

**“No restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few” 1 Samuel 13 & 14 3/26/23**

Today, we'd like to see the title of "No restraint to the Lord save by many or by few" in Samuel 13-14. To Online Word's people, *through MP3 or YouTube Channel*, on the earth, we'd like to suggest the 3 expositional Questions. ([\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) *Maranatha Worship Songs*. Videos are seeable upon the click on the website). *YouTube Channel is not Available in China, Iran, Germany, etc. where only MP3 is available*

Q1. In 13:13-14, "And Samuel said to Saul, 'You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you. For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever,<sup>14</sup> But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him *to be* commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you,'" what do these mean in the context? And how can we apply these to our lives?

Q2. In 14:6, "Then Jonathan said to the young man who bore his armor, 'Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the LORD will work for us. For nothing restrains the LORD from saving by many or by few,'" what does it mean? And what can we learn from here?

Q3. In 14:48, "And he gathered an army and attacked the Amalekites, and delivered Israel from the hands of those who plundered them," why did God allow that Saul was so successful after he had disobeyed God in the context? And how can we learn from here?

(Background for context of this text on Daily Bible Reading and Studying Weekly Book Basis)



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In the last time, in Samuel 12:24-25, "Only fear the LORD, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you. <sup>25</sup> But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king," in the memory of God's great works, serve God in truth with all your heart to love Him. Or, you will be swept away. (*Palm Sunday to Easter Chart Enclosed*)

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<sup>1</sup>Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel, <sup>2</sup>Saul chose for himself three thousand men of Israel. Two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in the mountains of Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin. The rest of the people he sent away, every man to his tent. <sup>3</sup>And Jonathan attacked the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. Then Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, "Let the Hebrews hear!" <sup>4</sup>Now all Israel heard it said that Saul had attacked a garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel had also become an abomination to the Philistines. And the people were called together to Saul at Gilgal. <sup>5</sup>Then the Philistines gathered together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the seashore in multitude. And they came up and encamped in Michmash, to the east of Beth Aven. <sup>6</sup>When the men of Israel saw that they were in danger (for the people were distressed), then the people hid in caves, in thickets, in rocks, in holes, and in pits. <sup>7</sup>And some of the Hebrews crossed over the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was still in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling. <sup>8</sup>Then he waited seven days, according to the time set by Samuel. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. <sup>9</sup>So Saul said, "Bring a burnt offering and peace offerings here to me." And he offered the burnt offering. <sup>10</sup>Now it happened, as soon as he had finished presenting the burnt offering, that Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might greet him.

<sup>11</sup>And Samuel said, "What have you done?" Saul said, "When I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered together at Michmash, <sup>12</sup>then I said, 'The Philistines will now come down on me at Gilgal, and I have not made

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1-4=(See the map; red color line represents Israel army's movement while the blue color line represents the Philistines army's movement)

4= ...Saul had attacked... Philistines...the people.. called together to Saul at Gilgal (Saul drew the people's attention to himself for the battle won by Jonathan; He began so humble but developed the pride before his destruction. Watch for or be vigilant! *Prov 16:18; 1 Peter 5:8*)

6 = ...the men of Israel...in danger...were distressed...hid in caves, in thickets, in rocks, in holes, and in pits (When they saw so many Philistines and weapons, they were naturally distressed. When we face problems or temptations, look for the Lord who is omnipotent, omniscient, and merciful unto eternal life *Jude 1:21*)

8= ...he waited 7 days, according to the time set by Samuel...did not come to Gilgal...scattered from him (Samuel previously specifically told Saul that 7 days later he would come down to offer burnt and peace offerings. But he did not shown up on time *1 Sam 10:8*)

<sup>1</sup> *Prov 16:18* Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall; *1 Peter 5:8* Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour..

<sup>2</sup> *Jude 1:21* keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

<sup>3</sup> *1 Sam 10:8* You shall go down before me to Gilgal; and surely I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings and make sacrifices of peace offerings. Seven days you shall wait, till I come to you and show you what you should do."

supplication to the LORD.’ Therefore I felt compelled, and offered a burnt offering.”

13 And Samuel said to Saul, “You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you. For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever.”

