

THE CHARACTERS AND DRAMA OF

1 SAMUEL

[PART 23]

THE SHIPWRECK OF THE GOOD SHIP SAUL

Reading: 1 Samuel 14:1 - 2 & 6 - 10

Introduction

- In [1 Timothy 1:19] Paul warns about those like Hymenaeus and Alexander whose faith had suffered shipwreck.
- When we consider the life of king Saul we see another soul **'shipwrecked.'**
- In [ch 13] the **'Good Ship Saul'** strikes **'the rocks of disobedience.'**
- He is now taking water on board and beginning to sink.

1 Suggested Outline Of Chapter 14

- [Vs 1 - 15] Saul is ignorant/unaware of the battle.
- [Vs 16 - 23] Saul is merely watching the battle.
- [Vs 24 - 45] Saul is hindering the battle.
- [Vs 46] Saul is retreating from the battle.

2 Introduction To Jonathan

- Jonathan was the firstborn of Saul and Ahinoam.
- Brother to Jishui and Malchishua and Merab and Michal.
- He later becomes best friend with David who marries Jonathan's sister, Michal.
- This friendship is a testament to [Proverbs 17:17].
- Jonathan defends David from his father Saul.
- Jonathan acknowledges David will reign over Israel instead of him.
- Jonathan dies with his father and brothers on the battlefield in [1 Samuel 31].

3 Those Pesky PhilistinesAgain

- Jonathan and his armour bearer take the fight to the Philistines. [14:1 - 2].
- Saul is waiting for something to happen while Jonathan goes and makes something happen.
- As Jonathan attacks the Philistine garrison he displays 2 vital qualities.
- Firstly, he displays the quality of **COURAGE**.
- He copies Joshua. [Joshua 1: 6,7,9,18].
- Secondly, he displays great **FAITH**.
- Missionary, Willaim Carey: ***'Expect great things from God and attempt great things for God.'***

4 Saul Was Ignorant Of A battle That Was Going On

- There is a battle that is constantly going on that many believers are unaware of. [See Ephesians 6:12].
- The Christian life is not a playing field, it's a battle field.

5 Saul Was Hesitating And Watching

- When Saul does become aware of the battle, he is hesitant and missed the opportunity to press home the advantage.

6 Saul Hinders The Battle

- By making the soldiers fast when they needed to eat for the battle.
- He makes an appalling decision to have Jonathan killed for breaking the fast.
- The people have to step in and save Jonathan from his father's terrible decisions.
- This is clearly the sign of a man out of fellowship with God.
- Make sure your decisions are made prayerfully and in consultation with godly souls.

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