**SAUL’S DISOBEDIENCE**

1 Samuel 13:1-15 (Key verse 13)

*“You acted foolishly,” Samuel said. “You have not kept the command the Lord your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time.*

1. How big was Saul’s first standing army and where were they stationed? (1-2) How did Israel’s military power compare to that of the Philistines? (5) Nevertheless, what did Jonathan do? (3a) But what did Saul want the Israelites to hear? What does this tell us about Saul? (3b-4a)
2. How did the Philistines respond after Jonathan attacked? (5) How critical was Israel’s situation? (6a) How did the Israelites react? (6b-7a) What about Saul’s troops at Gilgal? (7b)
3. Read 1 Samuel 10:8[[1]](#footnote-1). What did God command Saul (through Samuel) to do whenever he was to fight against the Philistines?[[2]](#footnote-2) What did Samuel promise Saul he would **surely** do? What **must** Saul do before any battle with the Philistines? Why do you think God gave this command to Saul? Why was it a very difficult command to keep?
4. Read verse 8.How long did Saul wait for Samuel at Gilgal? What made the already critical situation even worse? How did Saul then take matters into his own hands? (9) When did Samuel arrive? (10) What did Samuel ask Saul (11a) How did Saul reply? (11b-12) How did Samuel rebuke him? (13a)
5. What is the result of Saul’s disobedience? (13b-14a, 12:25) What kind of person did God seek out instead? (14b-15) Here, what do you learn about God and what He values the most in you?

1. “Go down ahead of me to Gilgal. I will surely come down to you to sacrifice burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, but you must wait seven days until I come to you and tell you what you are to do.” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. 1 Samuel 10:8 was an emergency military strategy set up between Saul and Samuel. Samuel gave this instruction to Saul to secure victories in battles against the Philistines. So whenever war broke out, Saul had to notify Samuel and ask him to come and sacrifice burnt offerings and fellowship offerings to the Lord and receive the Lord’s instruction and tell Saul what to do. Saul had to wait 7 days. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)