

“A Sad, Sad Ending”

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2 Timothy 4:6-8

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Introduction:

- A. Bring up the subject of _____ and you will get many different reactions from people.
- B. As we turn to our text for today from I Samuel 31, we come to the very sad and tragic end of the life of _____.

I. The Story

- A. Life is all about _____, and Saul often made the _____ ones.
- B. Here at the time of his _____, he is still forced to make _____.
- C. When Saul’s armor-bearer refused to take Saul’s _____, Saul _____ on his own _____.
- D. Without a king, even this pitiful king, Israel is _____.
- E. The sad story ends with Saul being _____, and then _____.

II. The Application

- A. Each of us will someday _____ and then face our Maker’s _____ in response to the _____ we have made.
 - 1. Saul had a _____ beginning (1 Sam. 9:2)
 - 2. His great potential vanished in the rubble of his _____ choices.
 - 3. What should be the epitaph upon Saul’s tombstone? “I have _____...Surely I have acted like a _____ and have _____ greatly.” (1 Sam. 26:21)
 - 4. Assurance doesn’t come because we have lived such a _____ life, but comes because of the _____ of God through the sacrifice of Jesus and our _____ it Him. (1 Jn. 1:7, 9)
 - 5. Truth is we are all going to die someday and face the judgment, so we want to _____ in a way that makes us _____. (Ps. 90:12)
- B. _____ leads to _____.
 - 1. Whatever the loss we are facing, whether it be the loss of a job, _____, marriage, _____, or loved one.
 - 2. Most losses carry with them an assortment of _____.
 - 3. It is God who brings _____ (Ex. 15:26; Ps. 147:3; Mt. 11:28-29).
 - 4. Our losses in life may be _____, but God is _____.
 - 5. Our job is to _____ in the Lord and _____ faithfully with Him.

Answer Key: Intro.: A. people. B. King, Saul. I.A. choices, wrong. I.B. death, choices. I.C. life, fell, sword. I.D. hopeless. I.E. humiliated, honored. II.A. die, judgment, choices. II.A.1. promising. II.A.2. sinful. II.A.3. sinned, fool, erred. II.A.4. perfect, grace, trust. II.A.5. live, ready. II.B. Loss, mourning. II.B.1. health, relationship. II.B.2. feelings. II.B.3. healing. II.B.4. great, greater. II.B.5. trust, walk.