13=Q1 ...done foolishly...not kept the commandment the Lord your God... (The Levite tribe was chosen to do offerings by God. But in Eli the high priest's time, due to the iniquity of Eli's house, Eli and his two sons were killed. Samuel as an Ephraimite, not a Levite, was with the Lord and let none of his words failed. Samuel did the priestly duty as a seer or priest as well as a judge role before Saul the 1<sup>st</sup> king's reigning Israel. Now the high priest was Ahijah the great-grandson of Eli. But Saul was a king and prophet, not being called the priestly duty to do offerings. Even if Saul made 3 excuses – (1) scattered people; (2) Samuel came late; and (3) Philistines came down to Gilgal for he has been forced to do the burnt offering, he did not keep God's commandment. Note the ritual should not be substituted for the substance which is of Christ, such as God's commandments, God's will, God's word, all heart to love God, or all other things about Jesus alone<sup>4</sup>. *Deu 12:12-14; 1 Sam 3:13-14, 19; 1 Sam 1:1-2, 17, 20; 1 Sam 9:9, 19; 1 Sam 14:3; Col 2:16-17*<sup>5</sup>)

<sup>4</sup> *All other things about Jesus alone*: “(1) the Scripture alone is above any human thoughts.<sup>4</sup> We can't frame the Scripture to justify our opinions. (2) Grace alone is above any human works. The grace is 100% freely given gift by God over any human works or merit. Here the works are human works or flesh works, not God's works, the Spirit's works, or spiritual works in Christians. (3) Faith alone is above any seen things. The just lives by faith, not by sight. (4) Christ alone is above any creatures. Only through Jesus Christ, we can be saved from eternal death to eternal life. (5) God's glory alone is above any creatures' glories. And (6) the Holy Spirit alone is above flesh.” Source: Wayne Kim, “Customary Christians,” (California, CCAH PRESS®, 2022) 38-39

<sup>5</sup> *Deu 12:12-14* And you shall rejoice before the LORD your God, you and your sons and your daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levite who *is* within your gates, since he has no portion nor inheritance with you. <sup>13</sup> Take heed to yourself that you do not offer your burnt offerings in every place that you see; <sup>14</sup> but in the place which the LORD chooses, in one of your tribes, there you shall offer your burnt offerings, and there you shall do all that I command you; *1 Sam 3:13-14, 19*<sup>13</sup> For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them. <sup>14</sup> And therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.” <sup>19</sup> So Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.; *1 Sam 1:1-2, 17, 20* <sup>1</sup> Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim Zophim, of the mountains of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. <sup>2</sup> And he had two wives: the name of one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. <sup>17</sup> Then Eli answered and said, “Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have asked of Him.” <sup>20</sup> So it came to pass in the process of time that Hannah conceived and bore a son, and called his name Samuel, *saying*, “Because I have asked for him from the LORD.”; *1 Sam 9:9, 19*<sup>9</sup> (Formerly in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he spoke thus: “Come, let us go to the seer”; for *he who is* now called a prophet was formerly called a seer.) <sup>19</sup> Samuel answered Saul and said, “I *am* the seer. Go up before me to the high place, for you shall eat with me today; and tomorrow I will let you go and will tell you all that *is* in your heart.; *1 Sam 14:3* Ahijah the son of Ahitub, Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the LORD's priest in Shiloh, was wearing an ephod. But the people did not know that Jonathan had gone; *Col 2:16-17* So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, <sup>17</sup> which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ;

14 But now your kingdom shall not continue. The Lord has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.”

15 Then Samuel arose and went up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul numbered the people present with him, about six hundred men. <sup>16</sup> Saul, Jonathan his son, and the people present with them remained in Gibeah of Benjamin. But the Philistines encamped in Michmash. <sup>17</sup> Then raiders came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies. One company turned onto the road to Ophrah, to the land of Shual, <sup>18</sup> another company turned to the road to Beth Horon, and another company turned to the road of the border that overlooks the Valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness. <sup>19</sup> Now there was no blacksmith to be found throughout all the land of Israel, for the Philistines said, “Lest the Hebrews make swords or spears.” <sup>20</sup> But all the Israelites would go down to the Philistines to sharpen each man’s plowshare, his mattock, his ax, and his sickle; <sup>21</sup> and the charge for a sharpening was a pim for the plowshares, the mattocks, the forks, and the axes, and to set the points of the goads. <sup>22</sup> So it came about, on the day of battle, that there was neither sword nor spear found in the hand of any of the people who were with Saul and Jonathan. But they were found with Saul and Jonathan his son. <sup>23</sup> And the garrison of the Philistines went out to the pass of Michmash.

