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### Daily Bible Notes/Highlights Genesis through Revelation 2014

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#### 1 Samuel

3/17

C1-3

Vss 1-8 A man named Elkanah, Ephraim, two wives, Hannah-Peninah, Hannah did not have children, each year he travelled to Shiloh to worship and sacrifice, he's give portions to Peninah and each child, Hannah only one part without child, Peninah taunted Hannah, Hanna depressed, Elkanah you have me,

Commentary: This is the beginnings of the call for a king for Israel. We see dark humanity at work. One woman who bullies another. Hannah without a child represents emptiness in life. Whereas her nemesis the other wife is fruitful with children. Hannah is depressed because of her circumstances. Isn't it a man to say, don't worry you have me. The man was thinking she should not worry he'll provide. Often men don't understand it is far greater than provisions. The issue for Hannah was her sense of Wholeness.

Vss 9-28 at Shiloh Hannah goes to pray, Hannah in deep anguish, Lord give me a son, I'll give him back to you, Eli accuses her of being drunk, she explains praying in anguish, Eli affirms her, she is encouraged

Commentary: We share about the therapy of Christ-based prayer. Hannah truly calls upon The Lord at the Tabernacle. Eli under the cloud of sin mistakes Hannah as being drunk,

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but she explains. He honors her prayer. She is encouraged by her word. People look to the leader to be an encourager. However, no leader she mistake ministry success as tacit approval by God. He will deal with leadership sin even while he continues to encourage people through sinful leaders.

C-2 Vss 1-36

1-11 The whole family worshipped once more, when Elkanah slept with Hannah he remembered her cry, she named him Samuel-I asked The Lord, she returns to the Tabernacle when he was weened, she presents the boy to Eli, and they worshipped, Hannah sings praises, no Rock like our God, childless woman now has seven, the woman with many wastes away

Commentary: God answers prayer. However, the writer emphasizes that the couple had their part. Extraordinary is that she does not forget her promise to The Lord. How many promise but do not follow-up.

Vss 12-21 the sons of Eli were Scoundrels, they would take the whole sacrifice, the sin very serious before The Lord, Samuel though he was a boy served The Lord, each year Hannah bought a coat for him,

Commentary: Eli's sons were horrific desecrating the sacrifices among other problems. This is often the case where leaders are lost in their greed and dishonor. Meanwhile The Lord is already preparing a replacement. Hannah brings a little coat for her son each year. Our God is do great. She didn't ask for more children, but God blesses exceedingly.

Vss 22-28 Eli was old but aware of his sons conduct, they were seducing women, his sons would not listen, The Lord was planning for their death, Samuel grew in favor with The Lord and people,

Commentary: The indictment. Eli knows about his sons. There are no excuses for leaders. Eli was as guilty as his sons. Speaking to them was not removing them.

Vss 19-26 one day a man of God came to Eli, why so you scorn my sacrifices and offerings, I honor those who honor me and despise them who despise me, no member of your family will ever live out there days, Hophni & Phinehas will die the same day, I will raise up a faithful priest

Commentary: Since Eli honored his sons more than God, the consequences are family-devastation. God does not punish indirectly. His discipline is specifically related to the offense.

C-3 Vss 1-21 Samuel assisted Eli, Samuel was sleeping in the Tabernacle, The Lord called to Samuel three times, Samuel listens, I'm going to carry out all my threats against Israel, Eli asked what did The Lord say to you?, Samuel told Eli everything, Eli replied

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let Him do what he thinks best, Samuel grew up and The Lord was with him.

Commentary: Meanwhile, Samuel learns the priesthood from Eli. No leader or person is ever disciplined without an opportunity to repent. Samuel's first message from a God is to his mentor. Notice Eli does not attempt to repent. He is too old and tired of living.

3/18  
C4-6

C-4 Vss 1-22 Samuel's words went out to all the people, Israel was at war with the Philistines, they attacked and defeated killing 4000 Israelites, elders asked why were we defeated, they send for the Ark, Eli 'a sons were their when the Ark was taken, Israelites shout with Joy at its appearance, Philistines fight with more ferocity, killed 30000, man reports to Eli sons dead and Ark captured, Eli fell backwards and died, Phinehas daughter has a child names him Echabod-where is the glory it's gone

Commentary: The story moves from personal lives of Hannah and Eli to Israel. Israel as a nation has not done what God said concerning the inhabitants. The Philistines become the nemesis perhaps like no other nation. The elders reason they will beat the Philistines if they bring the Ark to the battle-filled. They send for it guided by Eli's sons. The results are predictable. Saying, " I rebuke you Satan" better be accompanied but an obedient life.

