

King Saul and King Jesus.

1 Samuel 31:1-13. John 19:1-30.

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1 Samuel 31:1-13. John 19:1-30.

“So the Philistines fought, and the Israelites were defeated and every man fled to his tent. The slaughter was very great; Israel lost thirty thousand foot soldiers. The ark of God was captured, and Eli’s two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, died.”

1 Samuel 4:10.

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“So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. They said to him, “You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.”

1 Samuel 8:4-5.

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"And the Lord told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, **but they have rejected me as their king.**"

1 Samuel 8:7.

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“But David thought to himself, “One of these days I will be destroyed by the hand of Saul. The best thing I can do is to escape to the land of the Philistines. Then Saul will give up searching for me anywhere in Israel, and I will slip out of his hand.”

1 Samuel 27:1.

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But the Philistine commanders were angry with Achish and said, “Send the man back, that he may return to the place you assigned him. He must not go with us into battle, or he will turn against us during the fighting. How better could he regain his master’s favor than by taking the heads of our own men? Isn’t this the David they sang about in their dances:

“ ‘Saul has slain his thousands,
and David his tens of thousands’?”

1 Samuel 29:4-5.

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“So Saul and his three sons and his armor-bearer and all his men died together that same day.”

1 Samuel 31:6.

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How much of a failure was Saul?

Did God make a mistake in making Saul King?

Should God have refused the Israelites request for a king altogether?

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**It is the life of Jesus
that brings some meaning into the history of Saul.**

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“But the Lord forbid that I should lay a hand on the
Lord’s anointed.”

1 Samuel 26:11.

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“and they sent messengers throughout the land of the Philistines to **proclaim the news** in the temple of their idols and among their people.”

1 Samuel 31:9.

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“After the Philistines had captured the ark of God, they took it from Ebenezer to Ashdod, carried it into the temple of Dagon, and set it beside his statue.

When the people of Ashdod got up early the next morning, there was Dagon, **fallen on his face** before the ark of the LORD.”

1 Samuel 5:1-3.

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“They proclaimed the “gospel” of Saul’s death. That is the language used. It helps us to understand what proclaiming a gospel means. It is to announce momentous news to people. That day there was a gospel for the Philistines and a gospel for their idols! The king of the people of the God of Israel was dead! It was clear, was it not, that the gods of the Philistines had at last defeated the God of Israel? What great news for the temple of Dagon! The humiliation of an earlier day had been overturned at last.

(John Woodhouse.)

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The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

1 Corinthians 15:56.

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The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

1 Corinthians 15:56.

And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him.

1 John 3:5.

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"God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Philippians 2:5-11.

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“And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ - everything in heaven and on earth.” Ephesians 1:10. nlt

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God's plan was that we, **Christ's church**, would demonstrate to the rest of the world what it means to live in Jesus' kingdom.

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“His purpose was that now, **through the church**, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to the eternal purpose that He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In Him and through faith in Him we may enter God’s presence with boldness and confidence.”

Ephesians 3:10-12.