



## **It's Time To Kill Agag**

The scripture tells us that King Saul spared King Agag. He slew the women, the children, the infants and all the men, but he spared Agag, why?

Scripture: 1 Sam 15:8-11

8 And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

9 But Saul and the people spared Agag , and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but everything that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

10 Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,

11 It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.

I believe that many people have saved back something that God has commanded then to kill in their lives but to explain to God why and make God understand your purpose of disobedience may cost you your kingdom.

1 Sam 15:12-19

12 And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

13 And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD.

14 And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?

15 And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

16 Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the LORD hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.

17 And Samuel said, "When thou wast little in thine own sight, was thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the LORD anointed thee king over Israel?"

18 And the LORD sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

19 Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the LORD, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the LORD?

Why do people hang on to just enough to cause them problems? Just enough sin that it will cause you to be disobedient to God?

What this chapter represents is not a cruel God destroying women and children, but it speaks to us about the separation from the world. If Israel had been obedient to God they wouldn't have the problems they have to day.

Unless you destroy the enemy in your life he will be there for you to fight every day.

If you don't destroy an addiction you will always fight with it until it finally destroys you.

You can't keep it around, you can't taper off a little at a time you must destroy it once and for all or you will become its slave forever.

What I'm trying to say is you cannot serve two masters.

Matt 6:25 No man can serve two masters : for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.

You can't serve God and the world it will make you miserable,

Gal 5:17-18

17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit , and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

Galatians speaks plainly to us the works of the flesh and the works of the Spirit but it is up to us the scripture says to:

2 Corinthians 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Saul was to cleanse the land of the Amalekites and their false Gods so that Israel wouldn't fall victim to false worship.

Israel was no different than we are today, people fail to separate themselves completely from sin, holding on to just enough to cause god to be angry with them.

Scripture: 1 Sam 15:20-23

20 And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

21 But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal.

22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.

***Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.***

***This scripture tells us that God demands our complete obedience to His word!***

Question: Can we continue to ignore the Word of God? If we fail to hear the word how can we obey the word and if you hear and disobey it is sin.

There are many commands in the bible: Ps 150:6 Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.

Do we obey that command? Ps 100:4..Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise : be thankful unto him and bless his name.

Do we do that? If not is it sin?

Worship is the weapon that destroys our enemy, every one of them!! If we do-not destroy our enemy we have him to deal with every day.

People get depressed, unsatisfied, disgruntled and then Satan moves in because all these things are tools of Satan to

destroy;

Anytime the enemy of Israel wanted to destroy Israel it would surround them, cut them off from everything, the enemy would starve them until they would get so desperate they would eat their own children.

They would be protected by the walls of the city the enemy wasn't worried about getting in, he would just cut them off from the supplies they needed to survive.

Satan isn't worried about coming into this church he knows that if he can keep us contained long enough and we disobey God long enough we will consume one another.

You can sit inside here and we can allow our enemy to live and keep us captive until we finally destroy each other and then he has won the battle without a FIGHT!

Satan doesn't care about us talking about prayer as long as we don't do it.

Satan doesn't care about us talking about saving the lost as long as all we do is talk.

He isn't worried about a prayer meeting until we pray a touch God then he will attack and people will cease to pray.

Satan is like the Philistines, he will stand and make the challenge, and because he knows the church is afraid to do battle because no one wants to suffer any loss.

Saul was the victor he destroyed everything except, what was causing his problem he failed to Kill Agag. Unless we destroy the leader it is always possible for us to always be defeated.

One of the biggest problems in the world today is that most people will not follow instructions.

Samuel gave the command to Saul, he obeyed some of the command but not all, and he saved Agag.

Now the question immediately arises...why would a God of infinite love and mercy and grace mete out such a severe judgment on a pagan tribe?

Let me see if I can't answer that question for you. The Amalekites were an ancient tribe. They were nomadic, that is they traveled around. And they occupied southern Canaan.

They were descendants of Esau and they were out of the line of promise, as

[Genesis 36:12](#)

They were the enemies of the Jews once the Jews came into the land of Canaan. In fact, you remember when the Jews approached the land of Canaan they were afraid to go into the land, they were afraid to go into Kadesh-Barnea and they did not want to go in to the land, they were fearful because of the frightening ferocity of the Amalekites.

In fact, it was there that they disobeyed God because they were so intimidated by this fierce, evil, vicious tribe. Isn't that the same problem the people of God have they are afraid to challenge Satan?

They were the same tribe who had, attacked Israel at Rephidim. In fact, this was shortly after the Exodus, and this was the famous battle recorded in Exodus 17 when Aaron and Hur had to hold up the arms of Moses so that victory could come.

And they had engaged in the war against the Israelites in a very cowardly way. What they did, is that they attacked the rear of this mass of humanity that were moving out of Egypt from the Exodus into the promised land.

They attacked them from the rear that is the stragglers. And who would that be? Old people, little children, pregnant women, crippled people, the sick, anybody weak, weary, and faint.

It was a coward's way from the rear. And so they had ambushed Israel, massacring all of the stragglers and working their way up until finally the battle was engaged.