14= Q1 ...now your kingdom shall not continue.....a man after His own heart.... commander over His people....not kept what the Lord commanded you (Saul will – future tense – be replaced with a man after His own heart for a king. God does not seek a perfect man but a man after God’s heart. Nobody is perfect. Even a Christian is not perfect until he or she meets the Lord Jesus Christ the Savior in heaven by either rapture or death. See 14:52; When we know God’s will or God’s word, follow it at whatever outcomes follow. God often uses delays to test our obedience and patience in order to mold us in His image. Also, don’t try to hide yourself from the call of God like Saul, but to be ready before Him; Note how we know God’s will – a doing should be (1) for God’s glory; (2) according to His word in the Scripture related to the following given things; (3) given free will, given talents, and given situations called as an open door. *1 Sam 10:21; 1 Cor 10:31; Phil 2:13; Rev 3:8*<sup>6</sup>)

15-23 = (Unlike Philistines’ army, Israel army had no swords or spears except Saul and Jonathan. So they used farming tools for the battle – see the above map by observing the text; note a pim in verse 21 the Hebrew weight unit which is 2/3 of a shekel, 1/3 ounces, or 10 grams)

<sup>6</sup> *1 Sam 10:21* When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was chosen. And Saul the son of Kish was chosen. But when they sought him, he could not be found. ; *1 Cor 10:31* Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God; *Phil 2:13* for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure; *Rev 3:8* I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

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<sup>1</sup>Now it happened one day that Jonathan the son of Saul said to the young man who bore his armor, “Come, let us go over to the Philistines’ garrison that is on the other side.” But he did not tell his father. <sup>2</sup> And Saul was sitting in the outskirts of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree which *is* in Migron. The people who *were* with him *were* about six hundred men. <sup>3</sup> Ahijah the son of Ahitub, Ichabod’s brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the LORD’s priest in Shiloh, was wearing an ephod. But the people did not know that Jonathan had gone.

<sup>4</sup> Between the passes, by which Jonathan sought to go over to the Philistines’ garrison, *there was a sharp rock on one side and a sharp rock on the other side.* And the name of one was Bozez, and the name of the other Seneh. <sup>5</sup> The front of one faced northward opposite Michmash, and the other southward opposite Gibeah.

<sup>6</sup> Then Jonathan said to the young man who bore his armor, “Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the LORD will work for us. For nothing restrains the LORD from saving by many or by few.”

<sup>7</sup> So his armorbearer said to him, “Do all that is in your heart. Go then; here I am with you, according to your heart.” <sup>8</sup> Then Jonathan said, “Very well, let us cross over to *these men*, and we will show ourselves to them.” <sup>9</sup> If they say thus to us, ‘Wait until we come to you,’ then we will stand still in our place and not go up to them.” <sup>10</sup> But if they say thus, ‘Come up to us,’ then we will go up. For the LORD has delivered them into our hand, and this will be a sign to us.” <sup>11</sup> So both of them showed themselves to the garrison of the Philistines. And the Philistines said, “Look, the Hebrews are coming out of the holes where they

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3= Ahijah...Ahitub...Phinehas, the son of Eli...in Shiloh...wearing an ephod (Ahijah the high priest was the great-grandson of Eli, wearing an ephod or vest in Shiloh; another Phinehas was the grandson of Aaron *1 Sam 1:3; Numbers 25:7*)

6=Q2 ...it may be that the Lord will work for us. For nothing restrains the Lord from saving by many or by few (Since God is omnipotent, His almighty doesn't matter the size of human numbers for powers. So, to venture out upon faith is good. I step out on faith to see what God might want to do. Sometimes I find out that God doesn't want to do anything. That's all right to wait. Like a pillar of cloud and fire direction of the Lord on the Exodus, “Lord, here I am. Do You want to work today? Let's go for it. If not, that's all right too. But Lord I am available in a case You want to work. It is equally foolish to venture out upon flesh, into a case which God has not called you. *Rom 8:31-32; Exo 13:21<sup>8</sup>* )

7-9 = (our strategy to fight the Philistines depended upon their responses; if they say “come up to us,” then we will go up because this is the sign of God's delivery of them into our hands)

<sup>7</sup> *1 Sam 1:3*This man went up from his city yearly to worship and sacrifice to the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. Also the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, *were* there; *Numbers 25:7*Now when Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw *it*, he rose from among the congregation and took a javelin in his hand;

<sup>8</sup> *Rom 8:31-32* What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?; *Exo 13:21* And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night.

have hidden.”

