

SERMON-PROOF



David Wilkerson February 24, 2015

To be sermon-proof is to hear God's Word, claim to love it, profess to obey it, but then not act on it! It is to become so hardened, the heart is no longer moved and is totally unaffected by what is preached. Some call it "gospel-hardened."

Think of all the old Bible stories and Bible characters. Who do you think was the most sermon-proof? Who sat under the clearest, strongest word and was totally unaffected by it?

Was it Saul? He heard a clear, strong word: "Go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass" (1 Samuel 15:3). Saul disobeyed this message. Instead, "Saul and the people spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good" (1 Samuel 15:9). Then Samuel appeared and Saul became a liar! "Saul said unto him . . . I have performed the commandment of the Lord" (1 Samuel 15:13). Samuel was horrified because he could hear the bellowing of the sheep that were spared. "Why did you not obey the voice of the Lord, but did what was evil in His sight?" (see 1 Samuel 15:19).

Was Saul hardened? Was he sermon-proof? Why else would he tell such bold-faced lies to a prophet of God who had the goods on him? Listen to him lie again with the evidence of his lying all about him: "Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, and have gone the way which the Lord sent me" (1 Samuel 15:20). Caught red-handed, Saul blamed others and contrived incredible excuses for his sin: "But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen . . . to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God" (1 Samuel 15:21).

Samuel got to the heart of the problem. He knew that Saul was sermon-proof because his heart had already been given over to witchcraft. "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee" (1 Samuel 15:23). Sermon-proof Saul ended up getting guidance from a witch and died an early, cruel death.

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