

# Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1210

April 8, 2018

I Samuel 15:24, “*And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the LORD, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.*”

It’s common for people to be concerned what other people think. This is especially true among young people in school. They care very much what their friends and classmates think. They care so much this influences their clothing, what technology they use, and even their choice of words and morals.

Saul had been chosen by the LORD to be king, but he cared more what the people thought of him than what the LORD thought. We see this at multiple stages during his reign as king.

In I Samuel 13:8 Saul had waited for Samuel to come and offer the burnt offering. Saul was not a priest and could not do this. He waited seven days for Samuel and then decided to do it himself, though it was a sin. When Samuel came and asked Saul why he had done this, he said he “forced” himself. He knew it was wrong, but went ahead and offered the burnt offering though he was not authorized to do so.

When asked about what he had done, Saul responded in I Samuel 13:12, “*Because I saw that the people were scattered from me.*” Because of people, he let himself sin. He actually did the opposite of what he wanted to do. He wanted to keep the people close to him, but because of this sin, the LORD was going to remove the kingdom from him.

Saul is told in I Samuel 13:14, “*But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.*” Because he was concerned about others, he lost the kingdom. It was going to be given to David.

As David grew in popularity with his military powers, the women would play and say that Saul had slain his thousands but David his ten thousands. I Samuel 18:7-8, “<sup>7</sup>*And the women answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.* <sup>8</sup>*And Saul was very wroth, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but thousands: and what can he have more but the kingdom?”*

He was very jealous of David and it bothered him what the women said. Because of this we are told in the next verse, “*And Saul eyed David from that day and forward.*” From this point on he focused on trying to kill David. He was influenced for evil because of what others thought.

In I Samuel 15:3 the LORD told Saul to go and utterly destroy Amalek. He was not to spare anyone or anything. In verse 9 we are told that Saul spared the king and kept the best of the livestock.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

# News

—Continue to remember **Jewell Watkins, Jean Coffey, Alice Thrasher, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry and Shirley Parson.** Ruby Edwards is in Arkansas. She plans on being there two to three weeks to help care for her mother, **Wanda Bozarth**, who recently had a stroke. She is doing well and recovering.

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When confronted by Samuel why he had done this, Saul at first said he had obeyed the voice of the LORD, but the people spared the things left alive. Saul finally says in I Samuel 15:25, “. . . *I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.*” Once again Saul let what the people thought sway him from obeying the LORD. He even says he obeyed the people’s voice.

There are others in the Bible who let their fear of the people sway them. Pilate was determined to let Jesus go, but he let the people sway him and turn Jesus over to them to be crucified. He even said he found no fault in Jesus. In John 19:7-8, Pilate had fear, but he let his fear of the people override his fear of God. <sup>7</sup>*The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.* <sup>8</sup>*When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid.*”

Luke 22:2 says, “*And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people.*” The religious leaders of the people had more fear of the people than they had fear and reverence for the LORD.

How often people today “obey” the voice of others by being influenced of them in such a way that keeps them from obeying the voice of the LORD.

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Sunday, April 1, 2018		
Classes	15	II Timothy 2:19-26
Preaching	26	John 5:1-18
Contribution	\$748.00	
Evening	13	Singing
Wednesday, April 4, 2018		
Classes	18	Revelation 12:1-17

Visitors—  
 Apr 1 (AM) Wayne & Jeanine Raresloot (Highland, Indiana)  
 Apr 4 (Wed) Ethan McDowell (Cub Run, KY); Clay Glass (Hiseville, KY)

## Bible Quiz

The woman John saw in Heaven had a crown of what?

Last Week’s Answer— The little book (Revelation 10:10)

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People are influenced by friends, family, and certainly media such as movies and music. They are greatly influenced by what popular thought is even if it is against the word of God. No wonder in the list of the lost in Revelation 21:8 “fearful” is mentioned first. We are to fear God and reverence Him, but the fearful who will be lost are those who fear the people and what they think. They follow their influence instead of following the LORD.

—Marty Edwards❖

## —God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)