



THE SIN OF STUBBORNNESS

Morningstar Bible Study

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What will you

LEARN

today?

OBJECTIVES

- * What is stubbornness?
- * It's not that bad is it? (God's view vs world's view)
- * Effects of stubbornness- 1 Sam 13 & 15
- * Am I stubborn?
- * How to overcome stubbornness

WHAT IS STUBBORNNESS?

unreasonably obstinate; obstinately unmoving:

a fixed or set in purpose or opinion; resolute

obstinately maintained, as a course of action:

difficult to manage or suppress:

hard, tough, or stiff, as stone or wood; difficult to shape or work.



KEY
SCRIPTURE



Stubbornness

For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft,
And stubbornness is as iniquity and
idolatry. Because you have rejected the
word of the LORD, He also has rejected
you from being king (1 Sam. 15:23).

WHICH IS YOUR VIEW?

GOD'S VIEW

- I AM STUBBORN = I AM IDOLATOR
- FLEE FROM IDOLATRY- 1 COR 10:14
- IDOLATORS HAVE NO INHERITANCE IN HEAVEN-1 COR 6:9-11

WORLD'S VIEW

- Encourages willfulness- Have it Your Way
- Encourages entitlement- MY Money & I want it NOW
- Encourages selfishness

I SAM 15: 1-23

- [1Sa 15:3, 6, 8-9, 13-23 KJV] 3 Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass. ... 6 And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites. ... 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 every thing [that was] vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly. ... 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, [wast] 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? 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.

SUMMARY

In Saul's case, stubbornness involved following his own interpretation of God's command as if it were correct, pride in his accomplishment, and arguing with one in spiritual authority (Samuel) that he had done right!

- 1) Despite God's clear command, Saul chose to do otherwise (15:3, 7, 9)
 - 2) He is proud of his accomplishment
 - (a) He sets up a monument for himself! (15:12)
 - (b) He claims to have done God's will (15:13)
 - 3) He argues with Samuel, the judge of Israel and the prophet of God (cf.1 Samuel 7:6, 15)
 - (a) He shifts blame (15:15)
 - (b) He justifies his action as an avenue of sacrificing to God (15:15) (although God had not asked Him to do this).
 - (c) Even after it is pointed out by Samuel exactly where he missed it in obeying God, he still insists that he obeyed God! (15:16-20)

STUBBORNNESS TODAY



- A) According to 2 Timothy 3:4 in the perilous times of the last days men will be “traitors, headstrong, haughty”
- 1) Headstrong means “determined to have one's own way; willful; stubborn; obstinate” (Dictionary.com)
- B) Stubbornness involves
 - 1) A determination to walk in your self-determined way. Psalms 81:11-13 "But My people would not heed My voice, And Israel would have none of Me. (12) So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, To walk in their own counsels. (13) "Oh, that My people would listen to Me, That Israel would walk in My ways!
 - 2) A conviction that our assessments and judgments are invariably right.
 - 3) Being unwilling to change. Isaiah 48:4 “Because I knew that you were obstinate, And your neck was an iron sinew, And your brow bronze”
- Thinking like a mule. (Psalm 32:8-9). Mules are stubborn because they think for themselves and they will not put themselves in what they perceive to be danger or unnecessary stress. The stubbornness is not giving in to the will of the owner.

AM I STUBBORN LIKE
SAUL?





STUBBORN- WHO ME?

- You keep at an idea or plan, or insist on making your point, even when you know you're wrong.
- You do something you want to do even if no one else wants to do it.
- When others present an idea, you tend to point out all the reasons it won't work.
- You visibly feel anger, frustration, and impatience when others try to persuade you of something you don't agree with.
- You agree to or commit halfheartedly to others' requests, when you know all along that you're going to do something entirely different.

REMEMBER SAUL

It blames others for its own irresponsibility, it's proud of its own achievements.

It doesn't do what the one in authority says to do, but it thinks it does.

It argues the point. It tells those in authority what their job is and what their responsibility is; it acts as if it has authority over the one or ones who are in authority and that it can take their place (king Saul offered the sacrifice when he'd been told to wait – 1 Samuel 13).

It presents itself as I'm right, you're wrong.

It doesn't really listen because it has its own mind. Oh, it can seem agreeable and says it's willing to listen and consider, but it always has an inner stiffness and hardness this is unwilling to change its mind.

It sets itself up as the judge of right and wrong.

Is this you?

THIS IS ALL OF US!

We are all guilty!

HOW TO OVERCOME

- ACKNOWLEDGE & REPENT
- HUMILITY-1 PETER 5:6
- FORGIVENESS- MATT 11:28-29
- OBEDIENCE-Jn 8:31-32, PS 119:29
- INTIMACY- 1 JN 2:10