

Responding in Fear Leads to Disobedience and Death

1 Samuel 13:1-15

A. Context: Fear the LORD and serve Him with all of your heart

1. After Israel defeated the Ammonites with Saul and Samuel's (and therefore the _____) leadership, they gathered together at Gilgal to renew the Saul's kingship. (1 Samuel 11)
2. Samuel uses the gathering to give his "farewell" address and _____ the Israelites that their total trust and devotion must be in the LORD. (1 Samuel 12)

B. Trials provide _____ for our faith to grow. v.1-5

1. While we do not know all of the details, it is clear that Israel was in a big _____ with the Philistines. Israel had no chariots or horsemen; they didn't even have proper _____! (1 Samuel 13:22) Yet, Israel had the LORD. (Deuteronomy 20:1-4)
2. Israel had a choice to make, just as we have a _____ to make when we are faced with trials of any size: Are we going to _____ God and respond in His authority or trust ourselves and live by fear? (James 1:2-3, 1 Peter 4:12-13, 2 Corinthians 12:8-10)

C. How we respond to trials _____ whether our heart is focused on the LORD or on ourselves. v.6-12

1. Because the Israelites were looking to _____ for deliverance, they were paralyzed by fear; because Saul was looking to himself, he was motivated by _____.
2. Just as Saul was driven to _____ through fear, so we often fall prey to sin when we _____ about who God is. (Matthew 28:18-20, Hebrews 13:5-6)
3. Are we trapped by fear and immobilized by _____? The solution is to remind ourselves of the character and power of God and to _____ our attention on Him. (Psalm 56, Isaiah 26:3-4, Matthew 6:25-34, Philippians 4:4-9)

D. Responding to the trials of life in fear _____ to disobedience and death. v.13-15

1. Because he trusted in himself, Saul was motivated by fear; because he acted in fear, he ended up disobeying the command of the LORD and _____ on the blessings of obedience.
2. How are we responding? It is easy to be distracted by the trials of this life because our flesh is always looking out for #1 (ME, MYSELF, and I), but we must remember that _____ follows those who depend on human thinking and ability. (1 Samuel 17, Proverbs 16:25, Matthew 27:27-33)
3. The alternative to responding fear is to walk by _____. (2 Cor. 5:1-10, Heb. 3:12-15, 4:11-16)

#410 It Is Well With My Soul

- A. 1-LORD's, 2-remind, B.-opportunities, 1-jam, weapons, 2-choice, trust, C.-reveals, 1-themselves, fear, 2-disobedience, forget, 3-unbelief, focus, D.-leads, 1-missing out, 2-death, 3-faith