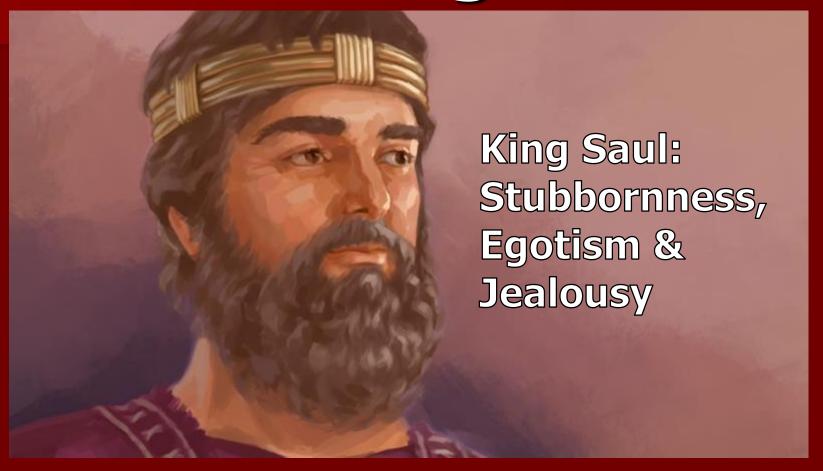
Message



Neal Parker

Lessons From King Saul

Background

- He was chosen by God
- Saul started out very well but, the history of the Bible records that his subsequent disobedient actions derail what could have been a stellar, God-honoring rule over the nation of Israel.
- The name "Saul" means "asked".



Lessons From King Saul

Background

- Saul was the son of Kish from the tribe of Benjamin.
- He was God's chosen one to lead the scattered nation of Israel, a collection of tribes that did not have a central leader other than God and no formal government.
- A consideration of the forty-year career that represents a case study in how <u>not</u> to behave.



Lessons From King Saul

Background

- I Samuel 8:1-9, 19-22
- I Samuel 9:1-2, 15-21, 26-27; 10:1, 6-7, 9-11, 17-24
- The administration of Saul was marked by four major steps in spiritual degeneration that can an outline for us to learn.
 - Romans 15:4



Unauthorized Worship

■ I Samuel 13:1-15

- Recounts the story of an act of presumption by another well-known figure, containing another valuable lesson for us.
- Saul's sin was in presumptuously stepping in to perform Samuel's responsibilities when the prophet arrived later than the appointed time.



Disobedience to Instruction

■ I Samuel 15:1-35

- Saul failed the obedience test.
- "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams" – I Samuel 15:22
- Human wisdom is not a proper exchange for divine revelation.



Obsessed by Jealousy

■ I Samuel 16:1-23

- Now the Spirit of LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from LORD terrorized him"
- Jeremiah 4:10 / II Thessalonians 2:11
- Saul became insane with jealousy.



Consulting the Woman of Endor

- I Samuel 28:1-20
 - Deuteronomy 18:10-11 Attempts to communicate with the dead were prohibited.
 - Apostasy is defined as a total desertion of or departure from one's religion, principles, party, cause, etc.



Application to Life

- Sin is Serious
- Spiritual Decline is Gradual
- Integrity is Essential
- Obedience is the Key
- Spiritual Lives must be Built
- Revelation 3:11 Behold, I come quickly; hold fast which you have, that no man take your crown.