

# The King of Many Failures

## (Proverbs 31:28-31)

We are about to find ourselves reading about Saul a lot in our daily Bible reading. Saul was the first king of Israel. He was anointed king during a time when the children of Israel wanted to be like all of the heathen nations around them (1 Samuel 8:4-5). God decided to grant their request and give them Saul to be their king.

Saul was actually very successful in the beginning of his reign. After successfully defeating the Ammonites, the people of God were very excited to have him as king (1 Samuel 11:1-15). Unfortunately, Saul would go on to be a huge disappointment. He would commit one failure after another and eventually be fired by God as king!

Let's consider some of the many failures of Saul.

### I. Where did Saul fail?

- A. Saul failed to **obey God**.
  - 1. He did not obey God's commandments in regard to the Amalekites (1 Samuel 15:1-8).
  - 2. This is the main reason why God fired him! See 1 Samuel 15:10-15, 22-23.
- B. Saul failed to be **humble**.
  - 1. He would have rather killed his son than admit his mistake (1 Samuel 14:39-45).
  - 2. He honored himself instead of God by disobeying Him (1 Samuel 15:12).
  - 3. His lack of humility was at the core of his hatred for David (1 Samuel 18:7).
- C. Saul failed to accept **responsibility**.
  - 1. He had excuses for why he didn't obey God (1 Samuel 13:5-14; 15:15).
  - 2. He never liked to admit his sins!
- D. Saul failed to **trust** God.
  - 1. We see this in 1 Samuel 13:10-11.
  - 2. We see this in 1 Samuel 15:24.
  - 3. We see this in 1 Samuel 17:11.
  - 4. We see this in 1 Samuel 22:6-19.

### II. What can we learn?

- A. We need to always **obey God**.
  - 1. This is why Saul is mentioned in the Bible so much! God wants us to learn from his mistakes (1 Samuel 15:22-23).
  - 2. We will never be able to fully please God if we don't always submit to His will.
- B. Our **excuses** are not going to cut it!
  - 1. God was never sympathetic towards any of Saul's excuses.
  - 2. God will not be sympathetic towards ours either.
- C. We can't be people of **fear**.
  - 1. Saul let this problem always hinder him from obeying the Lord.
  - 2. We have to be different (2 Timothy 1:7).

**Conclusion:** Let's avoid being like **Saul** (Romans 15:4).