C-5 Vss 1-12 Philistines take the Ark into the temple of Dagon, Dagon breaks up in the floor, the Lord's hand against Philistines, the people cried out, the Ark moved to Gath, they sent it to Ekron, they cried out send the Ark back to Israel, deadly plague had already broken out on them,

Commentary: As with Hannah's nemesis brief victories over God's people is not a victory over God. The a Philistines god is crushed and they suffer diseases.

C-6 Vss 1-21 Elders agree to send the Ark back to Israel, and they sent an offering, show honor to the God of Israel, they find virgin cows and hitch a cart to carry the Ark, Philistines watched at the border, people of Beth-Shemesh several men of Levi, 70 man looked inside the Ark and died,

Commentary: Even the heathens know when they are up against God almighty. They return the Ark. Now, an extraordinary illustration on the importance of God's word.

Once the Ark is returned many look into the Ark and lose their lives. Why didn't they know better? The leaders were not teaching the people about God's instructions for living. The other condition is where the people are being taught, but the people will not listen.

What a reality for "Christians" today. Leaders often who will not teach the people, or will

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not provide daily instruction, and people who will not receive when it's available. It's a matter of life and death.

3/19

C7-9

C 7 Vss 1-17 the men of Kariath-Jairim get the Ark, the Ark remained there twenty years, all of Israel mourned, Samuel told them to get rid of the images of Ashteroth, they gather at Mizpah for prayer, Philistines hear about the gathering and prepare to fight, Samuel continues to pray and sacrifice, they arrive to attack but God throws them into confusion with a voice of thunder, Israel chased and slaughtered them, Samuel set a stone between Mizpah and Jeshana called Ebenezer-the stone of help, during Samuel's time The Lord power against Philistines evident.

Commentary: God's Ark is returned to His people. Samuel calls for a revival. Simply because the Ark was returned did not mean all was well. Samuel's call for a revival including a scrubbing of all idols and anything representing them. Some things need to be removed completely from believers' lives.

C8 1-22 Samuel appointed his sons but they were not like their father, they were greedy, accepted bribes, the people desired a king, Samuel was not pleased, The Lord tells Samuel to do as they say, rejecting me, Samuel tells the people all a king demands, the people refused to listen to Samuel,

Commentary: Samuel like Eli has corrupt sons. The people request a king. The Lord tells Samuel to comply. Note, the Law foresaw a period when the people would desire a king instead of a theocracy under God. Leaders should always remember when a people reject principles and precepts of God it is above them as representatives.

C9 1-27 Kish man from the tribe of Benjamin, his son Saul most handsome in Israel, donkeys lost Saul sent to find them, Saul and servant seek man of God to help find donkeys, The Lord told Samuel a man from Benjamin would be on the way, Samuel told him don't worry about donkeys you and your family are the hope of Israel, Saul claims his worthlessness, Samuel honors Saul as a special guest

Commentary: The story turns to the first king of Israel. He's from the least of the tribes. A common human experience, lost donkeys become the tools to discovery. Meanwhile, we have the advantage of seeing the prophet, Samuel, being prepared to meet and anoint Saul. It demonstrates how God brings together multiple personalities through numerous events to accomplish His singular purpose.

3/20

C10-12

C10 1-26 Samuel anointed Saul, gives Saul instructions to return home, donkeys found, he'll meet several men, they'll give you bread, you'll meet prophets and prophesy, the

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Spirit of The Lord will come upon you, Saul prophesied, all Samuel said came true, at Gibeah he prophesies again, when they saw Saul prophesying they said can anyone prophesy, Samuel called all the people at Mizpah and presented Saul who was hiding,

Commentary: Saul anoints Saul and provides instructions for him to follow. No man or woman can pursue ministry without the presence of the Holy Spirit no matter how virtuous. Saul begins to show signs that he was changed! Notice he is not presented to the people until they are able to witness him.

