." 4All Israel heard the news

that **Saul had smitten** the garrison of the Philistines, and also that **Israel had become odious** to the Philistines.

- **Smote the garrison:** Jonathan attacked the military post
- Trumpet blew throughout Israel
- **Odious:** Israel started to stink to the Philistines...Hostility grew
- Perhaps Saul's true colors begin to show...taking credit

The people were then summoned to Saul at Gilgal. 5Now 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. 6When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait (for the people were hard-pressed), then the people **hid themselves in caves**, in thickets, in cliffs, in cellars, and in pits. 7Also some of the Hebrews crossed the Jordan into the land of Gad and Gilead.

- Battle lines were being drawn
- Imagine seeing people like sand start to gather (hour glass)
- **Hid everywhere...**some even **crossed back over the Jordan** (backsliders)
- When the going gets tough, some get going but it is our endurance that **proves our faith**
- "You are **eternally secure** as you **abide in Jesus**"

But as for Saul, he was still in Gilgal, and all the **people followed him trembling**. 8Now **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. 9So Saul said, "Bring to me the burnt offering and the peace offerings." And he offered the burnt offering. 10As soon as he finished offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him and to greet him. 11But Samuel said, "**What have you done?**"

- God has an **appointed time** (an encouragement letter)
- God **clearly told** Saul the appointed time earlier

**1 Samuel 10:8** *(Read) "And you shall go down before me to Gilgal; and behold, I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings and sacrifice peace offerings **You shall wait seven days** until I come to you and show you what you should do."*

- Saul did not wait but reacted as the people scattered

**Proverbs 3:5** *Trust in the LORD with all your heart And **do not lean** on your own understanding.*

- Saul thought he knew best and did not seek God in prayer
- Samuel: "**What have you done?**" reminiscent of the garden of Eden

**Genesis 3: 8** *They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. 9Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "**Where are you?**" 10He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself." 11And He said, "**Who told you that you were naked?** Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" 12The man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me from the tree, and I ate." 13Then the LORD God said to the woman, "**What is this you have done?**" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."*

- **Excuses** and blame after sin
- **Guilt** leading to treating others harshly because of the way you feel about yourself!

11b 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, 12therefore 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."

- Because of **them** and because of **you**...Samuel
- So I forced myself...this was not easy.

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.**"

- "**You have not kept the command**" said 2X
- The King was not to act independently of the prophet (Gods Word)

**1 Samuel 12:13** (Read) *"Now therefore, here is the king whom you have chosen, whom you have asked for, and behold, the LORD has set a king over you. 14" If you will **fear the LORD and serve Him**, and **listen to His voice** and not rebel against the command of the LORD, **then** [if] both you and also the king who reigns over you will follow the LORD your God. 15" If you will not listen to the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the command of the LORD, then the hand of the LORD will be against you, as it was against your fathers.*

- The King was to be **an example** of fearing God, serving God, and listening to His voice
- God had some in mind that will! **You are replaceable...ow!**

15 Then Samuel arose and went up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin And Saul **numbered the people** who were present with him, about six hundred men.

- When Godly correction is refused we **turn to the physical for security ...and find nothing** (600 men...number study)
- Some are given to the devil for a time! (1 Corinthians 5:5)

16 Now Saul and his son Jonathan and the people who were present with them were staying in Geba of Benjamin while the Philistines camped at Michmash. 17 And the **raiders came** from the camp of the Philistines in three companies: one company turned toward Ophrah, to the land of Shual, 18 and another company turned toward Beth-horon, and another company turned toward the border which overlooks the valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness.

- **Raiders:** Not for war, but to terrorize and steal

**John 10:10** *"The thief comes only to **steal** and kill and **destroy**; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly"*

19 Now **no blacksmith** could be found in all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, "Otherwise the Hebrews will make swords or spears." 20 So **all Israel went down to the Philistines**, each to sharpen his plowshare, his mattock, his axe, and his hoe. 21 The charge was two-thirds of a shekel for the plowshares, the mattocks, the forks, and the axes, and to fix the hoes.

- Philistines had iron production technology...Israel did not
- Israel had to go to their enemy for help

- How much time was wasted worshipping Baal instead of preparing for war? Acquiring the technology?
- How much time do we waste and wonder why our enemies seem strong and we feel weak?

22 So it came about on the **day of battle** that neither sword nor spear was found in the hands of any of the people who were with Saul and Jonathan, but they **were found with Saul and his son Jonathan**.  
 23 And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the pass of Michmash.

- **Showdown:** Iron spears and swords against bow, arrow and slingshot. A sling shot will work.

## CONCLUSION:

- Saul is starting to show his true colors
- He seemed humble at first...remember?

**1 Samuel 9:21** *Saul replied, "Am I not a Benjamite, of the **smallest of the tribes of Israel**, and my family **the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin**? **Why then do you speak to me in this way?"***

- Now he is **blowing his own horn** and **doing his own thing** instead listening to God in a time of war
- We are at war ...all the time...until heaven
- We need to listen to God's Word!
- **OUR WAR:** World, Devil and the Flesh

**Psalm 144** 1 Blessed be the LORD, my rock,  
 Who trains my hands for war...

### The World (View)

**2 Corinthians 10:3** (Read) For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, 4 for the weapons of our warfare are **not of the flesh, but divinely powerful** for the destruction of fortresses. 5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, 6 and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.

- We are at war with a world view that says:

- All religions teach the same thing
- There is no absolute truth...(some things *are* wrong!)
- Jesus was merely a “good” teacher
- There are many ways to God
- We take those thoughts captive destroy those false speculations by divine power

### **The Devil**

**Revelation 12:13** (Read) And when the dragon saw that he was thrown down to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male child. 14But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. 15And the serpent poured water like a river out of his mouth after the woman, so that he might cause her to be swept away with the flood. 16But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and drank up the river which the dragon poured out of his mouth. 17So the dragon was enraged with the woman, **and went off to make war with the rest of her children**, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

- We are the rest of her children (the church)
- He hates our soul...yet check out the shirts

### **The Flesh**

**1 Peter 2:11** Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from **fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.**

**Romans 7:21** (Read) I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. 22For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, 23but I see a different law in the **members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind** and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. 24Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? 25 **Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

- Flesh: Wanting to be noticed, admired, catered too, and pampered, talked about (runners on main roads)

- Easily hurt, prideful (how does this affect ME?) Self is king
- Thank you Jesus for freeing us!
- Not leaning on our own understanding we lean on the Rock
- **Jesus Christ**