

## TO OBEY IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE

1 Samuel 15:1-35

Key verse 22

### *Discussion questions:*

- What makes obedience to God greater than our outward sacrifices?
- How can we avoid the delusion of obedience to God?

### *Inductive study questions:*

1. What was God's command to Saul? (1-3) What was the basis for God's judgment on the Amalekites and leniency for the Kenites? (2-6; Ex 17) What reason do we find for not totally destroying the Amalekites?
2. What was God's response? What is the reason for God's regret? (10-11a) What was Samuel's reaction? (11b) What does this show about Samuel's hope for Saul? What does Saul's actions show about him? (12) What is so surprising about Saul in his reply to Samuel? (13-15)
3. What had Saul forgotten? (16-17) What penetrating questions did Samuel ask? (19) Why is it important to ask such questions? How did Saul view his actions? (20-21) Why is it better to obey than to sacrifice? (22-23; Ge 4:3-5)
4. How is Saul's repentance not true repentance? (24-25) What influenced Saul's disobedience? (24) What did God see at the root of his compromise? (26) How does Saul's reaction to God's judgment reveal about his rebellion and arrogance? (27-29) What did Samuel do as he stayed to worship with Saul? (32-35)