

“And the Lord Sent You On A Mission”

“And the LORD sent you on a mission & said, ‘Go, devote to destruction the sinners, the Amalekites, & fight against them until they are consumed’” (1 Sam. 15:18 ESV).

Have you ever been sent on a specific mission and returned not having completed all that you were sent to do? Such was the case for King Saul (cf. **1 Sam. 15:1ff**). God, through His prophet Samuel, commanded that Saul go and completely destroy the Amalekites, along with all of their possessions. Saul went as commanded, but unfortunately he failed to complete the mission. It’s interesting to note the similarities between Saul’s mission and ours today.

The Lord told Saul to **“Go.”** This mission required mobility, and so too does ours! While the specifics of our mission have changed, the command to **“Go”** has not! Jesus told His disciples to **“Go ye into all the world...” (Mark 16:15)**. The scope of this mission is seen in the words of Jesus to the Pharisees, *“And the lord said unto the servant, ‘Go into the highways & hedges, & compel them to come in, that my house may be filled’” (Luke 14:23)*. And from Pentecost onward (**Acts 2**), Christians went and heralded the Gospel of Christ (cf. **Acts 5:20; 8:4ff; 9:11; 13:1ff**). Let’s not fail our mission by refusing to go and get started!

The Lord told Saul, *“...devote to destruction the sinners...”* The Amalekites were a wicked people and a plague in the land of Israel. God commanded Saul to utterly dispose of them for the purpose of keeping His people pure. God, still today, expects His people to dispose of sin. It’s imperative that we *“put to death”* the old man of sin (cf. **Rom. 6:1-7**) and rid ourselves of that which plagues our soul (cf. **Jam. 1:21; Heb. 12:1-2; Eph. 4:22-24**). Such may require a disposal of relationships with those who may have a negative influence on us spiritually (**1 Cor. 15:33; 2 Cor. 6:14**). It too demands that we inform others the end result of living in sin, as well as the remedy for it (cf. **2 Cor. 5:9-11**). The purpose for destroying sin is purity (**1 Pet. 1:15-16; Phi. 2:15; 1 John 3:3**).

The Lord told Saul, “...***fight against them until they are consumed.***” He was not to stop fighting until the mission was complete! And so it is for we, soldiers of the cross today! We must continue to fight the good fight of faith unto the very end (**1 Tim. 6:12; 2 Tim. 4:7-8; Heb. 10:23; 1 Cor. 15:58; Rev. 2:10**).

King Saul fell short of his mission and as a result lost everything! Let’s not make the same fatal mistake as did Saul. Let’s complete our mission by **going, destroying sin, & fighting to the end!**

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