

BEWARE THE REBEL HEART

1 SAMUEL 13:13, 15:22-26

1. Rebellion concerning the things of God

A. You Will Refuse to Wait on God (1 Samuel 13:8)

- a. Rebellion begins when you think God is taking too long to answer a prayer or give direction, so you take action on your own, you do things your way.
- b. God delays at times to bring you closer to Him and make you realize that you need Him to work in your situation.

B. You Will Take Liberties With God's Grace (13:9)

- a. You'll begin doing things you previously knew to be wrong.

C. You Will Substitute Excuses for Repentance (13:11-12)

- a. You refuse to admit your guilt. You blame others. You blame the situation. You justify or rationalize your sinful acts.
- b. God wants to know if you love Him enough to obey Him. He wants complete obedience, not "I did the best that I could."
 - i. Partial obedience is disobedience.
 - ii. You must turn your sin over to God, take the blame yourself, and repent (turn from your sin).

2. Rebellion concerning the things of others.

A. You Will Keep Score on Everyone Else (1 Samuel 14:16-17).

- a. You compare what they're doing (or not doing) compared to what you think they should be doing. You condemn them for not meeting your standard.

B. You Will Place Unreasonable Demands on Others (14:24).

- a. You will make impossible rules for people to obey and gripe about people who aren't obeying your rules.

C. You Will Condemn Others to the Utmost (14:39).

- a. We judge people harshly, usually in areas where we are strong and they are weak.

3. Rebellion concerning the Word of God.

A. You Will Falsely Declare Your Faithful Obedience (1 Samuel 15:13).

- a. You'll boast about what you do for God instead of what He's done for you.

B. You Will Claim That OTHERS Disobeyed; Not You (15:20-21).

C. You Will Place the Blame of Your Disobedience on Others (15:24)

- a. God wants us to take full responsibility for our own sin.
- b. The only cure for a rebellious heart is true, absolute repentance. Confess your sin to God, turn it over to Him, and tell Him you want to do right. God will heal your rebel heart.