LESSONS FROM SAUL AND AMALEK

* History of the Amalekites
	+ Likely descendants of Esau – Gen. 36:12
		- But see, Gen. 14:7
	+ Cowardly attacked Israel – Deut. 25:17-19
		- “Did not fear God”
	+ Israel’s first battle – Ex. 17:8-16
	+ Nomads who continued to harass Israel – Jdg. 3:12-13; 6:3-5
* God’s Judgment of Amalekites
	+ Original command to blot them out – Deut. 25:19
	+ Direct command given to King Saul to “utterly destroy” them – 1 Sam. 15:2-3
	+ Saul attacked them (from Havilah all the way to Shur) – 1 Sam. 15:7
* Saul’s Disobedience (1 Sam. 15)
	+ Took King Agag captive – v. 8
	+ Spared the best of Amalek’s flocks– v. 9
	+ Blamed others – v. 21
	+ Others apparently escaped – 1 Sam. 30:1-5
* Saul’s Misunderstanding
	+ “I have performed the commandment of the Lord.” – v. 13
	+ Animals to sacrifice “which should have been utterly destroyed” (v. 21), “and the rest we have utterly destroyed.” – v. 15
	+ “But I have obeyed the voice of the Lord… and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.” – v. 20
* Consequences of Saul’s Actions
	+ Disappointment to others – 1 Sam. 15:11, 35
	+ Cost him his kingdom – 1 Sam. 15:23-26
	+ Later put out of misery by Amalekite – 2 Sam. 1:8-10
	+ Agag not spared – 1 Sam. 15:32-33
	+ Others had to finish the job – 1 Sam. 30:1-5, 17-19; 1 Chron. 4:43
	+ Haman’s plot against Jews – Est. 3:1, 6
* Lessons for Us
	+ We must utterly destroy sin in our lives – Col. 3:2-10
	+ We can’t pass the buck to others – 2 Cor. 5:10
	+ God wants full obedience – 1 Sam. 15:22
		- Not our place to question why…
		- Must worship how God has authorized – Jn. 4:24
		- Can’t neglect any duties – Mt. 25:14-30