

Questions for 1 Samuel 15:1-35

1. A) Why did the entire nation of Amalek have to be killed? B) How is collective punishment in a holy war as is described here, morally justifiable? C) Why were the Kenites spared? (Verses 1-9)

2. A) What does it mean that God “regreted” that he made Saul king? B) Did Saul legitimately think that he had fulfilled God’s command? C) What is Saul’s response when Samuel calls him out? (Verses 10-15)

3. A) What does it mean that Saul was “little in his own eyes”? B) Why should Saul’s beginnings be a reason for his obedience to God? (Verses 16-19)

4. A) Why does Saul try to justify himself further? B) What is significant about Saul referring to God as “your God” when talking with Samuel? C) What is Samuel’s response? (Verses 20-23)

5. A) What does Saul confess his sin to be? B) Why does he ask Samuel to pardon his sin? C) What is the significance of the torn robe and the kingdom being torn away from Saul? (Verses 24-29)

6. A) Why does Samuel return and worship with Saul when he previously said that he wouldn’t? B) What happened with king Agag? C) Why did Samuel not see Saul again after this incident? (Verses 30-35)