

## Unnecessary Burdens

1 Samuel 14:24-46

Introduction: I have a friend who doesn't work for the family business. No joy in work.

1 Samuel 14:24-30

- \* The first problem is Saul has the people fighting his enemies and avenging himself. (vengeance is mine sayeth the Lord).
- \* He robbed the people of any pleasure in service.
- \* The honey was not even a spoil of battle yet they could not refresh themselves.
- \* If this would have truly been God's fight there would have been joy in service.

Honey metaphor Psalm 19:7-10

Service should be a cause of "eye brightening", not a source of unnecessary burden.

1 Samuel 14:31-35

- \* The people were famished because of Saul's unnecessary burden.
- \* His UB turned them greedy toward the spoils.
- \* The ground was to receive the blood, the rock was for the sacrifice.

Blood restriction- Leviticus 17:10-14

- \* Only after he causes the people to sin does Saul build an altar to the Lord.
- \* As revealed last week this was Saul's weakness, The Lord was an afterthought.

Unnecessary burdens will cause you to despise and eventually ignore the Law of the Lord.

1 Samuel 14:36-39

- \* Saul's UB started a chain reaction of events that led God to ignore them concerning His will.
- \* At least Saul recognized that something was amiss, but it is doubtful that He recognized the source as being his UB.

Unnecessary burdens will eventually lead you astray from God's will.

1 Samuel 14:40-46

- \* Urim and Thummin.
- \* Though unaware of the UB Jonathan was willing to take responsibility.
- \* Though Jonathan was spared by the influence of the people for the moment, it is not difficult to see that Saul's foolish actions would tear the kingdom from his offspring and deny Israel one who could have potentially have been a good successor, in Jonathan.

Unnecessary burdens can potentially threaten vital relationships.

Galatians 2:3-4 Judaizer's wanted to burden the gentiles with circumcision and the law.

Galatians 5:1 We are responsible to stand up to the tyranny of UB's like the people did concerning Jonathan. Jesus said Mt. 11:30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Psalm 100 True service of the Lord, though trying at times, results in Joy.

Main Point: The Christian life should be soberly considered and yet joyfully lived.