

## Digging Deeper into the Message

Read 1 Samuel 15

What did Samuel remind Saul in verse 1?

What *exactly* did God command Saul to do in verses 2 and 3?

How did Saul deviate from the command in verse 8?

*Who* disobeyed the command of the Lord, according to verse 9?

Which animals were spared, and which were destroyed? (verse 9)

What did Saul do at Carmel? (verse 12)

Who does Saul blame for the disobedience?

Do you think Saul's repentance at the end is genuine? Why?

What can you learn about Saul's character from this passage? List some of his character traits.

How can you apply this story to your life this week?

**Next Week's Sermon Scripture – 1 Samuel 16**



This week's sermon

**The Sacrifice that Reconciles Friends**

1 Samuel 15

God is emotional. He is also decisive. He doesn't look back and say, "There are a few things I would change if I could." But He does look back and say, "That decision I made has caused me to feel great sorrow."

The Failures of Saul

1. Greed and Pride
2. Disobedience
3. Lying

Saul wants to be let off the hook. He's damaging his relationship with both Samuel and God. He's getting farther away from both. They're hurt and angry. He's oblivious. Do you ever do that to other people? Do you ever do that to God? Better to humble ourselves and admit our failures than to justify ourselves and lie.

The Result of Saul's Sin

1. God corrected things by sending a man who would do His will.
2. Saul is separated from both God and Samuel.

The Lesson: God doesn't want our religion; He wants our obedient hearts.

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