

Dig Deeper into 1 Sam 13:1-15 for individuals and lifegroups



“You Fool”

1 Sam 13:1-15

1) So close... 13:1-12

2) ...and yet so far 13:13-15

God seeks
detailed
obedience

➔1 Come to your senses

➔2 Come to your Saviour

➔3 Come to your Scriptures



Some questions for individuals and those meeting as lifegroups this week...

1. How do you feel towards Saul in this episode? Is it possible to have the eye of sympathy AND the eye of justice (regard to God’s command)? Compare 10:7-8 with 13:7b-12.
2. How are we so like Saul in our partial obedience and our excuses? Have there been times when you have been “so close but yet so far”?
3. “Forgiveness does not render obedience unnecessary, rather it renders it completely appropriate”. Do you ever consider Christ’s mercy to you a reason to excuse you from detailed obedience?
4. Charlie gave 3 suggestions for how to respond to this passage (see above). What might each look like in practice for you? Spend some time praying about this.

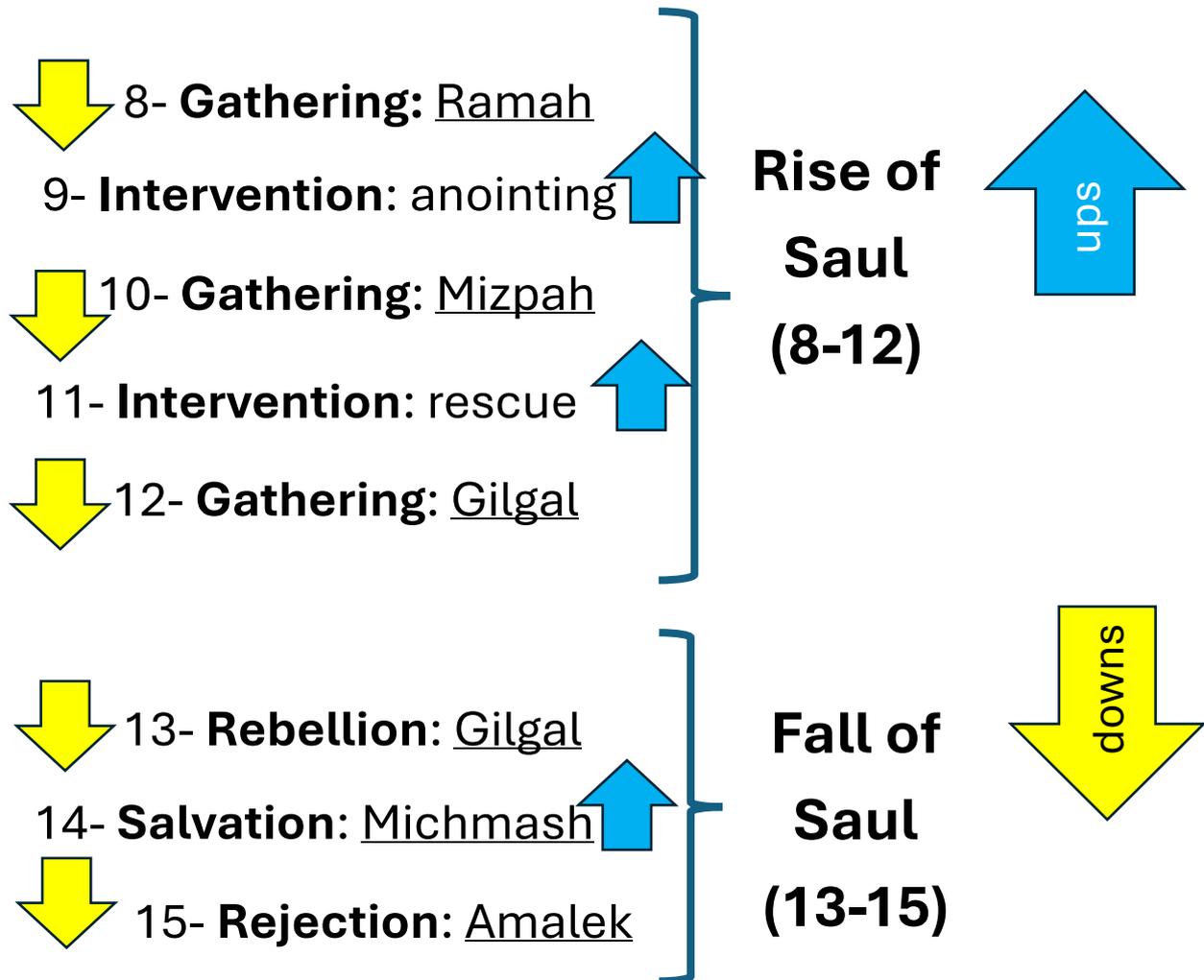
Some resources...

- For those who are troubled by the textual dropout in 13:1, there’s an article [here](#) which may or may not help (I can share commentaries too).
- For some extra notes I’ve put together on this section, see [here](#).
- A repeat of the overview is over the page.

Structure of 1 Samuel (with titles by Dale Ralph Davis¹)

1-7	SAMUEL-	A prophet from God's Grace
8-15	SAUL-	A King in God's Place
16-31	DAVID-	A Man after God's heart

A rough guide to the structure/ups and downs of this section....!



Gatherings include an indictment of the people's sin in wanting a King to replace God's kingship and so could be considered "downs". **Interventions** show God's merciful provision and protection and so could be considered "ups". But ultimately it's moving towards Saul's rebellion and rejection in chs 13-15.

¹ His commentaries on Old Testament Narrative are simply excellent- informative, heartwarming, hilarious! Charlie can lend, or have a look at the full catalogue at **10ofthose** if you have a birthday coming up....
https://uk.10ofthose.com/category/all?uk_live_products_1%5Brange%5D%5Bprice%5D=0%3A100000