<sup>12</sup> Then the men of the garrison called to Jonathan and his armorbearer, and said, “Come up to us, and we will show you something.” Jonathan said to his armorbearer, “Come up after me, for the LORD has delivered them into the hand of Israel.” <sup>13</sup> And Jonathan climbed up on his hands and knees with his armorbearer after him; and they fell before Jonathan. And as he came after him, his armorbearer killed them. <sup>14</sup> That first slaughter which Jonathan and his armorbearer made was about twenty men within about half an acre of land. <sup>15</sup> And there was trembling in the camp, in the field, and among all the people. The garrison and the raiders also trembled; and the earth quaked, so that it was a very great trembling. <sup>16</sup> Now the watchmen of Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin looked, and there was the multitude, melting away; and they went here and there. <sup>17</sup> Then Saul said to the people who were with him, “Now call the roll and see who has gone from us.” And when they had called the roll, surprisingly, Jonathan and his armorbearer were not there. <sup>18</sup> And Saul said to Ahijah, “Bring the ark of God here” (for at that time the ark of God was with the children of Israel). <sup>19</sup> Now it happened, while Saul talked to the priest, that the noise which was in the camp of the Philistines continued to increase; so Saul said to the priest, “Withdraw your hand.” <sup>20</sup> Then Saul and all the people who were with him assembled, and they went to the battle; and indeed every man’s sword was against his neighbor, and there was very great confusion. <sup>21</sup> Moreover the Hebrews who were with the Philistines before that time, who went up with them into the camp from the surrounding country, they also joined the Israelites who were with Saul and Jonathan. <sup>22</sup> Likewise all the men of Israel who had hidden in the mountains of Ephraim, when they heard that the Philistines fled, they also followed hard after them in the battle. <sup>23</sup> So the LORD saved Israel that day, and the battle shifted to Beth Aven.

19= ...Saul talked to the priest...the noise ...in the camp of the Philistines continued to increase.....Withdraw your hand (The high priest had the duty to choose either Urim or Thummim – Yes or No – to determine God’s will from the breastplate of his linen ephod. So, Saul asked Ahijah to withdraw his hands urgently to join in the battle *Exo 28:30*<sup>9</sup>)

<sup>9</sup> *Exo 28:30* And you shall put in the breastplate of judgment the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be over Aaron’s heart when he goes in before the LORD. So Aaron shall bear the judgment of the children of Israel over his heart before the LORD continually.

24 And the men of Israel were distressed that day, for Saul had placed the people under oath, saying, "Cursed is the man who eats any food until evening, before I have taken vengeance on my enemies." So none of the people tasted food. 25 Now all the people of the land came to a forest; and there was honey on the ground. 26 And when the people had come into the woods, there was the honey, dripping; but no one put his hand to his mouth, for the people feared the oath. 27 But Jonathan had not heard his father charge the people with the oath; therefore he stretched out the end of the rod that was in his hand and dipped it in a honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his countenance brightened. 28 Then one of the people said, "Your father strictly charged the people with an oath, saying, 'Cursed is the man who eats food this day.' " And the people were faint. 29 But Jonathan said, "My father has troubled the land. Look now, how my countenance has brightened because I tasted a little of this honey. 30 How much better if the people had eaten freely today of the spoil of their enemies which they found! For now would there not have been a much greater slaughter among the Philistines?" 31 Now they had driven back the Philistines that day from Michmash to Aijalon. So the people were very faint. 32 And the people rushed on the spoil, and took sheep, oxen, and calves, and slaughtered them on the ground; and the people

24= ..the men of Israel were distressed that day...Saul....under oath...Cursed is the man who eats any food until evening before I have taken vengeance on my enemies....(This was a foolish vow or a troubled oath in verse 29, like Jephthah. When Saul saw that the battle was going in Israel's favor, he announced the curse because of lifting up himself or his pride, "Until I, Saul, have taken vengeance on my enemies," rather than "Until the Lord has defeated the enemies;" Saul wanted to finish the battle quickly, pressing Israel soldiers without considering their hungers in verse 31 "very faint." Even in OT time, God never asked people to make oaths or vows, but if they did, they must keep them. In NT time, oaths or vows are discouraged but rarely are used such as at wedding or court testimony *Deut 23:21-23; Judges 11:30-34; Mat 5:34-37*<sup>10</sup>)

32= rushed on the spoil.....the people ate them with the blood (in OT time, God strictly forbade the blood of bird or beast, subject to the death penalty, because its blood represented life; even in early church of NT, it was recommended to abstain the eating blood because of a stumbling block to the Jews' Christians *Gen 9:4; Lev 7:26-27; Acts 15:27-29*<sup>11</sup>)

<sup>10</sup> *Deut 23:21-23* When you make a vow to the LORD your God, you shall not delay to pay it; for the LORD your God will surely require it of you, and it would be sin to you. <sup>22</sup> But if you abstain from vowing, it shall not be sin to you. <sup>23</sup> That which has gone from your lips you shall keep and perform, for you voluntarily vowed to the LORD your God what you have promised with your mouth; *Judges 11:30-34* And Jephthah made a vow to the LORD, and said, "If You will indeed deliver the people of Ammon into my hands, <sup>31</sup> then it will be that whatever comes out of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the people of Ammon, shall surely be the LORD's, and I will offer it up as a burnt offering." <sup>32</sup> So Jephthah advanced toward the people of Ammon to fight against them, and the LORD delivered them into his hands. <sup>33</sup> And he defeated them from Aroer as far as Minnith—twenty cities—and to Abel Keramim, with a very great slaughter. Thus the people of Ammon were subdued before the children of Israel. <sup>34</sup> When Jephthah came to his house at Mizpah, there was his daughter, coming out to meet him with timbrels and dancing; and she was his only child. Besides her he had neither son nor daughter.; *Mat 5:34-37* But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; <sup>35</sup> nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup> Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup> But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

