

Story 67-68: Saul's Victory and Disobedience

The Israelite town of Jabesh was attacked by an enemy. Jabesh was very small and could not fight the enemy. The enemy leaders planned to poke out the right eye of everyone in Jabesh. The town leaders sent a message to Saul, their new king. Saul was very angry and quickly sent many soldiers to fight the enemy. The enemy soldiers were killed. The people of Jabesh had a big celebration to thank King Saul. They told him they were happy he was their king. Saul soon began to feel very proud of himself. He began to disobey God. The prophet Samuel warned him that God was not happy with him. But Saul disobeyed God again after a great battle. Samuel went to Saul with a message from God: "You have rejected me; now I reject you. You cannot be king any longer. I will choose another person to be king."

Read this story in the Bible in I Samuel 11:1-15 and I Samuel 15:1-34

Words to Know

- poke** – to stab something with a sharp instrument
celebration – a party to remember something good
proud – thinking too highly of oneself
warn – to tell in advance that trouble is coming
battle – a big fight between two enemies

Questions

1. What happened to the town of Jabesh?
2. Why didn't the people of Jabesh fight their enemy?
3. What were the enemy leaders planning to do to the people of Jabesh?
4. How did King Saul respond when he heard about the problem in Jabesh?
5. What did the people of Jabesh do to thank King Saul for his help?
6. Why do you think King Saul felt proud of himself?
7. What did his pride cause King Saul to do?
8. What warning did the prophet Samuel give King Saul?
9. How do we know King Saul did not take Samuel's warning seriously?
10. What message did Samuel deliver to King Saul after he continued to disobey God?

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