Shocking Downfall of a Shallow Hypocrite¹

1 Sam 15:1-35

Intro – The problem of hypocrisy

- A hinge ch As God rejects Saul and begins to raise up David
- An exposing chapter (obedience, hypocrisy, genuine repentance
- A chapter that focuses on God's love for true obedience

I. Saul's *partial obedience* to God's clear command 1-9

II. Saul's self-protecting excuses when confronted on disobedience 10-23

- A. Arrogance despite compromise (12)
- B. Flattery to deflect scrutiny (13)
- C. Lying / Dishonesty (13, 20)
- D. Blame-shifting (14-15, 21)
- E. Rationalizing (15, 21)

III. Saul's shallow repentance and continued defiance 24-31

- A. Fake / Shallow repentance is worldly sorrow that leads to death 2 Cor 7:9-11
- B. Empty words 24a
- C. Love for approval "I feared the people" 24b
- D. Substitutes for repentance 24-26
 - 1. It's possible to acknowledge sin without repenting.
 - 2. It's also possible to name idol / ruling motive without repenting
 - 3. It's possible ask for forgiveness without repenting
 - 4. It's possible to renew intent to worship without repenting
- E. Obsession with human consequences 27-31

IV. Samuel's *absolute obedience* before Lord 32-35

¹ I want to give credit to Daron Roberts (whose message on this text greatly helped and shaped my understanding and preparation).