**A Man After God’s Own Heart**

*1 Samuel 13:14*

**Introduction**

1. In **1 Samuel 13**, in only the 2nd year of his 40 year reign, Saul, son of Kish, committed an unlawful act in rebellion to God’s express commands**. (cf. 1 Samuel 13:5-14)**
2. God told him his kingdom would not continue, but that He had ***“sought for Himself a man after His own heart”*** to be commander over Israel.
3. In **1 Samuel 15**, Saul is recorded as committing another sin in rebellion to God’s express commands, and was further, and more adamantly rejected by God.
4. The man after God’s own heart which God said He would make king is revealed as David when he was anointed by God in **chapter 16 of 1 Samuel**.
5. David is a great example for us to learn from and follow – **what does it mean that he was a man after God’s own heart?**
6. **Does this describe us?**
7. Why did God reject Saul?
8. He Acted A Fool **(v. 13a)**
   1. **(vv. 8-9)** – Samuel did not come as he said, so Saul thought of what to do.
   2. His thinking did not consist in wisdom – he was not circumspect, and was not thinking about the bigger picture.
   3. **He thought within himself** – **cf. Jeremiah 10:23** – instead of relying upon the Lord.
9. He Disobeyed God **(v. 13b)**
   1. **(v. 8)** – There was a time set by Samuel – Samuel was a prophet/judge – the time was set by God.
   2. When the 7 days were up, Saul went ahead and offered the sacrifice to God – he did not do as he was instructed.
   3. **This, as it was with many people, and in many ways, was a test given by God to prove his faithfulness to God – HE FAILED.**
10. He Did Not Trust In God **(v. 13c)**
    1. God had promised to establish Saul’s throne forever if he but obeyed God.
    2. **(vv. 11-12)** – He offered up the unlawful sacrifice because he was worried the Philistines would prevail against him.
    3. **His disobedience showed that he did not trust in God’s promise to sustain him as king over Israel forever.**
    4. **Had he obeyed, he would have displayed his trust in God to deliver him, and would not have lost his throne.**
11. ***The opposite of Saul’s character is true for David, who is described by God as a man after His own heart. 🡪***
12. Why did God choose David? How was he a man after God’s own heart?
13. He Sought God’s Wisdom
    1. **Psalm 51:6** – In his seeking forgiveness after sin with Bathsheba, and against Uriah, and ultimately God.
       1. **Firstly, WHAT DOES GOD DESIRE?** – ***“For I desire mercy and not sacrifice, and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings” (Hosea 6:6).***
       2. **Secondly, FROM WHOM IS TRUE WISDOM RECEIVED?** – ***“YOU will make me to know wisdom.”***
    2. **James 3:13-18** – Contrast of wisdom – two kinds, earthly, and from above.
    3. **1 Corinthians 2:6-7, 11** – Wisdom from above is God’s wisdom.
       1. This wisdom is superior wisdom – ***“Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?” (1:20b)***.
       2. Only GIVEN by God – It only comes from Him.
       3. **This wisdom must be sought 🡪**
    4. **Proverbs 1:7; 2:1-9** – Starts with the fear of the Lord, and as character progresses in the fear of the Lord, and His will is sought, wisdom is attained.
       1. The attaining of this wisdom requires diligence.
       2. **Before diligent seeking, however, comes intense desire! – DO YOU WANT TO BE AS WISE AS GOD, OR SIMPLY AS WISE AS THE WORLD.**
    5. ***“Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is” (Ephesians 5:17).***
14. He Obeyed God’s Commands
    1. **Acts 13:20-22** – Paul recounting Israel’s history in a sermon at the synagogue in Antioch.
       1. **1 Samuel 13:14** is quoted by Paul in reference to David.
       2. ***“who will do all My will”*** – added as an explanation for the description of David.
       3. **NOTE: not some, but ALL.**
    2. **A man after God’s one heart is accurately described as one who loves God – cf. John 14:15** – Loving God and obeying Him are inseparable!
    3. **1 Samuel 15:22** – Samuel’s response to Saul’s disobedience – GOD JUST WANTS YOU TO OBEY HIM IN SINCERITY. (This, David understood.)
    4. **James 1:19-25** – This is a description of what God requires of His people.
       1. **(vv. 19-20)** – Be quiet, listen to God, and don’t get angry about His commands.
       2. **(v. 21)** – Put aside your sin, and humbly receive God’s word.
       3. **(vv. 22-25)** – Do not neglect the doing of God’s word. To hear and not do is vain, but to hear and do is to be blessed.
    5. **David understood the importance of obeying God’s commands without question, in any circumstance.**
15. He Trusted in God With All His Heart
    1. **1 Samuel 17:34-37, 45-47** – These are the words of David when going to meet the great champion of the Philistines, Goliath.
       1. NOTE: the attitude of the rest of Israel – ***“they were dismayed and greatly afraid.” (v. 11).***
       2. NOTE: the attitude of David – ***“For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?” (v. 26b)***
          1. **Uncircumcised** – does not have God on his side.
          2. **Defy armies of *“living God”*** – Philistines served dumb idols; the God on the side of the Israelites was LIVING and REAL.
       3. This led to David’s confident words, and victory over Goliath
       4. **UNLIKE SAUL, DAVID KNEW GOD WOULD DELIVER, AND SUSTAIN HIM.**
    2. **Proverbs 3:5-6** – If we trust in God, He will direct us in the best way.
       1. NOTE: Does not mean what most use it to mean – this has a spiritual connotation to it.
       2. **This regards doing God’s will, and submitting to His wisdom, and TRUSTING THAT SUCH IS BEST FOR YOU IN THE LONG RUN.**
    3. **1 Samuel 24:6; 26:9-11a** – Before David became king, Saul sought to destroy him out of jealousy. Twice David had the opportunity to kill Saul, but instead of taking matters into his own hands, he trusted in God.
       1. David knew God had anointed him king.
       2. **However, instead of trying to control the situation himself, DAVID TRUSTED IN THE LORD!**
    4. ***“Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday” (Psalm 37:5-6 – A Psalm of David).***
    5. **2 Timothy 1:12** – Paul committed his life in service to God in spite of the persecution and suffering he would have to endure. **He did this because HE TRUSTED IN GOD FOR SALVATION.**

**Conclusion**

1. David was described as a man after God’s own heart.
2. We, too, can be a man after God’s own heart. In fact, GOD CALLS US TO THIS!
3. **Are you a man after God’s own heart?**