C11 1-15 Ammon marches against Israel Jabesh, they wanted to make a treaty but the king said on the grounds that everyone gouged an eye out, message arrives to Saul in Gibeah, Spirit of Saul on Saul, he becomes angry, sends message for anyone who would not follow him and Samuel to battle, sends message to Jabesh we'll arrive by noon tomorrow, Saul arrived before dawn, destroyed the Ammonites, thereafter people wanted to destroy the scoffers of Saul's coronation, Saul stopped them

Commentary: Now, the new king will demonstrate his value to galvanize and lead people. This is extraordinary considering that God anointed him as a contingency. Although God is rejected He is with Israel. Ultimately, God weaves it all into his plan for the King of kings. Saul calls the people together and they defeat the Ammonites.

Now they are fully convinced that God is with them and their king. They desire to execute the critics. Saul shows restraint. This is an excellent example that some people take time to make a decision and they can be critical. The majority of those who followed Jesus did not truly know him. We need patience with others.

C12 1-25 Samuel addresses all of Israel, allows the people to voice any complaints of him. my hands are clean (See Acts, Paul at Ephesus), Samuel revisits history, do not rebel you and your king must obey, Samuel gives an illustration of God's affirmation thunder and rain, the people feared, God we'll not abandon his own, but if you refuse to obey you and your king will be swept away.

Commentary: Many call this a 360 evaluation. Jesus asked his friends after following Him, their view about Him. There were no accusation of wrong doing against Samuel. People may complain about policy. But the leader should be above accusations of any wrong doing.

Given his clear slate he's able to tell their history and warn them about disobedient conduct. He did not say "do as I say, but not as I do." He did as Paul would tell the Ephesians, "my hands are clean." This clean hands reference came from the requirement for priests to have clean hands when offering sacrifices.

As with the patriarchs before, in his old age he warns the people.

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3/21

C13-15

C13 1-23 Saul 30 when he became king, reigned 40 years, Saul assembles at Micmash, Jonathan wins at Geba, Saul calls for all of Israel, Philistines also have call to arms, The men of Israel in trouble, they waited seven days but Samuel didn't arrive, Saul's troops afraid, he sacrifices a burnt offering, Samuel arrives and repudiates Saul and his excuse, replies Saul's kingdom must end, The Lord has already appointed him

Commentary: Saul's kingdom last for forty years. What we see observe occurs over a forty year period. Saul has been successful. His desire to please where he in-return receives adulation becomes a real problem. His misgiving is thinking that troop numbers is the key to victory as opposed to God being the key.

He violates God's strict orders concerning sacrifices and offerings performed by priests. He has a convenient excuse, his men were afraid.

Vss 15-23 Samuel left, Saul & Jonathan at Geba, Philistine raiding parties hit three towns, there no blacksmiths, no one had a sword or spear except Jonathan

Commentary: An important factor is to remember that Israel didn't have metal weapons. How sad that Israel's condition is dependent on those they were suppose to remove from the country.

C14

1-20 Jonathan heads over to enemy territory, Ahijah the priest a descendant of disgraced Eli among Saul's men, Jonathan continues boldly, says The Lord can win a battle whether he has many or few, he and armour bearer kill several and throw others into panic, also earthquake strikes, Saul also attacks, The Lord gives the victory

Commentary: Amazingly, Jonathan understands that troop numbers is not the key to victory. God operates through weakness and dependence. The greater our dependence the greater our maturity.

21-40 the men were exhausted Saul made a hasty vow that no war before he was victorious, one fellow tells Jonathan about the vow after eating, Jonathan calls the vow ill-conceived, planning to attack again Saul can't get an answer from the Lord, Saul asked to be shown who was guilty, casting lots Saul and Jonathan guilty, Jonathan told what he did,

Commentary: Already showing signs of spiritual decay, Saul makes an unnecessary vow. It's a demonstration among many how leaders adversely affect followers. The decision hampers the ability to move forward.

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41-52 Saul proclaims Jonathan must die, the people rescued him, Saul beat enemies in every direction,

Commentary: The people arise to stop Saul from taking Jonathan's life. This is extraordinary. Rarely do people rise against a monarch concerning policy, but it does happen. What Saul was threatening continues a pattern of degradation.

C15

1-36. The Lord said it's time to settle accounts with the Amalikites for their opposition to Israel fleeing Egypt, destroy everyone and everything, men women and children animals, Saul destroys everyone but the king Agag, they keep the spoils, The Lord tells Samuel He's sad He made Saul, Samuel cried out to The Lord all night, early Samuel seeks out Saul, Saul greets him gladly and reports he has done what God ordered, Samuel tells Saul his fate,

Commentary: Again, Saul fails miserably. It is as if the initial experience was not enough. This event was insurrection against God. Saul did what he desired. Some sins are fatal to our purpose.

