

Saul Defeats the Ammonites

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1 Samuel 11:1-15

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Saul's First Big Test

- Saul has been anointed as prince^{10:1}; given signs from God^{10:2-6}
- People have cried out to be saved^{7:8}
- Some questioned Saul's ability to save^{10:27}
- Nahash -Ammonite^{Israel's cousins by incest:Gen19:36-38} threatens Jabesh-gilead

A Vicious Enemy 1-2

- Nahash – {RSV 10:27ff} oppressing Gadites & Reubenites
- Nothing new - our world is still dangerous for God's people
- Gouged out right eyes to make men crippled in battle
- Nahash likely wanted revenge^{Jdg11:33} for Jephthah

A Desperate People 3

- Unconquered men of Jabesh-gilead sought a treaty
- Backed into a corner^{11:3} asked for 7 days
- They needed a Savior, Should've gone to God first, but sent messengers through Israel

APPLY: sanctification is a work^{WSCQ34} that is life-long. You'll battle sin all of life^{1Jn1:8} so we must walk in faith^{Gal5:16-17}. Go to God 1st, remember you are created after likeness of Christ^{Eph4:24}

God Allows Message to Get to His Anointed 4-5

- What was Saul doing? Wasn't he the king? Why plowing?
- Why didn't people seek out God's anointed 1st?
- Negative impact of naysayers^{10:27}

A King is Kindled 6-9

- Strong link between Gibeah & Jabesh-gilead^{Jdgs21}
- Strong weeping got Saul's attention such that he inquired⁵
- Spirit of God rushed upon Saul => righteous anger
- Othniel^{Jdg3:10}; Gideon^{Jdg6:34}; Jephthah^{Jdg11:29}; Samson^{Jdg13:25,14:6}
- It was Saul's duty to save Israel^{10:1}
- Saul sent a serious message⁷ by authority of Saul & Samuel
- Who is this Saul? Same guy that hid in baggage^{10:22}?
- The people responded boldly⁸
- Saul sends message, 'you shall have salvation'⁹

God Saves Through Saul

- 1 verse and the battle is over¹¹!
- Bold Ammonites defeated and humbled^{2:9-10}

Saul Serves as the Lord's King 14-15

- People strike against worthless men; Saul protects
- Covenant renewal ceremony making Saul king¹⁴⁻¹⁵

How God Saves

- Word play - Hebrew root for "save": God will raise king who will save^{9:16}; Saul's calling to save^{10:1}; Ability to save questioned^{10:27}; people looked for salvation^{11:3}; Saul says God will bring salvation^{11:9}; Saul credits God for salvation^{11:13}
- Will Saul save? Will David save^{2Sam7:16}?
- Only Jesus, God's perfect King saves! Fulfills^{Dt17:18-20}
- Jesus, descendant of David^{Mt2:15}; performed deliverance for God's people^{Mt4:23-25;12:22-29}; Jesus is the true King we need!