

Is This How It Ends?

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1 Samuel 30:1-31

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What Would Saul's Obituary Look Like?

- What was the dominant theme of Saul's life?
- Intro^{1S9:1-2}. Tall and handsome, but nothing of his character
- Anointed by God to serve^{1S10:1} God's people as king and save
- Saul: a life of hard-hearted impenitence. Not Isaiah 55:6-7

The Philistine Victory

- Brief account.
- Samuel had warned Saul^{28:29} about his end
- Contrast Saul^{1S28:7} & David^{1S30:6} how they sought wisdom
- Reminiscent of Chp4 - Israel lined up for battle^{4:2}... people finally demand *a king like all the nations*^{1S8:5}. Saul was that king.

Side Lessons

Jonathan

- Jonathan faithfully served alongside his father
- Jonathan last encouraged David^{23:16-17}
- Jonathan faithfully fulfilled his calling God assigned to him!

Armor Bearer & taking of life

- armor-bearer refused to take Saul's life^{31:4-5}
- Likewise Saul's 1st armor-bearer^{David} refused twice^{24:6;26:11}

Saul Refused to Obey and Trust

- Saul died as Prophet Samuel declared^{12:24-25}
- Israel followed Saul

The Brutality of the Philistines

- Philistines mopped up battlefield - found Saul^{1Chr10:8-10}
- Philistines rejoiced & sent "good news" throughout the land
- Saul's head placed in temple of Dagon^{1S5:4} - ironic
- Chronicler commented *for breach of faith*^{1Chr10:13-14}
- Contrast David to whom God turned over the kingdom

An Act of Kindness

- Jabesh-gilead^{1S10:24} saved by Saul just after he was made king
- Saul acted nobly^{1S11:7,11} and defeated Ammonites
- Saul's bravery was not forgotten - men honored Saul's body

So What?

- Big deal 3000 year old history...
- Remember Hannah's prayer^{1S2:1-10} - one of faith in God's provision
- Samuel declared in his farewell address^{1S12:14-15} to have faith in God
- Saul's life was living/dying proof of an unfaithful life^{1Chr10:13-14}
- Repeated unfaithfulness had consequences^{1Chr36:15-16} no earthly remedy left...
- We must look to God's remedy in FAITH alone! Hannah, David, you?
- What would your obituary read like?
- Never forget the HOPE of the Gospel received by FAITH
- Our works will never get us to God^{1Saiiah64:6} though we may try hard
- Know God's provision by faith prophesied^{1Saiiah53:4-6,12}
- Let us be like David or Hannah and trust God's provision in FAITH
- Romans 10:9-13 *everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved!*