

Against All Odds: How God's Kingdom Triumphs through Humble Heroes – Week 14
Carrying Out the Commands of God

1 Samuel 15:1-35

Main Idea: Obedience is important. Jesus said that obedience is a mark of our love for him. In this story we discover the disobedience cost Saul his kingdom. And in the same way disobedience will cost us some of the kingdom blessings that are promised to us in God's word.

- 1. COMMAND – Saul receives a very difficult order from God.**
1 Samuel 15:1-3
 - A. God's command is very strong: "Be my instrument of judgment against the Amalekites." 15:1-3
 - B. God's command has raised a lot of difficult questions.
 - C. God's command has direct application to us.

- 2. COMPROMISE – Saul refuses to carry out God's command; instead he selectively obeys.** *1 Samuel 15:4-9; 10-21*
 - A. The good news: Saul goes into battle against the forces of Amalek. 15:4-7
 - B. The bad news: Saul refuses to obey God after the battle. 15:8-9
 - C. The really bad news: Saul rationalizes his disobedience.

- 3. CONSEQUENCE – Saul's disobedience provides us with five lessons about obedience.**
 - A. First lesson: Disobedience always brings unpredictable consequences. 15:28
 - B. Second lesson: Disobedience has underlying reasons we should uncover. 15:24-29; 30-31
 - C. Third lesson: Disobedience grieves God and the people who love Him. 15:11-35
 - D. Fourth lesson: Disobedience always puts someone else in a difficult position. 15:32-33
 - E. Fifth lesson: Heartfelt obedience is better than religious ritual. 15:22-23a