

St. Jerome Adult Bible Study

Study Questions 1 Samuel 13 – 21

- Saul's life's work, apparently, was to defeat the Philistines. Why did he go to battle with only 3,000 divided soldiers?
- See 10:8 – why did Saul wait at Gilgal for Samuel?
- How extensive was the Philistines' influence over Israel? (13:19)
- Why did Jonathan attack the outpost? What was his attitude?
- What is an ephod? (See notes on 1 Samuel 1 – 6) Why was it important to Saul?
- What was the oath Saul binds his troops with? Why? Was it smart or was it a matter of hubris? (Can you say "Moby Dick?")
- What's the problem with eating the meat with the blood? (See Leviticus 17:10-12) What did the Jews think when Jesus instituted the Eucharist?
- Are the troops more loyal to Saul or Jonathan? Why?
- Were the Amalekites innocent? Does God wish the slaughter of innocents? (Deuteronomy 25:17-19)
- Saul spares Agag and the best of the spoils. What was he thinking?
- Are sacrifices more important than obedience?
- What is a Jesse Tree? (Isaiah 11:1)
- There is some confusion about how Saul met David? How can that be explained?
- Goliath's armor and weapons weighed over 130 pounds (5600 shekels); what does that say about him? Why is it important?
- Why is Eliab angry? Does the older son/younger son theme seem familiar?
- Was it the reward Saul offered that caused David to fight?
- What is the end result for the "whole world?" (17:46-47)
- What is the first thing Saul dislikes about David? (18:7)
- Why is Saul so intent on killing David?
- See 20:14. Why is Jonathan afraid for his life? What pledge does he seek from David? Why? Was he justified in his fear? (20:30)
- Discuss 21:1 – 6; (See Leviticus 15:18) Sin? Human needs? Jesus and the Eucharist?
- Suspense builds – Does Doeg conjure up visions of evil?