

"My Father Has Troubled The Land!"

1 Samuel 14:24-52

"If the LORD delights in us, He will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey" (Numbers 14:8). "Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body" (Proverbs 16:24). "My son, eat honey, for it is good, and the drippings of the honeycomb are sweet to your taste" (Proverbs 24:13). "If you have found honey, eat only enough for you, lest you have your fill of it and vomit it" (Proverbs 25:16). "It is not good to eat much honey, nor is it glorious to seek one's own glory. A man without self control is like a city broken into and left without walls" (Proverbs 25:27-28).

- Saul seeks his own glory (1 Samuel 14:24-30).
 - *"And the men of Israel had been hard pressed that day....And the people were faint."*
 - Saul's heart was not to be lifted up above his brothers (Deuteronomy 17:18-20). *"...When one rules justly over men, ruling in the fear of God, he dawns on them like the morning light, like the sun shining forth on a cloudless morning, like rain that makes grass to sprout from the earth" (2 Samuel 23:3-4). "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves" (Philippians 2:3).*
 - *"Cursed be the man who eats food until it is evening and I am avenged on my enemies...."*
 - Fasting was about repentance towards God, not loyalty to a leader. Fasting was not a means to gain God's favor in a battle, but instead to humble yourself before God. It is foolish to "muzzle an ox" while it is working. Give the "ox" what is needed to finish the task (Deuteronomy 25:4; 1 Timothy 5:18; 1 Corinthians 9:8-10). *"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?" (Isaiah 58:6).* We should never speak a curse over our brothers, you we are to *"love our neighbor as yourself" (Leviticus 19:18).*
 - *"My father has troubled the land...."*
 - In conclusion, Jonathan did not find his father's actions to be helpful, but instead to be burdensome. The people's focus would be off of the victory and instead on the oath. It would be about Saul instead of the LORD. We are always in danger of focusing on people instead of the LORD. *"I lift my eyes up to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth." (Psalm 121:1)*
- The people sin against the LORD (1 Samuel 14:31-35).
 - There were two sins that were being committed....*"It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations, in all your dwelling places, that you eat neither fat nor blood" (Leviticus 3:17); and "But you shall not kill an ox or a sheep and her young in one day" (Leviticus 22:28).*
 - Saul's building of the altar was probably more about God being for him (1 Samuel 14:24) than him obeying and glorifying God (1 Samuel 14:6). He wanted God to act on his behalf, so he was trying to appease Him. *"...Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams." (1 Samuel 15:22)*
- The people save Jonathan from Saul (1 Samuel 14:36-46).
 - Saul's first decision was to deny his people food, now he wants to deny his people sleep. Ahijah, the priest, recommends that they seek God before they act because it was a sinful disaster last time (1 Samuel 14:31-35).
 - Jonathan's sin could have been dealt with by a trespass offering because he was not aware of the vow (Leviticus 5:17-19). The people ransomed Jonathan so that he did not die (Leviticus 25:23-55).

(continued →)

Worship: I Stand Amazed (Norton Hall Band)

Sovereign Over Us (Aaron Keyes)

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

- When the people resisted Saul's leadership he relented from pursuing the Philistines. The people knew God was with Jonathan and were not sure that God was with Saul. This leads to a growing jealousy in Saul's heart. *"But Saul said, 'Not a man shall be put to death this day, for today the LORD has worked salvation in Israel' "* (1 Samuel 11:13). *"Then the people said to Saul, "Shall Jonathan die, who has worked this great salvation in Israel? Far from it! As the LORD lives, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground, for he has worked with God this day' "* (1 Samuel 14:45).
 - Saul's Victories (1 Samuel 14:47-52).
 - *"Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding" (Proverbs 17:27). "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with the humble is wisdom" (Proverbs 11:2). "When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent" (Proverbs 10:19). "The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the LORD; He turns it wherever He will" (Proverbs 21:1).*
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Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Throughout the month of September we are collecting monetary donations for Shannon and Vikki Bobb, a missionary couple that is currently living and serving in Cambodia. There is a container on the back table, beside the offering box, to collect the monetary donations. You can also donate via Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for the Bobbs when you do so!

★**COMMUNION:** We will be partaking of and celebrating Communion together THIS Sunday, September 4th.