

1 SAMUEL 11; March 26; Saul's First Great Battle & Victory

ANALYSIS:

1. Who were the Ammonites and how were they related to Israel? (Gen 19:36-38) _____
2. The brutal terms of Nahash were that he would _____ and lay a _____ upon all Israel.
3. What two things happened to Saul when he heard those tidings? _____ and _____
4. When some of the people wanted to kill those who had said, "Shall Saul reign over us?" what did Saul say? _____

5. The people _____ Saul _____ before the LORD in Gilgal.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

How sad was the spiritual decline of Israel. They had rejected God by asking for a king like all the nations (8:5, 7). They had forgotten the past blessings of God's deliverance (10:18-19). Now when word reaches them of the plight of the men of Jabesh, they become a mass of crying babies without a thought of seeking God in prayer. Saul, under the Spirit of God, rallies the nation and leads in a great victory over the Ammonites. How wonderful to see the blessings of God using a Spirit-led leader!

Do you and I first seek God in prayer whenever difficulties, problems, challenges or dangers confront us? "Seek ye the LORD while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near:" (Isa 55:6). "Seek the LORD, and His strength: seek His face evermore" (Ps 105:4). "When Thou saidst, Seek ye My face; my heart said unto Thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek" (Ps 27:8). "...they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing" (Ps 34:10b).

HELP:

1. The Ammonites descended from Lot & his daughter, Lot was Abraham's nephew (Gen 19:36-38; 11:31).
2. Thrust out all their right eyes, reproach (v 2).
3. The Spirit of God came upon Saul, his anger was kindled greatly (v 6).
4. There shall not a man be put to death this day: for to day the LORD hath wrought salvation in Israel (v 13).
5. Made, king (v 15).