

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE
a Production of
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: I Samuel, Part 1 (The Heart of a Leader)

WEDNESDAY

OPEN

What has God done beloved that is absolutely stunning so that when you look back you say hey, that had to be God? What God's done that's absolutely stunning in my life is when I got saved because He turned me from darkness to light and it was so apparent. But you need to look back at the stunning things that God has done to remember that He is God, so that when you're tempted to act like He's not you're held in check. We'll talk about it today as we look at God's precepts for life.

PART ONE

1 Samuel, chapter 12 beloved; I left off at verse 14. And we are about to see God do something that is absolutely stunning. And we're going to see why He does something that is stunning. He wants to hit them, so to speak, with a stun gun so that they will just stop dead in their tracks and they will remember that He is God. Now remember Saul is standing beside Samuel the prophet. Saul is the king, and he is standing at Gilgal before all the people, and Samuel is going to have to deal with these people. He's going to

have to deal with these people because the king that is standing before him is a king that they asked for, but it was not God's will. And yet God gave them the king that they asked for. Now what He wants these people to do is He wants them to realize the gravity of their sin and so that they deal thoroughly with it, but also He wants them to go forward. He wants them to go forward. Okay, you messed up, but I want you to go forward, and I'm not through with you because I'm God and all is not lost because I'm God. So let's go to 1 Samuel, chapter 12, verse 13. "Now therefore..." when you see a therefore you need to find out what the therefore is there for. It's a term of conclusion. And what he has just said to the children of Israel, he said you said in verse 12, "...'No, but a king shall reign over us,' although the Lord your God was your king. 'Now therefore, here is the king whom you have chosen, whom you have asked for, and behold, the Lord has set a king over you. If you will fear the Lord and serve Him, and listen to His voice and not rebel against the command of the Lord, then both you and also the king who reigns over you will follow the Lord your God.'"(12:13-14) Okay, what is he saying to them? He's saying okay, you asked for it, you got it, it was not My will, you rejected Me. But I'm not a God that holds grudges, and I'm telling you that who you have and what you have as a result of this, from this point on you are to go forward. From this point on I want you to fear the Lord. Now, one of the key words that you need to mark is the word fear. And if you have not downloaded your study guide to this course, you need to do it. It's absolutely free. Go to preceptsforlife.com and you will see that this is a key word you're to mark. What does it mean to fear God? It means to have a respect of God, to respect Him for who He is and to trust Him. So when you think of fear, fearing the Lord, it's not knees knocking beloved, but it is a respect and a trust. It is saying okay, you are God and because you're God I'm going to trust you. So he's saying if you will fear the Lord, if you will serve the Lord. I don't want you just to say, okay God, I respect you, I trust you, but there's an action that's going to come as a result of that and that is serving God, and listen to His voice. I want you to keep on hearing what God's saying. Now I want to congratulate you. I want to applaud you, because what are you doing when you listen to this program? Well you are really listening to God, because what I'm doing is I'm going through the

Bible book-by-book, verse-by-verse, chapter-by-chapter so you can see God's precepts for life for yourself. We're studying the Word of God together. This is why I'm not duplicating what many other people are doing on radio, because they're doing awesome, awesome things. I mean you get better teaching I think on Christian radio than you get on Christian television just generally. So you're hearing many, many things. But the purpose of this program is to help you listen to God's voice. And that's why I applauded you, because you're taking the Word of God seriously, and you realize that every word that's written in this book, the Bible, has come from the mouth of God. So you're listening to His voice, so you've got to listen and not rebel against the command of the Lord. He says, "...then both you and also the king who reigns over you...", (12:14b) you who shouldn't have asked for a king, this king who is taking God's place, so to speak; not really, but you know what I mean. You shouldn't have asked for it. You shouldn't have him, but I want you to know that if you will do this then and follow the Lord, God's going to bless you. Now contrast, verse 15: "[And] If you will not listen...", put an ear there, a green ear over the word listen. Put a slash through it because they're not listening, he's saying, "If you will not listen to the voice of the Lord, but rebel against the command of the Lord...", (12:15a) And when it says rebel against the command of the Lord, listen very carefully, that word command there is literally the word mouth. And what is he saying? If you rebel against the mouth of the Lord. In other words, if you rebel against what God is saying, what's coming out of God's mouth. He says, "If you...rebel against the command of the Lord, then the hand of the Lord will be against you, as it was against your fathers." (12:15b) So he wants them to understand that there is blessing for obedience and there is judgment for disobedience. And this has to be beloved because God is God, and God, by the very nature of His holiness cannot, He cannot allow you to get away with sin. He cannot allow you to walk in rebellion. You know if you're a parent and you're allowing your child to walk in rebellion and you're not disciplining them, and if you want to know how to discipline them, go to the book of Proverbs and read through Proverbs, and every time you come to anything about children color it a certain color and you will know how to discipline your child. But if you are not disciplining your child