<sup>11</sup> *Gen 9:4* But you shall not eat flesh with its life, *that is*, its blood; *Lev 7:26-27* Moreover you shall not eat any blood in any of your dwellings, *whether* of bird or beast. <sup>27</sup> Whoever eats any blood, that person shall be cut off from his people.""; *Acts 15:27-28* We have therefore sent Judas and Silas, who will also report the same things by word of mouth. <sup>28</sup> For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things <sup>29</sup> that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well.

ate them with the blood. <sup>33</sup> Then they told Saul, saying, “Look, the people are sinning against the LORD by eating with the blood!” So he said, “You have dealt treacherously; roll a large stone to me this day.” <sup>34</sup> Then Saul said, “Disperse yourselves among the people, and say to them, ‘Bring me here every man’s ox and every man’s sheep, slaughter them here, and eat; and do not sin against the LORD by eating with the blood.’ ” So every one of the people brought his ox with him that night, and slaughtered *it* there.

<sup>35</sup> Then Saul built an altar to the LORD. This was the first altar that he built to the LORD. <sup>36</sup> Now Saul said, “Let us go down after the Philistines by night, and plunder them until the morning light; and let us not leave a man of them.” And they said, “Do whatever seems good to you.” Then the priest said, “Let us draw near to God here.” <sup>37</sup> So Saul asked counsel of God, “Shall I go down after the Philistines? Will You deliver them into the hand of Israel?” But He did not answer him that day. <sup>38</sup> And Saul said, “Come over here, all you chiefs of the people, and know and see what this sin was today.” <sup>39</sup> For as the LORD lives, who saves Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die.” But not a man among all the people answered him. <sup>40</sup> Then he said to all Israel, “You be on one side, and my son Jonathan and I will be on the other side.” And the people said to Saul, “Do what seems good to you.” <sup>41</sup> Therefore Saul said to the LORD God of Israel, “Give a perfect lot.” So Saul and Jonathan were taken, but the people escaped. <sup>42</sup> And Saul said, “Cast lots between my son Jonathan and me.” So Jonathan was taken. <sup>43</sup> Then Saul said to Jonathan, “Tell me what you have done.” And Jonathan told him, and said, “I only tasted a little honey with the end of the rod that was in my hand. So now I must die!” <sup>44</sup> Saul answered, “God do so and more also; for you shall surely die, Jonathan.” <sup>45</sup> But the people said to Saul, “Shall Jonathan die, who has accomplished this great deliverance in Israel? Certainly not! As the LORD lives, not one hair of his head shall fall to the ground, for he has worked with

34= ...do not sin against the Lord by eating with the blood (Saul did not put death penalty to the eaters of the meat with the blood, not the eaters of the blood alone, in the light of God's word, but admonished or rebuked the eaters not to do so for the future)

35= Then...built an altar to the Lord....the first altar that he built to the Lord (Saul consistently approached God only after he had tried everything else. Vice versa is much better because our God foreknows, knows all things, and is almighty *Rom 8:29; John 18:4;2 Cor 6:18<sup>12</sup>*)

36-47 = (Saul wanted to wipe out the Philistines soon. But God did not answer his inquiry. So, through drawing lots, it reached Jonathan who confessed that he tasted a little honey and admitted his death penalty even if he had not known the oath. But Saul alleged that Jonathan was subject to death penalty because of the oath, even based upon Saul's word, not God's word. Here, Saul's determination, sensible conclusion, or judgment was unequal or unfair, compared to the previous judgment to the eater of meat with the blood in verse 34. But the people's wisdom 'as the Lord lives' rescued Jonathan from Saul's folly judgment.)

<sup>12</sup> *Rom 8:29* For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren; *John 18:4* Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, “Whom are you seeking?”; *2 Cor 6:18* “I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the Lord Almighty.”



God this day.” So the people rescued Jonathan, and he did not die. <sup>46</sup> Then Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, and the Philistines went to their own place. <sup>47</sup> So Saul established his sovereignty over Israel, and fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, against the people of Ammon, against Edom, against the kings of Zobah, and against the Philistines. Wherever he turned, he harassed *them*.

<sup>48</sup> And he gathered an army and attacked the Amalekites, and delivered Israel from the hands of those who plundered them.

