# Life Lessons From 1 Samuel Faith, Foolishness and Reality 1 Samuel 14:1-52 (page 194)

**Sunday, March 26, 2017** 

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### Faith is always moving forward (1 Sam 14:1-23)

#### Faith:

- takes the <u>initiative</u> (vs 1-3; Josh 14:10-12)
- always has its <u>c o n f i d e n c e</u> in <u>G o d</u>
  (vs 4-7; Dan 3:17-18; Luke 18:27; Phil 4:13)
- results in <u>courageous</u> <u>action</u> (vs 8-14; James 2:18)
- u n d e r s t a n d s that the battle is not m i n e, but the
  L o r d 's (vs 15-19; 2 Chr 20:15)
- that is vibrant will encourage others to trust God as well (vs 20-23; 1 Thess 3:7)

## Foolishness always leads us into trouble (1 Sam 14:24-46)

We can act foolishly when we:

- try to manipulate God (vs 24; Ecc 5:2)
- cause others <u>u n d e s e r v e d</u> <u>d i s t r e s s</u>
  (vs 25-30; Prov 27:3)
- cause others to <u>s i n</u> against <u>G o d</u> (vs 31-35; Matt 18:7)
- n e g l e c t to s e e k the will of God before we a c t (vs 36-37; James 4:15)
- refuse to repent and admit we were wrong (vs 38-46; 1 John 1:8-10)

## The <u>r e a l i t y</u> of our <u>l e g a c y</u> will ultimately be <u>r e v e a l e d</u> (1 Sam 14:47-52)

Will my life be measured by:

- what other people deem to be success? (vs 47-52)
- what God deems to be success?

#### Life Lessons:

- 1. Sometimes faith requires us to <u>w a i t</u>, when at other times faith requires us to <u>a c t</u> in that moment.
- 2. God purposely brings us into "*impossible*" situations so we will <u>k n o w</u> we cannot <u>s a v e</u> ourselves so that He can <u>d e l i v e r</u> us and receive all the <u>g l o r v</u>.
- 3. Our <u>e x a m p l e</u> of faith can <u>e n c o u r a g e</u> others to <u>f o l l o w</u> the Lord; while our foolishness can cause others to be <u>d i s c o u r a g e d</u> and dismiss the Lord.
- 4. History's view of us may differ greatly from God's view of us.