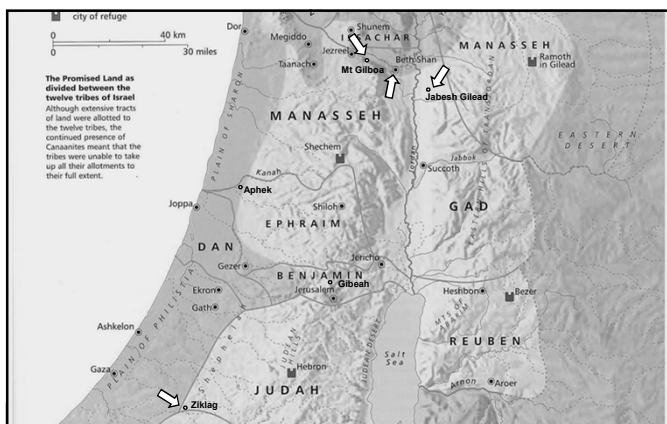


In Search of a King 1-2 SAMUEL

1 Samuel 31:1-13

How the Mighty Have Fallen



1 Samuel 31:1-13

How the Mighty Have Fallen

“Thus Saul Died...”

1. The Fulfillment of God’s Word

¹³ So Saul died for his trespass which he committed against the LORD, because of the word of the LORD which he did not keep; and also because he asked counsel of a medium, making inquiry *of it*, ¹⁴ and did not inquire of the LORD. Therefore He killed him and turned the kingdom to David the son of Jesse.

1 Chronicles 10:13-14

“Thus Saul Died...”

1. The Fulfillment of God’s Word

- ultimately the Lord killed Saul in fulfillment of His word of judgment against Saul
- though He used wicked men as His means, God authored this “disaster”

“Thus Saul Died...”

Q: *What about Jonathan?*

- Jonathan was faithful to the end, even in fighting the Philistines
- Jonathan’s death was not a judgment for any specific sin – God had another purpose

“Thus Saul Died...”

2. The Disgrace of God’s Name

- the Philistine victory was viewed as the defeat of Yahweh by the Philistine gods
- God allows His name to suffer reproach in bringing judgment on His people for their good and His glory

“Thus Saul Died...”

2. The Disgrace of God’s Name

- the ultimate expression of this “disgrace” was the cross – God’s judgment for our good!

“Thus Saul Died...”

3. The Death of a Tragic Life

- Saul died as he lived – fearful and faithless
- Saul had a good beginning, but it proved no guarantee of a good ending

“Thus Saul Died...”

- *Let us take heed to the warning of Saul’s life and death*

¹² Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.

(Hebrews 3:12)

²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; ²⁴ and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

(Hebrews 10:23-25)