

Saul's Sorry Situation

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Saul's preoccupation with David

Saul in his blindness, jealousy, and fear was consumed with pursuing David when he should have been concerned with a greater problem.

It had military implications: Saul seemed to pay no attention to the growing Philistine threat, the fact that “the Philistines could move freely to such a location and occupy the site indicates something of Saul’s neglect with regret to the defense of Israel’s Border.”¹

Does that ever happen to you?

Saul's primary problem

1 Samuel 28:4

His nation was in great peril; his kingdom was at great risk.

Saul's Solution

God won't give him direction, 1 Sam 28:6

Saul is reaping what he has sowed, Gal 6:7

Hebrews 10:26-27; Luke 8:18; 19:26

Saul seeks direction from a witch, 1 Sam 28:7

Saul piously had expelled witches from Israel, 1 Sam 28:3

But now seeks one out

His leadership was quite hollow

Saul is more interested in direction from God than he is obedience to God.

He wants God's blessing, direction, help, but does not want to obey God.

Saul's Sorrow

¹ John Davis, *The Birth of a Kingdom*, p. 90-91.

He will die because he did not fear God, 1 Sam 28:18

1 Sam 15:24, 31

He will die because he was more interested in what people thought than what God thought, 1 Sam 15

He wanted people to think he was a great Jehovah worshipper, but he really was a people pleaser.

It is a serious matter to care more about the opinions of people than the word of the Lord.

Psalm 31:14, 19

Luke 12:4-5

John 12:42-43

Signs you are a “people pleaser”

You want people to think well of you and do what you do to be seen by men, Matthew 6:1ff.

Your words are designed to encourage others to think well of you, 1 Thess 2:4-6; Proverbs 28:23

You want certain people to think well of you, James 2:1-4

Certain people you avoid arousing

Certain people you seek to impress

You are over-sensitive to correction or reproof

If somebody is critical of you or your work

Their criticism will drive you to do unwise or unbiblical things

Their criticism will destroy you

You render “eye-service” to people, Col 3:22.

You work, perform, minister differently when people aren't around.