



Part 7

Called to Face the Darkness Within You

1 Samuel 15:10

Then the Lord said to Samuel,

1 Samuel 15:11

**“I am sorry that I ever made Saul king,
for he has not been loyal to me and
has refused to obey my command.”**

**Samuel was so deeply moved when
he heard this that he cried out
to the Lord all night.**

1 Samuel 15:12

Early the next morning Samuel went to find Saul. Someone told him, “Saul went to the town of Carmel to set up a monument to himself; then he went on to Gilgal.”

1 Samuel 15:13

When Samuel finally found him, Saul greeted him cheerfully. “May the Lord bless you,” he said. “I have carried out the Lord’s command!”

1 Samuel 15:14

“Then what is all the bleating of sheep and goats and the lowing of cattle I hear?” Samuel demanded.

1 Samuel 15:15

“It’s true that the army spared the best of the sheep, goats, and cattle,” Saul admitted. “But they are going to sacrifice them to the Lord your God. We have destroyed everything else.”

1 Samuel 15:16

Then Samuel said to Saul,
“Stop! Listen to what the Lord
told me last night!”

“What did he tell you?” Saul asked.

1 Samuel 15:17

And Samuel told him, “Although you may think little of yourself, are you not the leader of the tribes of Israel?

The Lord has anointed you
king of Israel.

1 Samuel 15:18

And the Lord sent you on a mission
and told you, 'Go and completely
destroy the sinners, the Amalekites,
until they are all dead.'

1 Samuel 15:19

Why haven't you obeyed the Lord?
Why did you rush for the plunder and
do what was evil in the Lord's sight?"

1 Samuel 15:20

“But I did obey the Lord,” Saul insisted. “I carried out the mission he gave me. I brought back King Agag, but I destroyed everyone else.

1 Samuel 15:21

Then my troops brought in the best
of the sheep, goats, cattle, and
plunder to sacrifice to the Lord
your God in Gilgal.”

1 Samuel 15:22

But Samuel replied, “What is more pleasing to the Lord: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.

1 Samuel 15:23

Rebellion is as sinful as witchcraft,
and stubbornness as bad as
worshiping idols. So because you
have rejected the command of the
Lord, he has rejected you as king.”

1 Samuel 15:24

Then Saul admitted to Samuel, “Yes, I have sinned. I have disobeyed your instructions and the Lord’s command, for I was afraid of the people and did what they demanded.

1 Samuel 15:25

But now, please forgive my sin and
come back with me so that I may
worship the Lord.”

1 Samuel 15:26

But Samuel replied, “I will not go back with you! Since you have rejected the Lord’s command, he has rejected you as king of Israel.”

1 Samuel 15:27

As Samuel turned to go, Saul tried to hold him back and tore the hem of his robe.

1 Samuel 15:28

And Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to someone else—one who is better than you.

1 Samuel 15:29

And he who is the Glory of Israel will not lie, nor will he change his mind, for he is not human that he should change his mind!”

1 Samuel 15:30

Then Saul pleaded again, “I know I have sinned. But please, at least honor me before the elders of my people and before Israel by coming back with me so that I may worship the Lord your God.”

1 Samuel 15:31

So Samuel finally agreed and went back with him, and Saul worshiped the Lord.

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Principle #1

Even as a believers and followers of Jesus Christ, we all have an inner darkness living inside of us that we must recognize and that we must face.

1 Samuel 10:1

**Then Samuel took a flask of olive oil
and poured it over Saul's head.
He kissed Saul and said, "I am doing
this because the Lord has appointed
you to be the ruler over Israel,
his special possession.**

1 Samuel 10:6

At that time the Spirit of the Lord will come powerfully upon you, and you will prophesy with them. You will be changed into a different person.

1 Samuel 10:7

**After these signs take place, do what
must be done, for God is with you.**

1 Samuel 10:8

Then go down to Gilgal ahead of me. I will join you there to sacrifice burnt offerings and peace offerings. You must wait for seven days until I arrive and give you further instructions.”

1 Samuel 10:9

**As Saul turned and started to leave,
God gave him a new heart, and all
Samuel's signs were fulfilled that day.**

Principle #1

Even as a believers and followers of Jesus Christ, we all have an inner darkness living inside of us that we must recognize and that we must face.

Principle #2

Our inner darkness often manifests itself through self-deception, half-truths, lies, projecting onto others, and insincere apologies.

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**Self-deception,
Half-truths, Lies...**

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Half-truths, Lies, and
Projecting onto others...**

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Projecting onto others and Insincere Apologies

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Principle #2

Our inner darkness often manifests itself through self-deception, half-truths, lies, projecting onto others, and insincere apologies.

Principle #3

Recognizing the inner darkness within you oftentimes requires multiple, humiliating, and painful revelations from God and His messengers.

Principle #4

A refusal to recognize and face the darkness within you will force you to suffer more pain; it will mean more damage for your loved ones and it will ensure more tragedy in all your lives than is necessary.

Principle #5

The Lord desires to expose your darkness to you; so your sins can be forgiven, so your wounds can be healed, and so your darkness can be eradicated by His light.

Principle #6

**The Lord loves you too much to let
you stay the way you are.**

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