Saul explains he is sacrificing the plunder as offerings, Samuel explains obedience is greater than sacrifices, rebellion as witchcraft, stubbornness as idol worship, Samuel returns with Saul and calls for Agag, Agag hopeful all was over, Saul cuts him to pieces, mourns for Saul

Commentary: Saul asked for forgiveness. This is one of the most misrepresented principles of our faith. There are some positions that require holiness and uncompromised trust. There's no recovery to the position if it's violated. Marriages, ministry leadership are two such positions.

There are some lines that cannot be crossed.

3/22

C16-18

C16 1-23

The Lord to Samuel you have mourned long enough over Saul, find a man named Jesse one of his sons will be king, Samuel concerned the Saul will kill him, get an animal to sacrifice and invite Jesse, I'll show you which son to anoint, Samuel thought it was the first son, God responds don't look at appearance, David appeared and is anointed,

Commentary: There's a time to mourn and a time to conclude mourning. It is ironic that Samuel is concerned that Saul will kill him for being involved in rebellion against him given the many warning he has given Saul. God provides cover for Samuel to perform His will. He anoints David who is the opposite of Saul in stature.

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This is an excellent point to remember. Some work is literally on the devils turf requiring maximum protection to succeed. When martyrdom is not required, God provides the protection.

The Spirit of The Lord left Saul, The Lord sent a tormenting spirit, His servants suggest a musician, they call for Jesse to send David, David became his armor bearer, Saul loved David, David would play for Saul and the tormenting spirit would leave

Commentary: What a condition Saul experiences, the Spirit of The Lord leaves him, and a tormenting spirit is administered. His servants recommend music therapy. David is introduced to the throne that would ultimately be his.

C17

1-40 the Philistines and Israel face- off, 9ft Goliath shouts a threat to the armies of Israel and wages to submit if one man can defeat him, for forty days Goliath taunted Israel, David arrives to provide for his brothers, but left the supplies, he heard Goliath's defiant taunts, and was outraged, his brothers didn't like David 's presence, David tell Saul why he can defeat Goliath, Saul agreed,

Commentary: David and Goliath face-off. David is driven by what hears Goliath say, and the love of God in his heart. What appears to be bragging is faith! He is God's man. He is anointed.

41-58 David faces Goliath, declares he will cut his head off, David runs toward him hits him in the head and cuts his head off, they all ran, Abner presents David to Saul with Goliath's head in his hand

Commentary: David armored with faith, runs toward the giant. Some threats we need to face and advance toward to defeat.

C18

1-30 Saul keeps David with him, David meets Jonathan and they become close, Saul made David a commander, the women praised David more than Saul, Saul becomes angry, Saul kept an eye on David concerned they would make him king, tormented Saul attempts to kill David with spear, more David succeeded the more Saul feared

Commentary: David and Jonathan have similar hearts. Envy strikes Saul. What Saul does not realize is that praise for David is a reflection on his appointment of David. This same kind of experience is not unusual in local churches. It would never had been an issue if it were not for Saul's sin.

David earns Saul's oldest daughter , but youngest also in love with him, Saul pleased to enter Michal into his life, Saul sends David on campaigns hoping he'll lose his life, David

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gives 200 foreskins to Saul only needing 100, feared David even more, David was more successful than all other officers

Commentary: Now, Saul plots to destroy David through dangerous assignments. David excels. God's purpose is fulfilled when enemies plot and plan.

3/23

C19-21

19 Vss 1-24 Saul tells Jonathan and servants to put David to death, Jonathan makes a plan with David to discover his father's true intentions, presenting David to Saul again Saul tries to kill David, David flees to Samuel

Commentary: When all else fails Satan no longer attempts to destroy with deceit. Saul tell everyone he wants David dead. It's not clear why Jonathan apparently does not believe that taking David's life is truly his father's intention.

It is not unusual that the last ones to accept a ministry leaders corruption as true are the ministry leader's family members. This is understandable. There is so much joy and esteem in knowing a loved one is a leader. It can cloud evidence of problems and create a sense of denials. David knew Saul was trying to kill him. Jonathan could see it. His dad told him he wanted David dead, but Jonathan was in denial.

