

SAUL'S FINEST HOUR (1 Samuel 11)

I. SAMUEL (1 Samuel 1-7)

II. SAUL (1 Samuel 8-15)

A. VICTORY OVER THE AMMONITES (11:1-15)

1. CONFLICT with the Ammonites (11:1-3)

- a. The people of Jabesh-Gilead felt _____ by the military presence of Nahash and the Ammonites and asked them for a _____.

- b. Nahash's conditions were two-fold; he "only" wanted the _____ of each individual, and to bring _____ on the rest of Israel.

* Why would Nahash ask for such a thing?

2. CONCERN for the people of Jabesh-Gilead (11:4-10)

- a. The people of Jabesh artfully negotiated for a _____ extension to consider the terms, and to send _____ throughout the land of Israel for help from this military threat.

* Where is the very first place these messengers went?

* Where was Israel's king, and what was he doing?

- b. When Saul heard the news, the _____ of _____ came upon him, and his _____ was greatly _____.

* What does this teach us about "righteous anger"?

- c. Saul sent a very _____ message throughout the land, which apparently had the desired effect, because “*the _____ of the Lord fell on the people and they _____ with one consent.*”
- d. Saul rallied the troops together and they numbered _____ for Israel, and _____ for Judah.

3. CONQUEST of the Ammonites (11:11)

- a. Saul (as the military leader) separated Israel’s large army into _____ divisions.
- b. There was a great _____ of Ammonites, and “*those who survived were _____ so that no two of them were left together.*”

* What should this remind us of concerning the Lord’s enabling?

* What should this remind us regarding the grace of God?

4. CONFIRMATION of Saul’s kingship (11:12-15)

- a. Saul’s leadership brought _____ and confirmation among the people, and they sought to put Saul’s _____ to death.

* What was Saul’s response?

- b. The united kingdom of Israel was _____ at Gilgal, where they offered _____ of peace _____ unto the Lord.

* How does this apply to you today?