then you are encouraging them in their disobedience; you're encouraging them to not only disobey you, but eventually they'll disobey their employer and eventually they will disobey God because they think they can get away with it. Well God, the ultimate Father is not going to let us, as His children get away with sin. He can't. It goes against His character and it goes against His love that He has for you and me. So now God is about to do something stunning. So, this is what Samuel says: "Even now, take your stand..."(12:16a) Now remember he said this to them before. He says take your stand. He says I want you to take your stand and I want you to listen to me. And so now he's saying, "...take your stand and see this great thing which the Lord will do before your eyes...." Here it is. "...Is it not the wheat harvest today? I will call to the Lord, that He may send thunder and rain...."(12:16b-17a) Now listen, when it was the time of the harvest they weren't having thunder and rain in Israel. They had basically two rainy seasons, two seasons of thunder and rain and those were the seasons that were designed by God so that the crops would come in because they had basically two harvests every year. He says, "Then you will know and see that your wickedness is great which you have done in the sight of the Lord by asking for yourselves a king."(12:17) What is he doing? He is driving home their sin. You say I wish he wouldn't do that. Why is he doing that? It just makes me feel miserable. Listen, God drives home sin so that you really understand that it's sin, and so that you really see the effects of the your sin and then when you understand it's sin and you see the effects of your sin, then you don't sin as easily the next time. This is why judgment is necessary. This is why chastening is necessary. This is why the Bible says spanking is necessary. Notice I said spanking and not beating. Okay, and there's a big difference. This is why discipline is necessary. If you love your children you discipline them. Well God loves them so He's about to show them, look, I am God. I have done all these things for you. I could take care of you. You asked for a king. You didn't want me, so watch what I'm going to do. "So Samuel called to the Lord and the Lord sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared the Lord and Samuel."(12:18) I mean they just stood there and they saw, hey, all of a sudden there's thunder and there's no reason; there's no cloud, there's nothing and this is happening and

now the rain is pouring down. Well God has spoken and He's showing them hey, I want you to see the wickedness of not believing that I am God. I want you to see the wickedness of choosing your way instead of My way. I want you to see the wickedness of trusting in your flesh and your mind and your thoughts and your reasons instead of trusting in Me. I want to drive My point home because I don't want you to blow it again. "So Samuel called to the Lord, and the Lord sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared the Lord and Samuel. Then all the people said to Samuel, 'Pray for your servants to the Lord your God, so that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins this evil by asking for ourselves a king.'"(12:18-19) Pray, pray, stop Him. They have just seen God in a stunning event. They have seen God move and they have realized how awful they have done and now they're afraid of God. And you know what? It's good to be afraid of God in this way. This is a good healthy fear for you to remember that God is God and that you cannot trifle with Him. But O, Beloved, if you will fear Him and obey Him, O what He will do. We'll talk about it when I come back.

PART TWO

O, Beloved, isn't this exciting? Isn't it wonderful to go back and look at the lives of these people? These were real people. I mean these are actual historical figures. These are events that happened, that took place in time and in space and in geography and it's recorded for you and for me so that we might learn. Well let's move on because I want to finish this chapter. So God does this stunning thing and He sends the thunder, He sends the rain because He wants them to see the wickedness that they have done. Now you know, let's go back for a minute and just look at verse 15. He says to the children of Israel, he says, "If you will not listen to the voice of the Lord, but [you] rebel against the command of the Lord, then the hand of the Lord will be against you, as it was against your fathers."(1 Samuel 12:15) Now you're going to hear some voices that are going to come along in the name of God and say God is always going to bless you. Well listen, God cannot bless disobedience, because it goes against His character. I said it once, I want to