C20 Vss 1-20 fleeing for his life David informs Jonathan that his father is attempting to kill him. Jonathan does not believe David, they create another plan but this time David will absent from the kings table, they also agree with a covenant

Commentary: Fortunately, Jonathan had enough love for David to be willing to test his father. Jonathan has an attribute every believer needs. We are accountable to each other. We all need to be forthright if or when something is shared about us that could be damaging. Jonathan creates an opportunity to discuss David with his father. Recall this has happened before. However, Saul's intentions are known. Jonathan is the one in denial and needs to discover the truth himself .

Whenever anyone is in a similar circumstance who has heard something very damaging about another, it is not a time to say it 's not my business. It became your business when it came to your attention. If you have access to this person. a word to the alleged offender that you have become informed about "talk" provides an opportunity for this person to clear the air with a public statement or to repent.

21-42. Two days David was missing from the king's table, on the second day Saul asked about him and Jonathan told his father about David's excused absence, Saul was outraged, Saul attempted to spear Jonathan, Jonathan knew that David's view was correct, he returned to the field and shot arrows reflecting that David needed to flee, they greet each other and cried, but David even more

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Commentary: Finally, Jonathan moves beyond denial. Every person who wants to know truth about any circumstance can find the truth. First be in prayer. Next be patient. Evil will come to light. By the way, ignoring life-sin and corruption in another believer is a very bad approach and leads to the most devastating results.

C21 1-15 David flees and meets the priest, he lies to the priest about why is alone, he eats the bread and is provided Goliath's sword, the Edomite head shepherd of Saul's sheep (Doeg) see him with the priest. David flees to Gath and acts like a madman. The king received him but leaders don't trust him

Commentary: David fleeing for his life runs to the priests. David is in survival mode. The priest knows something is awry. He lies to the priest to get bread and a sword. Doeg a Satanic imp is there to see enough. Recall the Edomites are descendants of Esau.

David continues to Gath where Israel's enemies are stationed. Can there be times when refuge is in the enemy's camp? Apparently so!

3/24

C22-24

C22 Vss 1-23

David escaped to Cave at Adullam, David hid his parents in Moab, David returns to Judah, word arrives to Saul that he is there, Saul accuses his men of conspiring with David, Doeg tells Saul about David's meeting with the Abimelech the priest, Saul's calls for the death of the priests. His men refuse. Doeg slays all of them, one son escaped and tells David

Commentary: It is an interesting truth that someone is always telling David's whereabouts to a corrupt queen. They're are always persons desiring the leaders favor. David's lie leads to the death of the priests. There are consequences for sin. There are no waivers for the anointed. The whole priestly order is slain. The Israelite troops would not do it. Doeg a descendant of Esau gladly slays the priests. Saul is the origin. Saul is the culprit.

C23 1-29 Philistines a Keilah attacking, The Lord tells David to attack them, Saul learns David is there, takes his men there, leaders of Keilah betray David, God tells him in advanced, David and his men leave and hide, Jonathan finds David and recommits his vow, David goes further into the wilderness,

Commentary: David operates as a hero and savior for Keilah, but he is not foolish. He takes the Ephod and God reveals they will betray him. This is a specific foreshadowing of Jesus who would give all, but be betrayed by all.

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C24 1-24 Saul chases David after battle with Philistines, Saul relieving himself in the same cave where David hid, David could take his life but cut a piece of his garment. When Saul departed later David calls out to him and lets him know that he could have taken his life but that he never would do it. Saul is remorseful, and asks David to spare his family when he becomes king

Commentary: A series of opportunities to take Saul's life are offered to David. David's restraint is often held high by clergy who attempt to avoid disciplinary action for reprehensible conduct. Clergy members are not monarchs, and Paul makes provisions for disciplining clergy leaders. Saul's conduct and others are not tolerated in the Church Age.

3/25

C25-27

C 25 1-44

Samuel died. Nabal crude, Abigail sensible beautiful, David sends men to request support, Nabal insults the men and David, David prepares to take his life. Abigail intercedes and provides food, David relents, Abigail takes her husband about David's intention he dies, she goes to David, David marries her

Commentary: The classic illustration of a fool happens in this experience. The fact that some attain wealth with no relationship to anything of virtue is clear in this experience. To insult a warrior who has no problem slaying people is the highest form of foolishness. Interestingly, the servants know their leader is a fool and where the sense is located. They tell his wife. She intercedes for her family and shows extraordinary wisdom. Returning to tell her husband the fool is drunk. She doesn't tell him in his drunken stupor. She tells him the next day and he dies out of fear.

