

## **14 – THE DEATH OF SAUL (1 SAMUEL 29:1-31:13; 1 CHRONICLES 10:1-14)**

### I. David's Quandary (1 Samuel 29:1-11)

#### A. David's Presence Questioned (29:1-5)

- The armies of the Philistines marched before their lords by the hundreds and the thousands.
- David and his men marched with Achish at the rear of his troops.
- The Lords of the Philistines questioned why these Hebrews were present with them.
- Achish defended David and his men, but the other lords demanded that David leave.
- They feared that David would turn on them in the heat of battle as they remembered the song.

#### B. David Released from Fighting (29:6-11)

- Achish acknowledged that David had been an honorable servant since he came to him.
- But, he released David from his obligation to fight because the lords demanded it.
- David protested the decision, but Achish told him to depart with his men in the morning.

### II. The Crisis at Ziklag (1 Samuel 30:1-31)

#### A. Ziklag Burned (30:1-6)

- When David and his men returned to Ziklag, they found the city had been attacked.
- The Amalekites had attacked and burned Ziklag, taking everyone prisoner.
- David and his men wept aloud and some spoke of stoning David.
- David strengthened himself in the Lord his God.

#### B. David Seeks the Lord (30:7-8)

- David asked Abiathar, the late High Priest's son, to bring the ephod to him.
- David asked the Lord if he should go after the Amalekites.
- The Lord told David to pursue them and that all will be saved.

#### C. David Pursues (30:9-15)

- David pursued the Amalekites with his 600 men.

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- When they came to the Brook Besor, 200 men stayed behind because they were weary.
- They found an Egyptian and had him take David to the camp of the Amalekites.

## D. David Rescues All (30:16-20)

- They found the Amalekites celebrating and attacked them until the next day.
- They recovered everyone and the goods and animals that had been taken.
- David also claimed the spoil belonging to Amalekites.

## E. A New Ordinance (30:21-25)

- When they came to the 200 men left behind, some wicked men wouldn't share the spoil.
- David objected to their suggestion and established a new ordinance.
- Those who stayed with the supplies will share in the spoil with those who fought.

## F. Gifts for Southern Judah (30:26-31)

- David sent gifts of the spoil to the elders throughout southern Judah.

## III. The Death of Saul and His Sons (1 Samuel 31:1-13; 1 Chronicles 10:1-14)

### A. Israel's Defeat (1 Samuel 31:1, 1 Chronicles 10:1)

- Israel fled before the Philistine attack and many died on Mount Gilboa.

### B. Saul Dies (1 Samuel 31:2-6; 1 Chronicles 10:2-6)

- The Philistines pursued Saul and his sons in battle and they killed the sons.
- Saul was severely wounded by archers and asked his armorbearer to kill him.
- The armor bearer was afraid and refused, so Saul fell on his own sword.
- When the armorbearer saw that Saul was dead, he fell on his own sword as well.

### C. The Aftermath (1 Samuel 31:7-10; 1 Chronicles 10:7-10)

- When the Israelites saw the defeat of Israel and Saul's death, they fled their cities.
- The Philistines took the bodies of Saul and his sons fastened them to a wall in their city.

### D. The Men of Jabesh Gilead (1 Samuel 31:11-13; 1 Chronicles 10:11-12)

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- The men of Jabesh Gilead heard what the Philistines did to Saul and his sons.
- They traveled through the night to get the bodies and bring them back to Jabesh Gilead.
- They burned the bodies and buried their bones under a tamarisk tree.

### E. The Chronicler's Statement (1 Chronicles 10:13-14)

- The Chronicler notes that Saul died for his unfaithfulness which he committed against the Lord.
- Saul did not keep the word of the Lord and had consulted a medium for guidance.
- The Chronicler states that the Lord killed him and gave his kingdom to David.