

## **“Authority Alignment”**

**“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”  
(Romans 12:2)**

### **King Saul’s Stubbornness**

**1 Samuel 15:13-23** – (13) “Then Samuel went to Saul, and Saul said to him, ‘Blessed *are* you of the LORD! I have performed the commandment of the LORD.’ (14) But Samuel said, ‘What then *is* this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?’ (15) And Saul said, ‘They have brought them from the Amalekites; for the people spared the best of the sheep and the oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.’ (16) Then Samuel said to Saul, ‘Be quiet! And I will tell you what the LORD said to me last night.’ And he said to him, ‘Speak on.’ (17) So Samuel said, ‘When you *were* little in your own eyes, *were* you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the LORD anoint you king over Israel? (18) Now the LORD sent you on a mission, and said, ‘Go, and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.’ (19) Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD? Why did you swoop down on the spoil, and do evil in the sight of the LORD?’ (20) And Saul said to Samuel, ‘But I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and gone on the mission on which the LORD sent me, and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. (21) But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal.’ (22) So Samuel said: ‘Has the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams. (23) For rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He also has rejected you from *being* king.’ (NKJV)

### **Paul’s Repositioning**

**Acts 26:9-11, 14-15** – (9) “I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things in opposing the name of Jesus of Nazareth. (10) And I did so in Jerusalem. I not only locked up many of the saints in prison after receiving authority from the chief priests, but when they were put to death I cast my vote against them. (11) And I punished them often in all

the synagogues and tried to make them blaspheme, and in raging fury against them I persecuted them even to foreign cities. (14) And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’ (15) And I said, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And the Lord said, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.’”

Acts 22:10 – “And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ And the Lord said to me, ‘Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.”

Acts 23:1-5 – (1) “And looking intently at the council, Paul said, ‘Brothers, I have lived my life before God in all good conscience up to this day.’ (2) And the high priest Ananias commanded those who stood by him to strike him on the mouth. (3) Then Paul said to him, ‘God is going to strike you, you whitewashed wall! Are you sitting to judge me according to the law, and yet contrary to the law you order me to be struck?’ (4) Those who stood by said, ‘Would you revile God’s high priest?’ (5) And Paul said, ‘I did not know, brothers, that he was the high priest, for it is written, ‘You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your people.’”

Galatians 2:1-2 – (1) “Then after fourteen years I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, taking Titus along with me. (2) I went up because of a revelation and set before them (though privately before those who seemed influential) the gospel that I proclaim among the Gentiles, in order to make sure I was not running or had not run in vain.”

### **Pray about Pride, RePosition & Prosper**

Psalms 139:21-24 – (21) “Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? (22) I hate them with complete hatred; I count them my enemies. (23) Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! (24) And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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