

Pastor Karl Payne  
April 26, 2020, "Using a Godly Response"

In 1 Samuel 10:1 Saul is anointed as Israel's first king, and presented to the people by the judge/prophet Samuel. God's initial provocation is not with Saul, it was with the people for demanding a king, and in doing so, rejecting Him as their true king.

**A Saul is selected and anointed as king of Israel.**

9:17; 10:1	Saul is selected and anointed king by God through Samuel.
10:6	The Holy Spirit comes upon Saul and he is "changed into another man."
10:9-11	God changed Saul's heart. Saul was recognized as one of the prophets.
10:17, 24-25	You demanded a king so you could be like everyone else. So get ready.
11:15; 12:12-15	Behold, your king.
12:17-25	The people sinned in asking for a king. God will not abandon His people.
13:8-13	Saul sins against God and loses the kingship dynasty that could have been his.
13:14	God promises to give that kingship to another.

**B Saul deliberately sins again and is subsequently informed God has rejected him as king.**

15:3; 11	Saul's deliberately sins again, blaming the people and lying to Samuel.
15:24	Saul acknowledges his sin against God and Samuel.
15:25	Saul asks Samuel for his forgiveness, but not God.
15:26	God rejects Saul as the king of Israel.
16:14	God assigns or allows an evil spirit to continually terrorize Saul.
24:17-20	Saul acknowledges David is righteous and will be king; God says he already is.
26:2-25	Saul hunts David again; David spares Saul's life again; Saul admits his sin.

**C David's response**

16:1, 13	David anointed king of Israel. H.S. comes on him from that day forward.
16:14-23	God establishes a relationship between Saul and David.
18:5-9	David, without cause, is viewed by Saul as an enemy.
18:10-16	David survives Saul's 1 <sup>st</sup> attempt to murder him at the bidding of a demon.
18:22-25	David is set up by Saul to be killed by the Philistines.
19:1	Saul commands his men to kill David when the Philistines did not do the job.
19:2-6	Jonathan intercedes for David and Saul recants his command.
19:9-10	David survives Saul's 2 <sup>nd</sup> murder attempt through demonic inducement.
19:18-24	David is protected from Saul by Samuel.
20:1-34	David is protected from Saul by Jonathan. Saul attempts to kill Jonathan.
24:1-12	David refuses to kill Saul or allow him to be killed out of respect and obedience.
26:8-9	David spares Saul again out of his respect for the office, and obedience to God.

I marveled as I read these Scriptures and pondered Elder Matt Friesen's comment about forgiveness while God was preparing me for this sermon. What came to my mind were four different relational opportunities we often face, sometimes daily, that necessitate a godly response out of obedience to God rather than a godless excuse because of the way we may feel at the time:

- 1) Personal forgiveness when we sin against God or others: **1 John 1:9; Philip. 3:12-14**
- 2) Forgiving others who sin against us: **Matt. 5:23; 18:21-22; Mark 11:25; Luke 17:3-4; Rom. 12:14-21**
- 3) Intercessory prayers for the forgiveness of others: **1 Sam. 12:19-25; Daniel 9:3-19; Gal. 6:1-2; Eph. 6:18-19; Col. 4:2-4; 1 Tim.2:1-4; James 5:16.**
- 4) Supernatural solicitation to sin: **Gen. 3:1-4; 1 Sam. 16:14-16; 1 Sam. 18:10-11; 19:9-10; Matt. 4:1-11; Matt. 16:21-23; Eph. 6:11-12**

How do evil spirits/demons attempt to solicit us to disobey God? This happens at two primary levels.

**Oppression:** is typically mental enticement or solicitation to sin; arrows or accusation. **Eph.6:16; Rev.12:10-11. Arrows and accusation are not sin nor the result of personal sin, they are an attack.** (Interestingly, the etymology of the word “sin”, an archer’s term, meant to “miss the mark”. Demonic solicitation is to entice a person to miss the mark of obedience to God, however that can be influenced.)

**Demonization:** is the result of sin, and represents demon caused passivity; exerting varying degrees of control over a person. This possibility includes Christians. **Eph.4:26-27; Luke 13:11-16; (Luke 19:9; Gal.3:7-9); Acts 5:3-4.**

**What do our feelings necessarily or ultimately have to do with our responses to these four options?**

**Do you remember the parable Jesus shared in response to Peter’s question regarding how often should we forgive those who sin against us? Matt. 18:21-22**

Parables were typically shared to illustrate and answer big ideas or questions. In this case there were at least three big points to ponder:

- 1) God has forgiven each one of us by **degree and amount** far more than we have ever been asked to forgive those who sin against us. **Matt. 18:32**
- 2) We are supposed to forgive others in the same **manner** that God forgives us. **Matt. 18:33; Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:12-13**
- 3) The third point of this parable is often ignored. It deals with the **consequences** of refusing to forgive others in the same manner God has forgiven us, based on grace and mercy rather than merit. **Matt. 18:33-35**

**The application** from the sermon today is at least threefold:

- 1) Always check the pretext and context of what you are taught against Scripture. **Acts 17:11 (I always preach just the facts; I never teach with bias or lies. No human is that righteous.)**
- 2) Evaluate and make personal application, where and when it is necessary. **John 13:17**
- 3) Share what you learn with others. Transferable discipleship training is not only a good idea, it is a biblical command all Christians are supposed to obey, whether we feel like it or not. **Matt.28:18-20; 2 Tim. 2:2**

We are all on loan from God and none of us knows how much time we have to invest what we have been given, whether it is time, talent, treasure or training. Keep on if you are already investing with gold, silver and precious stones; get after it if you are not. Forgiveness can be a blessing or deterrent in our daily walk with God, depending upon how we respond to the opportunities that confront us.