48=Q3...he gathered an army and attacked... delivered Israel from the hands of those who plundered them (Why did God allow that Saul was so successful after he had disobeyed God? Don't misunderstand God's longsuffering or patience as an approval of the sin or disinterest in the sin for any of them should not perish but be blameless. Also the timing and methods of God's doing are subject to His sovereignty. So we trust in the Lord and follow His direction all the ways at whatever outcomes follows. <sup>2</sup> *Peter* 3:9; *Phil* 2:15; *Rom* 9:21-23<sup>13</sup>; For example, Moses' interracial marriage with Ethiopian woman in OT time the issue not handled by God; David's adultery the issue handled by God; Rahab's harlotry and lie the issues not handled by God but her faith handled by God; Christians' white lie or dishonest gains ---because the lie is against the truth, Jesus the truth is impossible to lie and the devil is a liar. The Lord is never pleased by our dishonest gains. So, at the ministry of deacon, elder, pastor, teacher, evangelist, missionary, or another minister, discern (1) every heart to minister willingly, eagerly, or for dishonest gains— money, power, or glory, as well as (2) every spirit which is either of God or of the world *Numbers* 12:1; *2 Sam* 11:4; *Joshua* 2:4; *John* 8:44; *Col* 3:9-10; *1 Tim* 4:1-2; *Titus* 1:2; *Heb* 6:17-18; *James* 3:14; *1 Peter* 5:2; *1 John* 4:1<sup>14</sup> )

<sup>13</sup> *2 Peter* 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning *His* promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance; *Phil* 2:15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.; *Rom* 9:21-23 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor? <sup>22</sup> *What* if God, wanting to show *His* wrath and to make *His* power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, <sup>23</sup> and that He might make known the riches of *His* glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory

<sup>14</sup> *Numbers* 12:1 Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman.; *2 Sam* 11:4 Then David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her, for she was cleansed from her impurity; and she returned to her house; *Joshua* 2:4 Then the woman took the two men and hid them. So she said, “Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they were from; *John* 8:44 You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it. ; *Col* 3:9-10 Do not lie to one another, since you

49 The sons of Saul were Jonathan, Jishui, and Malchishua. And the names of his two daughters were *these*: the name of the firstborn Merab, and the name of the younger Michal. 50 The name of Saul's wife was Ahinoam the daughter of Ahimaaz. And the name of the commander of his army was Abner the son of Ner, Saul's uncle. 51 Kish was the father of Saul, and Ner the father of Abner was the son of Abiel. 52 Now there was fierce war with the Philistines all the days of Saul. And when Saul saw any strong man or any valiant man, he took him for himself.

52=...fierce war with the Philistines....any strong man or any valiant man, he took him for himself (God has been working to choose a man after His own heart as a king for His glory, in 13:14, while Saul took a strong or valiant man for himself. It's observed that God was doing in His way and in His time to replace Saul with a man after His heart, toward David the next king).

Note: Most Christians say the Bible is important, but rarely study every word in the Bible and commit it to the Lord. So, it's better to study it and live accordingly after the Spirit for the Lord (2 Tim 2:15). This online word for global crusade in effect develops from the expositional sermon (KJV), into spiritual transformation in daily love fellowship with the Lord throughout the Bible Study (NKJV) -- *All Scripture Expository Study from verse by verse Inductive Studies* -- of which application is the Discipleship and Spiritual Formation, closer to the image of Christ. We think that "Any human opinion is not really important rather than what God says. So, the best commentary on the Bible is the Bible per se. But the opinion to make us understand God's Word is acceptable (2 Corinthians 10:5)." Further, for the application, a life or spiritual experience might be helpful to understand how to apply an understood word in the text column, but it is temperately used like Paul, because nobody should think above that actual experience (2 Cor 12:6, Jeremiah 23:28). **All quotations are taken, except King James Version (KJV), from New King James Version (NKJV), ©1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.**

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**Thank you everybody. Come to Jesus!**

have put off the old man with his deeds, <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new *man* who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,; *1 Tim 4:1-2* Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, <sup>2</sup> speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,; *Titus 1:2* in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,; *Heb 6:17-18* Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed *it* by an oath, <sup>18</sup> that by two immutable things, in which it *is* impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before *us*.; *James 3:14* But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.; *1 Peter 5:2* Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; *1 John 4:1* Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

;

***GOD's Continuing Work Through His Church Acts 29***

Pray for continually “Let go, let God” because CCAH church (His sheep) is His church. “The Commentary of the Bible By Verse” is coming for this & future generation. E.g. 2020 <https://calvarychapelanaheimhills.com/letGod.pdf>

<https://www.calvarychapelanaheimhills.com/OnlineSermon2023.htm>

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (John 1:1).

