

## Samuel Encounters Saul-The Sin of Self-deceit

1 Sam 15:12-23

Chapel Bible Class

January 31, 2021

### Context:

Capacity of self-deception, ability to hide to truth from ourself

This is not the worse thing we do, but it IS the reason we can do the most vile things.

- I. The Fact of Self Deception
  - a. Samuel had not slept that night v 10.
  - b. The Amalekites had been the most brutal of enemies.
  - c. God sent the Jews to do an act of justice, but not an act of imperialism or war for profit.
  - d. Saul thought he had done 99.9% of what he was told to do, but he acted like the Amalekites.
  - e. Self-deception is that you know the truth, but you don't know the truth. You rationalize or justify. 11:45-14:20+.
- II. Techniques to Suppress the Truth
  - a. You blame someone else. The soldiers did it. V15.
  - b. I did this wrong but much good came from it. V 21.
  - c. This small sin shouldn't diminish all the good we did. V20.
  - d. You are making yourself "big", and this amounts to "divination" or "idolatry"!
- III. How Do You Heal?
  - a. Look for evidence, or exceptions and "listen for the bleating". Get to someone who is not you. 28-30:30.
  - b. Think out the implications. If there is a God, you owe him all.
  - c. Come to grips with grace. God will make you big!
  - d. To obey is better than sacrifice. He wants you, not your sacrifice. V. 22. Heb 10:8-10.