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## “Saul: A Man After His Own Heart”

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(I Samuel, chapters 8-15, pgs. 195-202)

*“I am grieved that I have made you king, because you have turned away from Me...Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has rejected you as king.”*

(I Samuel 15, p.202)

### ABOUT SAUL: A PROFILE (I Samuel 9, pg. 195)...

1. A family of influence
2. Impressive
3. Physically large
4. Insecure/jealous
5. Craved approval of man
6. Proud
7. Disloyal
8. Disobedient

## THE BEGINNING OF THE END FOR SAUL...

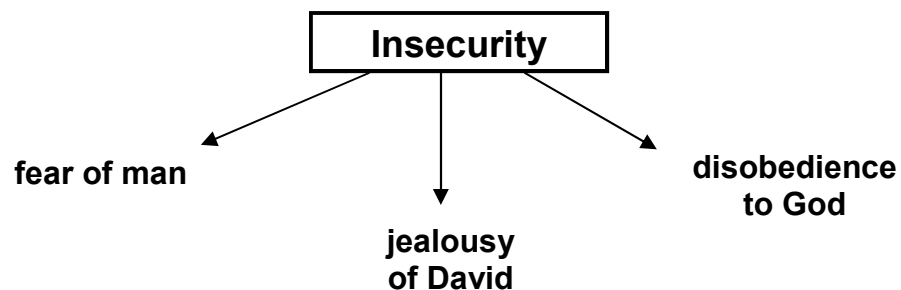
### I SAMUEL 15 (p. 201)

- v. 3 - Clear directions
- v. 9 - Direct disobedience
- vs. 10-11 - God grieves
- v. 12 - Saul honors himself
- v. 14 - Your sin will find you out
- v. 15 - The blame game
- vs. 20-21 - Saul's self-deception
- v. 22 - To obey is better than sacrifice!
- v. 23 - Saul rejected as king
- v. 24 - The fear of man is a snare
- vs. 27-29 - The kingdom “torn” from Saul
- v. 30 - Saul's insecurity craves the approval of men
- v. 35 - The Lord grieves yet again

## A CORE CHARACTER DEFICIT IN SAUL...

*“Then Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned. I violated the Lord’s command and your instructions. I was afraid of the people and so I gave in to them...Saul replied, “I have sinned. But please honor me before the elders of my people and before Israel; come back with me, so that I may worship the Lord your God”*

(1 Samuel 15:24,30, p.201-202)



*“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”* (Proverbs 9:10, p.454)

**Where is our heart when weighed in the balances of God?**

- ▶ If we do not deal with our internal struggles, with God’s help, we will become “spear-throwers” and “builders of monuments” to ourselves. All of us are much better than the worst thing we’ve ever done.
- ▶ Remember that although Saul was rejected as king, he was not rejected as God’s child; he may have stepped out of God’s will, but never out of God’s love.
- ▶ There is a vast difference between the outward clothing of the Spirit’s power, and the inward filling of the Spirit’s life. What does this world most need...gifted people outwardly empowered, or broken people inwardly transformed?
- ▶ David was not all good, and Saul was not all bad. The essential difference lay in what dominated each man’s heart.