

## E2E Lesson 60a

### 1 Samuel 13

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1. Saul's first action as king was to create a permanent army to drive the Philistines from Geba.
2. Saul calculated that an attack on the Philistines would create a crisis that would rally Israel to war. However, Saul underestimated the Philistines, and his army was overwhelmed.
3. God commanded Saul to wait before acting. God has clear standards and how someone responds to His word reveals what they believe about Him.
4. Saul partially obeyed God by waiting to attack. However, he disobeyed by not waiting for Samuel to offer a sacrifice.
5. Instead of admitting his mistake, Saul attempted to justify it by shifting blame and claiming he was forced to offer the sacrifice to gain the Lord's favor.
6. Despite witnessing God's guidance in the past and hearing His word through Samuel, Saul disobeyed God and faced two consequences:
  - a. The Lord ended any prospect of a future dynasty.
  - b. God appointed another man, David, to replace him.
7. Obeying God should take precedence in all we do. Disobedience is the same as rebelling against Him.
8. How we approach God is as important as what we approach Him with.
9. Like Saul, we can be tempted to reinterpret God's word to control our circumstances.
10. There is no small sin to God. Regardless of our justification, all sin is disobedience to God and requires His forgiveness.

## GREEK & HEBREW WORDS

**Ba'ash** (baw-ash´): to smell bad; to be offensive morally :— abhorred (loathsome, odious), stink [x utterly]

**Mitsvah** (mits-vaw´): a command, (collectively, the Law)

## QUOTES

“...an unwarranted dependence on a ritual.” - Charles Simeon, 1836

“...whatsoever God has enjoined, that must we do, even though, for our obedience to him, we were to be cast the next hour into a fiery furnace, or a den of lions. I pray you settle this in your minds as an invariable principle -that nothing under Heaven can justify us in violating a divine command.” - Charles Simeon, 1836

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What stood out to you from 1 Samuel 13 - perhaps positively or surprisingly?

What bothered you about this chapter? Why?

Mark referenced 2 Chronicles 16:9 and Hosea 6:6 as he showed how important loyalty is to God. How would you define Loyalty? In what way(s) have you experienced loyalty in your life?

It has been said that loyalty is not a word, it's a lifestyle. What does it look like to be loyal to God in our lives today?

What additional insights can also be drawn from:

1. Samuel 13?
2. Jesus' teaching and example (see Luke 14:26-27,33; John 8:29, 14:15)
3. God's own example of his loyalty to us (Deuteronomy 7:9; Romans 8:35-39)

Among other things loyalty is connected to trust. We are called and expected to be loyal to God not only because he is sovereign but because he is trustworthy - he is worthy of our loyalty. How do you think we can develop our loyalty to God?

Saul used several excuses to justify his disobedience to Yahweh. What are some real-world examples of excuses we can tend to use when we don't want to obey God's commands?

Verse 14 hints at the reality that eventually Saul would be replaced by David as king of Israel. While David is described here (and in Acts 13:22) by God as being “a man after his own heart”, he was certainly no more sinless than Saul. What do you think it means to be a person after God's own heart?

Do you think we can grow to be more like that? How?

## TODAY'S WORSHIP

How Great Thou Art  
Open Up the Heavens  
House Of the Lord  
Our God