

1 Samuel Lesson 11 Lessons and Principles

1. As long as the Israelites stayed in their weak, defeated place, the Philistines thought they were great guys. The same is true with us, as long as we don't war against the powers and principalities of darkness, everything is fine they have us under control. However, that is not what we are called to do, "therefore take up the whole armor of God (Ephesian 6:13)" (vv.3-4)
2. When Jonathan attacked the Philistines and word was spread throughout Israel that Saul had attacked, he took credit for it. He needed the praise of men. We must be careful not to have this need – the praise of men. We must strive to please God in all we do and say regardless of how it affects men or women. (vv.3-4)
3. Israel thought that a king was going to solve their problems with their oppressors, but they find out they still need God. It is the same for us, no matter who our president, or governor maybe they cannot solve our problems, we still need the Almighty God in our lives.(vv.5-7)
4. Saul became overanxious and offered the sacrifice himself, even though he was not qualified to do so. Whenever we are involved in the work of God, we must never get ahead of God and jump the gun. We must wait on God's timing. (vv.8-9)
5. When Saul made the sacrifices he knew he had done wrong however he only made excuses for his wrongdoing. We must not make excuses. God is not interested in excuses, only confession and repentance. (vv.10-12)
6. Because Saul continued to reign for another 20-years, we can consider Samuel's pronouncement of judgement on him as an invitation to repentance as David did years later following his great sin with Bathsheba and exposed to David

by the prophet Nathan (2 Sam 12). When we are made aware of and or convicted of our sin, we must confess it and repent before God. (vv.10-12)