

SAUL'S FAILURE

I Samuel, chapter 15



That day, after the great battle with the Philistines and the victory that brave Prince Jonathan and his armor-bearer had won, King Saul commanded that his soldiers should not eat anything, but should go after the Philistines and battle against them that night.

Often in order to show love and thankfulness, the people would "fast"—that means, not to eat—for a day, but these soldiers were weak and weary and not ready for that if they were to follow the Philistines. Jonathan had not heard the rule, and because he disobeyed and ate a little bit of honey, Saul would have had him put to

death if the people had not saved the brave prince.

Things grew worse and worse. At last God decided to give Saul one more trial, so he sent word by Samuel that Saul was to take his army and destroy the whole country of the wicked Amalekites. He was not to save anything or anyone; because they were so cruel and such enemies of God, none of them should be left.

Saul sent word to some good people living among the Amalekites so that they could get safely away, and then he and his army marched into the land. But when Saul saw the cattle and the sheep he took them for himself; and he did not kill Agag, the king.