C26 1-25 Saul informants tell David's whereabouts, Saul takes 3000 men to Ziph, David slips over to Saul's camp, David took Saul's spear and water jug, David yells to Abner and reveals again that he could have killed God's anointed using the spear and water jug as evidence, again Saul admits his wrong and begs David to return.

Commentary: Again, David attempts to demonstrate that he intends no harm for Saul. While Saul is paranoid, David proves to Saul's men he intends David no harm. Saul speaks in conciliatory tones, but in his state his signs of repentance cannot be trusted. He is suffering Acute Pneumatosis Depression

C27 1-12 David hides in Gath believing that eventually Saul would get him, his men and families settle there, Achish the king gives him Ziklag. David attacks the Philistine towns, Achish thought David made himself hated in Israel.

Commentary: David seeks refuge with the enemy again. He's the anointed king of Israel,

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but it doesn't look like it. But he is loyal. He continues to fight the enemy though incognito.

3/26

C28-30

C28 1-24

Philistines prepare to battle against Israel, Samuel has died, Saul seeks a medium who is shocked when Saul is revealed and Samuel comes forth, Samuel is not pleased being sought by Saul, informs Saul that he and sons will be with him the next day

Commentary: Saul's paranoia finally reaches the apex where he violates his own law and calls for a medium. She apparently is over her head even as a medium. She fears for her life when she recognizes Saul as the impostor. He promises she will not die.

Sammuel is disturbed and does not have good news for Samuel. As evil as Saul has operated he knows he's in trouble spiritually. Once Samuel dies, Saul knows his end is near. Interesting that Samuel tells him that he and his sons would be with him.

We cannot read too much into this concerning Saul's eternity. Speculatively, Saul was God's anointed. He lost his position and he was in a poor place spiritually, but compared to kings who would completely turned the nation against God, Saul was not guilty of polluting the land.

C29 1-11 Philistines prepare for war, commanders disagree with Achish about David, Achish informs David he must depart, he is not trusted by Commanders

Commentary: David's experience demonstrates that persons true sentiments will come forth when the pressure is greatest. The Philistine commanders wanted nothing to do with David. They demonstrated their wisdom. However, they also performed the will of God and take the lives of Saul and his son.

We may struggle with God using his enemies to correct his own people, but it is a consistent pattern.

C30 1-31 while away Ziklag was attacked by Amalikites. Everything was taken, David 's men were distraught, David seeks the Ephod from the priest to determine whether to follow the Amalekites, his men are ready to kill him, they chase and destroy the Amalekites and return everything and everyone, some of his men don't want to share spoils with the men Who could not fight

Commentary: Following The Lord is filled with major challenges. David and his men discover their camp and families have been ransacked by the Amalekites. David has to seek God's guidance. Understandably, the men were ready to kill David. It is wisdom to give them hope and to call them to action.

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## C31-2 Samuel 1-2

### C31 Vss 1-13

Philistines attack Israel. All three of Saul's sons killed, Saul's head is cut off and his body along with his sons are hung on a wall, Israel troops retrieve the bodies and bury them.

Commentary: Israel is crushed. Saul is wounded and ask for one if his warriors to kill him, but he wouldn't do it. His sons am were already killed. Saul ends his life. It is completely devastating. He and his sons bodies are hung for all to see. Satan attempts to get the maximum return on whatever he does.

### C-1

#### Vss 1-27

David informed about Saul and his sons being killed, the Amalekites messenger in accurately informs David that he took Saul's life, the men all go into mourning. David has the young man killed who admitted he killed Saul

Commentary: We mentioned previously there is always persons seeking favor. This is an excellent example of the effort backfiring. What the young fellow thought would be pleasing was the opposite.

His lie and misplaced ambition cost his life. It's also an excellent example of not understanding faith.

### C-2 Vss 1-32

David made king of Judah and moves into Hebron, but Abner makes Saul's son Ishbosheth Saul's son king of part of Israel, Abner and Joab forces face each other, Abner forces looses and he flees, Ashael chases Abner, Abner kills him, Joab continues chase. Abner calls to stop the chase, Joab and Abner forces retreat

Commentary: Given Saul's death Abner seeks to maintain his power. He lifts Saul's son as king. He could have made himself king, but like wayward deacons or a church council who want power but not the responsibility he sets-up Saul's son.

This represents another hurdle preventing David from having the whole nation.

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