

## **104.10. FITTING IN & FALLING OUT. KING SAUL'S CHOICES.**

When God says to do something, he means to do it as He said & even when we think we are doing something to help & honor Him, if it's not done as He asked, than He may not accept it, as He is seeking obedience, not opinions, or better ways, as His ways are much higher than ours & He truly don't need us to do things, He wants us to show ourselves approved; God says, My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than yours, Isaiah 55:8.

So, God had agreed to let the people who decided they wanted an earthly king, to have a king & He chose Samuel, the 1st prophet & the last judge of Israel, to establish the Monarchy & appoint a king.

So, Samuel, as God's representative, anointed Saul as king & gave Him God's rules for the kingship over Israel & provided for the transition, from judges to a Monarchy.

Saul as the 1st king of Israel, ruled 42 years & was a rash, hot-tempered, disobedient & jealous king. Now Samuel told Saul, it was the Lord who told me to anoint you as king over His people & will now settle accounts with the nation of Amalek for opposing Israel. So go & destroy THE ENTIRE Amalekite nation 1 Sam 15:3 & Saul & his army went & slaughtered them, but Saul spared king Agag's life & also kept the best of the sheep, goats & cattle & all that appealed to him.

So Saul had now disobeyed God twice & God told Samuel; I am sorry that I made Saul king for he has not been loyal to my commands & God said that his kingdom would not last, 1Sam.13:13.

Samuel found Saul, who had gone to set up a monument to himself & Saul greeted him with; May the Lord bless you, I have carried out His

command. Samuel asked, what is the animal noises & Saul said, the army spared the best animals, but we are going to sacrifice them to your God, but we destroyed everything else.

Samuel said listen to what the Lord told me, the Lord has anointed you king of Israel & sent you on a mission, telling you; Go & destroy everything of the sinful Amalekites. Why haven't you obeyed? Why did you rush for the plunder & do what was evil in the Lord's sight? Saul insisted he had obeyed, saying I carried out the mission, yes I brought back King Agag, but I destroyed everyone else, then my troops brought in the best of the animals & plunder to sacrifice to your God & Samuel replied, what is more pleasing to the Lord, your burnt offerings & sacrifices, or your obedience to his voice?

Listen, Obedience is better than sacrifice & submission is better than offerings 1Sam. 15:22; as rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft & stubbornness is as bad as worshiping idols & because you have rejected the Lord's full command, He has rejected you.

Then Saul Pleaded for Forgiveness, admitting that he had sinned & disobeyed the Lord, as he was afraid of the people & did what they demanded, but now asks Samuel to forgive & go back with him to worship the Lord, but Samuel replied, I will not go with you, as you have rejected the Lord's command, so he has rejected you as king. 1 Samuel 16:14 says, The Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul & an evil spirit, likely part of judgment for Saul's disobedience was allowed to torment him, as Saul had directly disobeyed God, 1 Samuel 13:1–14; 15:1–35.

When the king's servants saw the torment Saul was enduring, they suggested finding someone who could play the harp when the evil spirit came, so he would feel better, 1 Samuel 16:15.

One of the servants referred David, describing the shepherd boy as a great harp player, among other things. Saul found David to be a great comfort & liked him very much & David became one of his armor-bearers.

Now this evil spirit on Saul was came on multiple occasions to remind Him of his disobedience to God, but it also departed from him.

I am going to reiterate, from a previous chapter, to explain the plight of Saul, who followed, just like many of the worlds part time Christians, who say with their lips that Christ lives within them, which they fully follow, on Sunday, but whose minds are cussing out drivers on the road on Monday, hating politicians on Tuesday, condemning drug addicts on Wed., judging lost sinners on Thurs., ignoring the dying, hungry, diseased, addicted homeless on payday, then it's just small sins I'm filling my head with on tv & movie Saturday, which is stuff you would invite Jesus to watch with you right, since He lives within you? Then back to, it is Christ who lives within me & guides me to church on Sunday.

So, Saul believed He could live His way, outside of when living God's way, as we are only human right? Yes, but supposedly human, with the mind, heart & spirit of Christ & God within us & Christ knows when we're allowing Him to work in & through us & when we're living for the world by our own, or by unbeliever's standards.

God never said it would be easy to live for Him, but we must guard our minds & be sure that we take captive, every devil driven thought that enters into us & give it to Him, letting Him pray through us, to bind that which offends Him & should offend, as that's truly Christ living within us.