And that is indicated to us, by the way, in Deuteronomy chapter 25 It was an expression of their viciousness, their wickedness, their hatred of God, their hatred of those things which were holy, their savage attitude toward others.

And God delivered Israel that day. You remember that story in the holding up of the arms of Moses, the Amalekites

fled into hiding. And in the conclusion of the battle in Exodus 17 and verse 14, God swore to Moses this, "I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven."

God says I'll wipe that entire people out. He was so committed to this that He made this a part of the Mosaic Law. It's in Deuteronomy 25, listen to three verses, the last three in chapter 25.

"Remember what Amalek did to you along the way when you came out from Egypt and how he met you along the way and attacked among you all the stragglers at your rear when you were faint and weary?"

**And here's the real key,** "And he did not fear God?" Well because of that, "Therefore it shall come about when the Lord your God has given you rest from all your surrounding enemies after you've settled into the land a while, in the land which the Lord your God gives you as an inheritance to possess, you shall blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven."

And then God added this, "You must not forget." This must come to pass. Treacherous, vicious, intimidating, deadly people, the Amalekites and God's anger burned against them because of their wickedness.

Saul was motivated by covetousness, motivated by the love of money, they kept all the best animals, they kept all the best possessions, collected the spoils of victory.

They didn't even do a thorough job, by the way, of executing the Amalekites. A lot of them escaped. And then worst of all, they spared Agag.

They spared the king. Why? Why would Saul be so blatantly disobedient? Well it wasn't just materialism; in this case it was pride.

Here was a vicious terrorizing monarch of this tribe who was known to everybody as the greatest fighter and warrior and victor before whom others crumbled. Saul was going to show his great mighty power, his great force by holding up the trophy Agag and saying,

"Look what I have, look who I defeated." It was pride and materialism. It was just an evil heart on Saul's part to flatly and blatantly disobey God.

"God is saying, "Do you think...do you think I'm interested in burnt offerings?"

"What I want is obedience." "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice and to heed than the fat of rams, for rebellion is as the sin of divination and insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry."

"Because you have rejected the Word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king." And so, he was dethroned.

Samuel said, "Bring me Agag the king of the Amalekites." And Agag thinking all is going to well, Saul is off the throne, everything is forgiven, comes in cheerfully.

And Agag said, "Surely the bitterness of death is passed." Well that's all over. "And Samuel said "As your sword has made women childless so shall your mother be childless among women." Which is another way of saying, "I'm going to kill you and Samuel hewed, or hacked Agag to pieces before the Lord at Gilgal."

It's a rather sickening scene, isn't it? It was God who commanded it to be done. And Samuel did it before the Lord and Samuel was no soldier. Samuel was a priest. But here was God sending out divine judgment from holy wrath against sin.

Unlike Saul and the rest of the Israelites, Samuel carried out the Lord's commands. This is a tremendous picture of God's attitude toward sin.

Here chapter 30 of 1 Samuel. Verse 1, we read that the results of Saul's disobedience the Amalekites that lived and waged war and death once again.

It happened when David and his men came to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had made a raid on the Negeb and on Ziklag," that's in the southern area where they were still ruminating around. "They had overthrown Ziklag, burned it with fire, they took captive the women and all who were in it both small and great without killing anyone and carried them off and went their way.

And when David and his men came to the city, behold it was burned with fire and their wives and their sons and their daughters had been taken captive and David and the people who were with him lifted their voices and wept until there was no strength in them to weep.

When any sin is left it's always a possibility that sooner or later your family will suffer from your disobedience.

Before I close tonight: As I said, this is a tremendous insight into God's attitude toward sinners and His holiness and wrath against sin.

But I want to use it just as an analogy; it is an illustration of the sin that remains in the believer's life. When you were saved and I was saved there was at that moment a crushing defeat of sin.

From one end to the other, east to west, north to south our sin was crushed. But we still have remaining sins. There are some Amalekites running around loose in everybody's life.

We all have our Agags. And the problem in our Christian lives is not that sin has not been defeated, it has, but there is still remaining sin.

There are some loose Amalekites in some. And though there was a great and glorious and triumphant defeat at the time of our salvation, there is the necessity that the remaining sins be hacked to pieces or they will revive, they will plunder our hearts and zap our spiritual strength.

We cannot be merciful with the Agags of our life. We cannot be merciful with the remaining sins in our life or they will turn and create an insurrection and a rebellion to attempt to destroy us.

Romans chapter 8 and verse 12 and 13: Paul says, "So then, brethren, we are under obligation not to the flesh to live according to the flesh," then in verse 13, "For if you are living according to the flesh you must die but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live."

"Putting to death the deeds of the body" is characteristic of somebody who is living. In other words, it is characteristic of a believer to be killing the deeds of the body, to be executing the Amalekites in his or her life and doing it by the power of the Spirit.

As the King James says, "Mortifying sin." Paul is saying that is a characteristic of a true believer, they put to death the deeds of the flesh, they kill sin. A true believer will not act like Saul who wanted to pamper and preserve Agag, but he will act like Samuel who hacked him without mercy into pieces.