

Bound or Set Free?

1 Samuel 11

Introduction:

1. The city of Jabesh-gilead had a serious problem on its hands. The Ammonites, led by King Nahash, had surrounded the city of Jabesh. This wasn't a friendly social call. They had purposed to either destroy or enslave the people of Jabesh.
 - Nahash said, "We will spare your lives if you agree to allow us to thrust out your right eyes and become our slaves."
2. I am going to tell you how this story ends right here at the beginning of this message. Let's read verse 11. As they say back where I'm from, "The Ammonites got whooped!"
 - Nahash the Ammonite is a vivid picture of the devil. Just like Nahash, Satan desires to blind people and thereby keep them in bondage. We are dealing with a fierce enemy. The Bible says that he is like a roaring lion.
3. What was the turning point for these people? How were they set free? As we study this passage we will find that the same principles that applied to them and set them free from Nahash are the principles that will set us free from our enemy, Satan.
4. How can you be set free and see Satan defeated in your life?

First, you must recognize your need for help. vs. 1-2

1. At first, the city of Jabesh was going to make a covenant with Nahash. They were going to compromise with him. Nahash had scared and intimidated them. vs. 1
 - Any time you think you are going to compromise with the devil, you had better understand that you will always come out on the losing end.
2. Nahash was willing to make a deal with them, provided they allow him to thrust out their right eyes. vs. 2
 - This would disable a warrior, because the left eye is covered by his shield. They would end up as little pawns in the hands of Nahash, in bondage and slavery to him.
 - Satan loves it when people compromise with him and he can enslave them to himself.
3. But wisely, the people of Jabesh decided to seek help. They recognized that they needed help outside of themselves. This was the first step in their freedom from Nahash.
 - What if they would have said, "We're fine. We don't need any help. We can pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps"?
 - Obviously, they would have been bound and in slavery. You can't help someone that doesn't think he needs help. These people said, "We can't save ourselves, we need help."
4. Did you know that every one of us must come to that point before we can be saved and go to heaven? Listen to the words of Jesus in Mark 2:17. cf. Psalm 72:13

- Who did Jesus come to save? (1 Timothy 1:15) Who did Jesus die on the cross for? Romans 5:6, 8
5. Just like the people of Jabesh, did you know that you cannot save your own soul? We need help outside of ourselves if we are to have any hope of salvation.
 6. But did you know that this is also true of believers? Satan loves to take believers and get them bound to his will and his desires and in bondage to sin. We can't be victorious on our own. We need help! 2 Corinthians 3:5, 4:7; John 15:5
 7. Every day we have to turn in faith to Jesus Christ and rely exclusively on Him.

Second, there must be a person willing to meet your need. vs. 3-9

1. The people of Jabesh recognized their need for help, but then they had to find a man who was willing and able to save them. vs. 3
2. They found that man. He was the man recently anointed as King of Israel. His name was Saul. vs. 4-6
 - Saul was righteously indignant (he was ticked off) and the Spirit of God came upon him.
 - Saul heard the cries of the people and sent word, "Help is on the way." vs. 9
 - Saul won a great victory that day over Nahash. vs. 11
3. Likewise, 2,000 years ago, God heard the cries of a world in bondage to sin and Satan.
 - The Bible says that we were hopelessly lost in our sins and alienated from the life of God.
 - We needed a man to save us!
4. Do you know what God did? God responded by taking upon Himself the form of man, He came to this earth, and died the death that we deserve. He took our place and paid our sin debt in full. Galatians 1:4
5. He then rose from the dead three days later so that He could impart unto us life eternal and deliver us from Satan and the power of death. Hebrews 2:14-15
6. The people of Jabesh were saved because a man cared enough about them to meet their need. People's greatest need today is to be saved and delivered from the penalty of their sin. But there is good news. A man met that need! 1 Timothy 2:5-6
7. But here is what is really wonderful: Not only does Christ meet our need for deliverance from our sins, but **after** we become His children, He has promised to meet every need we have. Philippians 4:19

Third, you must be willing to obey your deliverer. vs. 10-15

1. The people of Jabesh submitted to Saul and said, "Whatever you want us to do, we'll do." vs. 10
 - Saul broke them up into three companies and they attacked and defeated the Ammonites. vs. 11

2. I remember when I came to that point in my life. I knew that Jesus wanted to save me and I was willing to do whatever it took (climb over broken glass, climb the tallest tree, run 10 miles, etc.).
3. But, I discovered a wonderful truth. All that God asked me to do was to believe on His Son, trust Him as my Savior, and He would forgive me of all my sins and accept me into His family. Acts 16:30-31; Galatians 3:26
4. The people of Jabesh were willing to obey their deliverer. Are you willing to obey God and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ?
5. If you are already a child of God today, are you living in obedience to your deliverer? There is no other way to be set free from the chains of Satan and this world.