**Who can be against the Word (λόγος LOGOS or the written word, i.e., the Bible)?**

**Pray for the Michael Loudermilk's Ministry at Korea.**



*Pastoral Training of Asia*  
Ministering to Ministers

**CALVARY CHAPEL DAEJEON**

Loudermilk Family Newsletter – March 2023



Dear Friends and Family,

As March has rolled around, winter vacation has ended here. Our winter vacation for school is longer than the summer vacation. So the non-Korean people in our church often travel to their homes in order to see family and friends during the time. But now everyone is back, school has started, and with Covid no longer a big issue it is time to get busy again.

The main focus is going to be on outreach rather than just the in-church Bible teaching and fellowship that we have had over the last three years. It is time to look for opportunities for outreach like we used to do before Covid restricted us. Please pray for us as we look for ways to get our church family involved in the lives of others that need help.

Visiting orphanages is always an option that we need to look into. Also it is time to think about going back to House of Hope, a home for people with special needs. The main one to focus on though to is going back to the Philippines for a mission trip. The last time we were there was in 2020 just before travel started to be restricted. So it is time to form a team to start praying and planning for our next trip which would probably be sometime in February 2024 when people are still on the winter break. Also it won't be typhoon season so that helps as well. Plus, when we went before in the summer it was crazy hot. February is still hot, but not as bad.

Once again, I just want to thank you for praying for us and supporting what the Lord is doing here. Please pray just that we would be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit as to what the Lord wants to do here next.

The family (Hye-Young and Jeena) are doing well. Jeena has just started her second year of high school and seems to be enjoying being back in school with friends. Our winter trip to visit family in Arkansas didn't exactly go as planned, so I am hoping that all of us can get back out there soon when there is less cold and snow so Jeena can have more fun. And it is just nice to be able to have time staying with my mom at my sister's house.



*Jeena with Bella in Arkansas*

Thank you always for your prayers and support –  
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## Pray for Iran's Evangelism.



INSIGHT INTO IRAN:

# The (not-so) Islamic Republic of Iran

Most Iranians no longer identify as Muslim. Iran's increasingly diverse and pluralistic ideological landscape is fostering fertile ground for the Gospel. But the growing desire among Iranians for freedom from the shackles of restrictive dogma means there are challenges the church needs to address through solid teaching and discipleship.

### Widespread disillusionment

Iran is Islamic. It's in the name: The Islamic Republic of Iran. Islam is firmly written into Iran's constitution and this identity cascades down through every law and policy, every government institution, every textbook and schoolroom, every official cultural body.

And yet for decades a divide has been growing between the conservative Shia ruling classes and the hearts and minds of ordinary Iranians. As the population has witnessed the oppression and corruption of the government, many have become disillusioned with the religion their rulers represent.

That divide has become an abyss.

Today only 32.5% of Iran's population self-identify as Shia Muslim, according to a survey of religious attitudes in 2020 by Netherlands-based research body

GAMAAN. 32.5% contrasts starkly with the official 90 - 95% quoted by the Iranian government.

Nearly 60% of Iranians do not identify as Muslim at all, according to this survey. Further, research done by GAMAAN in early 2022 into political attitudes indicated only 18% of Iran's population wish to preserve the Islamic Republic as it is. 62% of the population want to see the Islamic Republic - in place since 1979 - either overthrown or gradually phased out.

What do these millions of disillusioned, hurting people believe and value? Where does their devotion lie, if not with Islam and the state?

### Voices from many traditions

There is no single answer. Disillusionment has led some to embrace atheism, agnosticism or humanism, some to turn to other faiths and many others to identify as

# Pray for Pastoral Training of Asia(PTA).



## *Pastoral Training of Asia* Ministering to Ministers

Dear Calvary Pastor,

December 2021

**PHILIPPINES: EXCITING NEWS! THE RADIO STATION IS MOVING FORWARD** We had an extremely enriching Zoom meeting with the Philippines Director of Far Eastern Broadcasting Company (FEBC) Dan Cura and staff. FEBC is one of the largest and oldest Christian networks and we are privileged to partner with them. We were told that the last step was governmental approval and we should have it within the year. FEBC will pay for everything that is needed, all we supply is the building for the radio tower and an office. What revived our keen interest was how far reaching the station would actually go. It will reach a large portion of southern Negros Island, southern Cebu Island, all Siquijor Island parts of Bohol Island and a small part of Mindanao! Conservatively we will be able to reach over a million people! We were informed as soon as we get the government green light, FEBC moves quickly, and we will be up and running! Please keep this in your prayers, the potential for new believers and strengthening believers is enormous!



