

Disobedience
1 Sam 15:22-23
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to set forth the true nature of obedience to God.

Intro: 1. The old testament is an important group of books to those under the New testament.
2. "Disobedience" in the N.T. is a word which literally means, "the condition of being unpersuadable."

I. Talk is not obedience (**1 Sam 15:13**)

- A. "Talk is cheap"
- B. It is easy to say, "I love the Lord," but obedience is the true test (**Jn 14:15**)
- C. It is easy to say, "I love my brethren." (**1 Jn 3:17-18**)
- D. How many people "testify" today about their salvation yet they have not obeyed the Lord? (**Lk 6:46**)

II. Partial Obedience is complete disobedience.

- A. Saul "obeyed" God with just two exceptions:
 - 1. Agag the King
 - 2. The best of the flocks and herds.
- B. Saul's partial obedience was complete disobedience.
 - 1. Saul had not obeyed God (**1 Sam 15:11**)
 - 2. Saul had rejected the Lord's word (**1 Sam 15:26**)
- C. If one believes but does not repent is that obedience?
- D. If one does many good works but never obeys the gospel, is that obedience?

III. Worthy objectives do not justify disobedience (**1 Sam 15:15,21**)

- A. The end does not justify the means.
- B. In matters of worship we:
 - 1. Encourage people to "dance to the glory of God?"
 - 2. Shall we use mechanical instruments of music to "God's glory?"
 - 3. Shall we let trained chords to the singing?
- C. What does God want? (**1 Sam 15:22**)
 - 1. Obedience shows respect for God in a way that nothing else can.
 - 2. Disobedience appeals to human vanity.

IV. Majority action does not justify disobedience (**1 Sam 15:24**)

- A. "Peer pressure" is a real pressure.
- B. God had warned Israel: do not follow a multitude to do evil (**Ex 23:2**)

Application & Conclusion:

- 1. The root cause of Saul's disobedience
 - a. An inflated opinion of himself
 - b. No feeling of a personal relationship with God (**1 Sam 15:21**; note: "thy God").

2. The rebellion of **1 Samuel 15** is not an isolated event in Saul's life. It is part of a pattern.
3. Saul's own disobedience had severed his relationship with God!
4. Disobedience is evil! (**1 Sam 15:19**)
5. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9