



<sup>13</sup> When Samuel reached him, Saul said, "The LORD bless you! I have carried out the LORD's instructions."<sup>14</sup> But Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of sheep in my ears? What is this lowing of cattle that I hear?"

<sup>15</sup> Saul answered, "The soldiers brought them from the Amalekites; they spared the best of the sheep and cattle to sacrifice to the LORD your God, but we totally destroyed the rest."

<sup>19</sup> Why did you not obey the LORD? Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the LORD?"

<sup>20</sup> "But I did obey the LORD," Saul said. "I went on the mission the LORD assigned me. I completely destroyed the Amalekites and brought back Agag their king. <sup>21</sup> The soldiers took sheep and cattle from the plunder, the best of what was devoted to God, in order to sacrifice them to the LORD your God at Gilgal."

<sup>22</sup> But Samuel replied: "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. <sup>23</sup> For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king."

Key: Pg. 1: Relational; pg.2: Religious; Affirmation. Pg. 3: Presumption. Disobedience

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# THE STORY

FINDING YOUR STORY IN GOD'S STORY

## Standing Tall, Falling Hard

The Story—part 10

Books of 1 Samuel 1-15

November 13, 2016

**God's upper story. God wants to be with us  
and will pay any price to make it so.**

### 1. Relational Distortions.

1 Samuel 1:6 And because the LORD had closed her (Hannah) womb, her rival (Peninnah) kept provoking her in order to irritate her. <sup>7</sup> This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the LORD, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat.

1 Samuel 1:10 In bitterness of soul Hannah wept much and prayed to the LORD.

<sup>11</sup> And she made a vow, saying, "O LORD Almighty, if you will only look upon your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head."

### 2. Religious Distortions.



*1 Samuel 2:12 Eli's sons were wicked men; they had no regard for the LORD.*

*1 Samuel 2:22 Now Eli, who was very old, heard about everything his sons were doing to all Israel and how they slept with the women who served at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. 23 So he said to them, "Why do you do such things? I hear from all the people about these wicked deeds of yours. 24 No, my sons; it is not a good report that I hear spreading among the LORD's people.*

*25 If a man sins against another man, God may mediate for him; but if a man sins against the LORD, who will intercede for him?" His sons, however, did not listen to their father's rebuke, for it was the LORD's will to put them to death.*

### **3. A \_\_\_\_\_ Distortions.**

*1 Samuel 8:5 They said to him, "You are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have."*

*<sup>7</sup> And the LORD told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. <sup>9</sup> Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will do."*

*<sup>11</sup> ... "This is what the king who will reign over you will do...."*

*<sup>18</sup> When that day comes, you will cry out for relief from the king you have chosen, and the LORD will not answer you in that day."*

*1 Samuel 8:19 But the people refused to listen to Samuel. "No!" they said. "We want a king over us. <sup>20</sup> Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles."*



*1 Samuel 8:22 The LORD answered, "Listen to them and give them a king."*

### **4. P \_\_\_\_\_ Distortion. misrepresentation; rebellion**

*1 Samuel 13:9 So he said, "Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings." And Saul offered up the burnt offering.*

*<sup>10</sup> Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet him.*

*<sup>11</sup> "What have you done?" asked Samuel. Saul replied, "When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Micmash, <sup>12</sup> I thought, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the LORD's favor.' So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering."*

*<sup>13</sup> "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. <sup>14</sup> But now your kingdom will not endure; the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him leader of his people, because you have not kept the LORD's command."*

### **5. D \_\_\_\_\_ Distortions.**

*1 Samuel 15:8 He took Agag king of the Amalekites alive, and all his people he totally destroyed with the sword. <sup>9</sup> But Saul and the army spared Agag and the best of the sheep and cattle, the fat calves and lambs--everything that was good. These they were unwilling to destroy completely, but everything that was despised and weak they totally destroyed.*

*<sup>10</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to Samuel: <sup>11</sup> "I am grieved that I have made Saul king, because he has turned away from me and has not carried out my instructions."*