

# HISTORY

## IN 1 & 2 SAMUEL

1 Samuel 8-15

PROPHET    PRIEST    KING

### Less Than God's Best

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### Less Than God's Best

1 Samuel 8:6-7

*6* When they said, "Give us a king to judge us," Samuel considered their demand wrong, so he prayed to the LORD. *7* But the LORD told him, "Listen to the people and everything they say to you. They have not rejected you; they have rejected me as their king."



1 Samuel 8:19-20

*19* The people refused to listen to Samuel. "No!" they said. "We must have a king over us. *20* Then we'll be like all the other nations: our king will judge us, go out before us, and fight our battles."



HISTORY: IN 1&2 SAMUEL

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### Less Than God's Best

#### Great Potential

Physical Strength

1 Samuel 9:2

*He had a son named Saul, an impressive young man. There was no one more impressive among the Israelites than he. He stood a head taller than anyone else.*



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### Less Than God's Best

#### Great Potential

Humility

1 Samuel 9:21

*Saul responded, "Am I not a Benjaminite from the smallest of Israel's tribes and isn't my clan the least important of all the clans of the Benjaminite tribe? So why have you said something like this to me?"*

James 4:6  
God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.



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### Less Than God's Best

#### Great Potential

Spiritual Power

1 Samuel 10:6

*The Spirit of the LORD will come powerfully on you, you will prophesy with them, and you will be transformed.*

1 Samuel 10:9-10

*9* When Saul turned to leave Samuel, God changed his heart, and all the signs came about that day. *10* When Saul and his servant arrived at Gibeah, a group of prophets met him. Then the Spirit of God came powerfully on him, and he prophesied along with them.

## SPIRITUAL POWER

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### Less Than God's Best

#### Spiritual Failure

The Sin of Impatience

1 Samuel 13




HISTORY: IN 1&2 SAMUEL

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**Less Than God's Best**  
**Spiritual Failure**  
 The Sin of Arrogance  
 1 Samuel 14

**Don't take credit for other people's work.**

HISTORY: IN 1&2 SAMUEL

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**Less Than God's Best**  
**Spiritual Failure**  
 The Sin of Disobedience  
 1 Samuel 15:2-3

<sup>2</sup>This is what the LORD of Armies says: 'I witnessed what the Amalekites did to the Israelites when they opposed them along the way as they were coming out of Egypt. <sup>3</sup>Now go and attack the Amalekites and completely destroy everything they have. Do not spare them. Kill men and women, infants and nursing babies, oxen and sheep, camels and donkeys.'

**A Picture of Your Flesh** Galatians 5:24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have **crucified the flesh** with its passions and desires.

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**Less Than God's Best**  
**Spiritual Failure**  
 The Sin of Disobedience  
 1 Samuel 15:22-23

<sup>22</sup>Then Samuel said: Does the LORD take pleasure in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? **Look: to obey is better than sacrifice, to pay attention is better than the fat of rams.** <sup>23</sup>For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and defiance is like wickedness and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king.

**TOTAL OBEDIENCE**

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**Less Than God's Best**  
**Tragic Ending**  
 He Consulted a Medium  
 1 Samuel 28:5-8

<sup>5</sup>When Saul saw the Philistine camp, he was afraid and his heart pounded. <sup>6</sup>He inquired of the LORD, but the LORD did not answer him in dreams or by the Urim or by the prophets. <sup>7</sup>Saul then said to his servants, "Find me a woman who is a medium, so I can go and consult her." His servants replied, "There is a woman at En-dor who is a medium." <sup>8</sup>Saul disguised himself by putting on different clothes and set out with two of his men. They came to the woman at night, and Saul said, "Consult a spirit for me. Bring up for me the one I tell you."

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**Less Than God's Best**  
**Tragic Ending**  
 He Falls On His Sword  
 1 Samuel 31

**King Jesus Is the Opposite of King Saul:**  
 Fully Obedient to the Father  
 Walked in Humility and Servant Leadership  
 He Rules With Justice, Mercy, and Truth  
 Did Not Fail Under Pressure, But Remained Faithful

HISTORY: IN 1&2 SAMUEL

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**Less Than God's Best**  
**Lessons Learned From the Life of Saul**

Little Sins Lead to Big Sins  
 Natural Ability Is Worthless Without God's Power  
 God Requires Total Obedience

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