**PHILIPPINES: GOVERNMENT SAY YES TO PREACH AND PRAY AT COMMUNITY MEETING!** God is blessing the church that we helped plant in Mindoro. Pastor Andy was approached by the local government officials to use the church property for a meeting (religious gatherings are allowed but with a 30% capacity only) As you see from the pictures, it was a full house, because the meeting was initiated by the government it was allowed. Pastor Andy told the

officials that to use the property he must be allowed to share the Word and lead the prayer, and they said yes...awesome! The government can limit people's freedom to be out in public, but they can't limit the Word of God!

**KOREA: SOUNDS LIKE BIG BROTHER!** We have had a couple of encouraging talks with our missionary friends in Korea. They have had very strict controls because of Covid. With several complete lockdowns they were told not to leave home. Victor got a phone call from the Health Department wanting to know why his phone had not moved in 4 hours, assuming that he had left his phone at home and was illegally out. He assured them that his phone was just in the kitchen all that time and moved it to the living room and they were able to see it. Amazing! Pray for the missionaries in Asia as it appears that is where the most severe governmental controls are.

**FINALLY, AN IN-PERSON PASTOR'S SEMINAR!** Our PTA Pastor Rey was excited to be back as well as the participants. (He has been doing Zoom Seminars for the last year & a half) Pastor Rey's only challenge was speaking the entire time wearing a mask (one of many government restrictions). 10,000 PTA gospel tracts were given, Study-type Bibles, food, and a clear understanding of how to know the Bible, Inductive Method of Bible Study was the topic.

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**Christ(C)'s Death & Resurrection (\*Our vs Jewish calendar)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sun
<b>MORNING</b> Triumphal Entry in Jerusalem [Palm Sun]	Cleaning Temple	1. Question of C's Authority 2. Widow's two mites offering	Woman's anointing C at Bethany	1. Washing feet of 12 disciples 2. Last Supper; 3. Prayer in Gethsemane	Sanhedrin + Pilate + Herod + Pilate **C's crucifixion (9 AM) Noon (Darkness) About 3 PM (Passed away) C's Burial	*** Resurrection [Easter]
<b>EVENING</b>						
Mon (2 <sup>nd</sup> )	Tue (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	Wed (4 <sup>th</sup> )	Thu (5 <sup>th</sup> )	Fri (6 <sup>th</sup> )	Sat (7 <sup>th</sup> )	Mon
			Judas' betrayal in heart	C's arrest C's trial (Annas + Caiaphas + Peter's denial)	(+ 1 day: <i>Double Sabbaths</i> )	
<b>CROSS- REFEREN CES</b> Mt 21:1-11 Lk 19:28- 40; Jn 12:13	Mt 21:12-17 Lk 19:45-48	Lk 20:1-8 Mt 21:23-27 Lk 21:1-4	Mt 26:6-7 Mk14:3-9 Mk 14:10- 11 Lk 22:1-6 Mt 26:14-16 Jn 13:1-2	Jn 13:3-30 Lk 22:7-23 Mk 14:12-26 Mt 26:26-30 Lk 22: 39-45 Mk 14:27-42 Mt 26:36-46 Lk 22: 47-71 Mt 26:47-75 Mk 14:43-72	Lk22:66-71 Lk 23:1-7 Lk 23:8-25 Mt 27 Mk 15:25 Lk 23:50-56 Jn 19	Lk 24:1 Mt 28:1
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sun

\* . A Jewish day begins at evening;  
A Jewish time + 6 hours = Our time: ("this 3<sup>rd</sup> hour" Mark 15:25 is 9 AM; "the 9<sup>th</sup> hour" Matthew 27:46 is 3 PM); A Jewish month in Jewish lunar calendar + about 3 months = our month

\*\* 7 statements on the cross  
(1) Luke 23:34  
(2) Luke 23:43  
(3) John 19:26-27  
(4) Matthew 27:46  
(5) John 19:28  
(6) John 19:30  
(7) Luke 23:46

\*\*\* Resurrection  
1. Time Table "3 (+40) 43 (+7) 50"  
(1) Passover (Crucifixion)  
(2) 3 days (Burial + Resurrection)  
(3) 40 days (Resurrected C's teaching on earth; Acts 1:3; C's ascension, Acts 1:9)  
(4) Pentecost (50 days as of the Passover; 7 days after C's ascension<sup>15</sup>) The Spirit came  
2. Eye Witnesses  
(1) Luke 24:10; Matthew 28:9  
(2) Luke 24:34-35  
(3) John 20:27  
(4) Mark 16:14  
(5) 1 Corinthians 15:5-8

Source: Wayne Kim, "Chuck Smith's Theology," (California: CCAH Press, 2010).

<sup>15</sup> See <http://www.churchyear.net/pentecost.html> - Different time "10 days after Christ's ascension"