

“God Understands: Is God Passive About Our Disobedience During Hardship?”

1 Samuel 13:1-23

“Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth” (1 John 3:18). “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21). “Why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you?” (Luke 6:46). “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding” (Proverbs 3:5).

“Resolved, never to do anything which I should be afraid to do if it were the last hour of my life.”

— (Jonathan Edwards)

- *“Israel had become a stench to the Philistines....”* (1 Samuel 13:1-7)
 - (1 Samuel 13:1) The *“one year”* is probably the time period of 1 Samuel 10:1-11:15. The *“reigning for two years”* is probably the events of 12:1-15:28.
 - (1 Samuel 13:2-4) Saul begins to fulfill the prophecy of 1 Samuel 8:10-18. After Jonathan defeats the garrison of the Philistines in Gibeah (1 Samuel 10:5; cf. 7:13), Saul calls the men of Israel to join him because he knew the Philistines would retaliate.
 - (1 Samuel 13:4-7) The Philistines muster an amazing army in response to their defeat at Gibeah. The people responded in fear, instead of trusting in the LORD (1 Samuel 2:1-10; 1 Samuel 7:7-12; 1 Samuel 11:11-13).
 - *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God” (Philippians 4:6). “Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:6-7).*
- *“There was neither sword nor spear found in any of the people with Saul and Jonathan....”* (1 Samuel 13:19-23)
 - (1 Samuel 13:19,22-23) Due to Israel’s disobedience and lack of faith in God, God had allowed them to fall back under Philistine control (1 Samuel 7:14).
 - (1 Samuel 13:20-21) Israel was also dependent on the Philistines economically because of having no blacksmith. God took away their ability to *protect* themselves and *provide* for themselves to remind them of their need to exalt the LORD by dependence on Him.
 - *“And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6). “But He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me” (2 Corinthians 12:9).*
- *“The LORD has sought a man after His own heart....”* (1 Samuel 13:8-18)
 - The reasons for disobedience: 1) Saul wanted to seek favor from the LORD by offering Him a sacrifice (1 Samuel 7:9-10). 2) The Philistine army was great and was terrifying the people. 3) The people had no swords or shields to protect themselves. 4) Samuel was not “on time.” 5) Saul didn’t want to disobey, but he had no choice.
 - God’s response to his disobedience: 1) What have you done? (Genesis 3:13; Genesis 4:10). 2) You have done foolishly. 3) Your kingdom shall not continue. 4) God will replace you with a man after His own heart.
 - *“If you will fear the LORD (instead of circumstances, even ones you have created) and serve Him and obey His voice (even when it is hard or costs you greatly) and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, and if both you and the king who reigns over you will follow the LORD your God, it will be well.” (1 Samuel 12:14; cf. Hebrews 12:5-11)*

(continued →)

Worship: Rock of Ages (The Modern Post)

He Will Hold Me Fast (Norton Hall Band)

Service Times: Sundays: Pneumatology Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

- *“Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, with every secret thing whether good or evil.” (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)*
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Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** We are collecting donations for Vertical 196 during the month of August. They are in need of: Disposable Razors, Travel Size Shaving Cream, Travel Size Deodorant, Men's Boxer Briefs (Size Large), Women's Bikini Cut Underwear (Size 7 & 8), Men's and Women's Ankle Socks, Dry Dog and Cat Food, Coffee, Wendy's Gift Cards, Individually Wrapped Candy, Powdered Drink Mix, and Bleach.

★**CHURCH DAY OF PRAYER:** Our monthly day of prayer as a church body will be Wednesday, August 31st. We ask that you set aside specific time on this day to pray for the leaders and the ministries of our church body.