say it again, and I want you to remember this: [“Whom the Lord loves He chastens,”](Hebrews 12:6a) and that’s what Hebrews tells us. And He chastens us; His hand comes against us. He spans us so to speak, because when the word chastening is used in Hebrews, chapter 12 it’s used in the act of discipline and He’s disciplining us. And He disciplines us it says in Hebrews, for our good so that we might learn. Well this is what He’s doing now. He’s disciplining them. Remember it was back in chapter 8 that they chose and asked and insisted upon a king. And remember that Samuel has anointed Saul previous to this time at Gilgal where they are now. But they’ve got to learn a lesson. And so with this thunder and with this rain they have seen God and it has caused them to fear the Lord. Look at verse 18 of 1 Samuel 12. “So Samuel called to the Lord, and the Lord sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared...,” Now remember we’re marking the word feared. “[they]...feared the Lord and Samuel.”(1Samuel 12:18) Now it was right that they should fear Samuel because he was the prophet. He was the one that was speaking. He was not only a judge, but remember he was also a prophet. And he has a duty to perform before these people, a duty before the Lord. And I want you to see that because so many times people will say I’ll never speak about sin on television or radio, because I want the audience to be blessed. Look, if I love you I have to speak about sin. I have to deal with the issues because I’ve got to love God. I’m not called to get an audience. I’m called to speak to that audience whatever number God brings, I’m called to speak to that audience in the integrity of the character of God and the Word of God. So Samuel is doing what he’s supposed to do. “[So] Then all the people said to Samuel, “...‘Pray for your servants to the Lord your God, so that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins this evil by asking for ourselves a king.”(12:19) They have confessed their sin now. [“And when we confess our sins...,”] 1 John 1:9 [“God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”](1John 1:9) In other words, He sees that the desire of our heart is to be right, so right that we’re willing to name our sin for what it is. So they named their sin. It says, “...‘we have added to all our sins this evil by asking for ourselves a king.’ [And] Samuel said to the people, ‘Do not fear....’”(1Samuel 12:20a) Now you don’t want to mark

this the way you're marking the others, because he's saying don't fear, quit your shaking, quit your trembling. "...‘You have committed all this evil...;’"(12:20b) he's not letting them off the hook. He's calling sin sin; yet, yet and this is God's message for you: "...‘do not turn aside from following the Lord, but serve [Him]...,'” mark serve again, "...‘the Lord with all your heart.’”(12:20c) Now put a heart there. The heart's very very important cause it's like the command center of your life. Now what is God's message for you and me? Okay, we blew it, and some of you and I have friends and I've dealt with them on this, because they've come to me and they are absolutely tortured because they disobeyed God and that is haunting them, and in haunting them it is keeping them from going forward and being effective for the kingdom of God. And so here is God's admonition to us: All right, you've committed evil. We're not saying you haven't, yet we're saying okay you committed it, but don't stop. Don't put on the brakes. Don't park the car. It's not over. Don't go in the house and nail the doors and the shutters closed and say I have no more light to shine in this world. That's from the devil. He says, "...‘yet do not turn aside from following the Lord, but serve the Lord...,'” not just okay, you get forgiven, but you're shelved. Un, un; he says, "...‘serve the Lord with all your heart. [And] You must not turn aside.’”(12:20c-21a) Now this is so important, I don't want you to miss it. And you must not turn aside. In other words, you can't go back, you can't run in the house and lock the door, you can't say woe is me; I'm no good for God anymore. He says, "...‘for then you would go after futile things which can not profit or deliver, because they are futile.’”(12:21) In other words, if you stop serving the Lord, if you say okay, I blew it, I messed up and this is it and you stop serving the Lord, then you know what you're going to do? You're going to go after futile things. You're not serving the Lord so you're going to go after the world. You don't think God can use you so you're not going to speak for Him, but you're going to speak something. Or you're, you're not going to be out where you need to be. You're going to be a hermit. You're going to be you know, sitting in the back pew saying I can't do anything because of what I've done. That is a lie from the enemy. You don't know God. You don't know His Word. Why do you think He put this story in here? Why do you think out of all of history these are the things that

are recorded in the Word of God. They're recorded here precious one, precious, precious, precious one, listen to me; they are recorded here for you so that you can get up and go forward when you've blown it. He says, "...then you would go after futile things which can not profit or deliver, because they are futile...." He says, "...for the Lord will not abandon His people on account of....,"(12:21-22a) how wonderful they are. No, that's not what He says. "...the Lord will not abandon His people on account of His great name....," It's God's reputation that's at stake, "...because the Lord has been pleased to make you a people for Himself."(12:22) God doesn't go back on His covenant. God knows your, your frame. He knows that you're dust. He knows you're not going to be perfect. His namesake. He's not going to go back on it. He says, "Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you...;" I'm not going to stop my praise. I'm not going to stop my prayers for you, "...but I will instruct you in the good and right way."(12:23) O, Beloved, do you realize that what you are learning today, what you learned yesterday is so that you can take these truths and you can share them with others? He says, "...I will instruct you in the good and right way. Only fear the Lord and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you. But if you still do wickedly, both you and your king [shall] be swept away."(12:23b-25) O, Beloved, He wants you to see that you and I need to go forward and He'll go forward with us. If we do wickedly He cannot bless us. To fear Him, to trust Him, to honor Him as God. That's what I want you to do: think on these things.