In Conclusion:

1. Would the people of Jabesh be bound by Nahash or set free? They were gloriously set free. They were ready to take vengeance on all those who had bad-mouthed Saul and did not want him as king. But notice Saul's humble response. vs. 13-15
2. God wrought salvation for the people of Jabesh and He wants to do that for you today. In fact, He has already made provision for it through His Son, Jesus Christ.
3. Is your faith resting in Him today?

Bound or Set Free?

1 Samuel 11

Introduction:

1. The city of Jabesh-gilead had a serious problem on its hands. The Ammonites, led by King Nahash, had surrounded the city of Jabesh. This wasn't a friendly social call. They had purposed to either destroy or enslave the people of Jabesh.
 - Nahash said, "We will spare your lives if you agree to allow us to thrust out your right eyes and become our slaves."
2. I am going to tell you how this story ends right here at the beginning of this message. Let's read verse 11. As they say back where I'm from, "The Ammonites got whooped!"
 - Nahash the Ammonite is a vivid picture of the devil. Just like Nahash, Satan desires to blind people and thereby keep them in bondage. We are dealing with a fierce enemy. The Bible says that he is like a roaring lion.
3. What was the turning point for these people? How were they set free? As we study this passage we will find that the same principles that applied to them and set them free from Nahash are the principles that will set us free from our enemy, Satan.
4. How can you be set free and see Satan defeated in your life?

First, you must recognize your need for help. vs. 1-2

1. At first, the city of Jabesh was going to make a covenant with Nahash. They were going to compromise with him. Nahash had scared and intimidated them. vs. 1
 - Any time you think you are going to compromise with the devil, you had better understand that you will always come out on the losing end.
2. Nahash was willing to make a deal with them, provided they allow him to thrust out their right eyes. vs. 2
 - This would disable a warrior, because the left eye is covered by his shield. They would end up as little pawns in the hands of Nahash, in bondage and slavery to him.
 - Satan loves it when people compromise with him and he can enslave them to himself.
3. But wisely, the people of Jabesh decided to seek help. They recognized that they needed help outside of themselves. This was the first step in their freedom from Nahash.
 - What if they would have said, "We're fine. We don't need any help. We can pull ourselves up by our own bootstraps"?
 - Obviously, they would have been bound and in slavery. You can't help someone that doesn't think he needs help. These people said, "We can't save ourselves, we need help."
4. Did you know that every one of us must come to that point before we can be saved and go to heaven? Listen to the words of Jesus in Mark 2:17. cf. Psalm 72:13

- Who did Jesus come to save? (1 Timothy 1:15) Who did Jesus die on the cross for? Romans 5:6, 8
5. Just like the people of Jabesh, did you know that you cannot save your own soul? We need help outside of ourselves if we are to have any hope of salvation.
 6. But did you know that this is also true of believers? Satan loves to take believers and get them bound to his will and his desires and in bondage to sin. We can't be victorious on our own. We need help! 2 Corinthians 3:5, 4:7; John 15:5
 7. Every day we have to turn in faith to Jesus Christ and rely exclusively on Him.

Second, there must be a person willing to meet your need. vs. 3-9

1. The people of Jabesh recognized their need for help, but then they had to find a man who was willing and able to save them. vs. 3
2. They found that man. He was the man recently anointed as King of Israel. His name was Saul. vs. 4-6
 - Saul was righteously indignant (he was ticked off) and the Spirit of God came upon him.
 - Saul heard the cries of the people and sent word, "Help is on the way." vs. 9
 - Saul won a great victory that day over Nahash. vs. 11
3. Likewise, 2,000 years ago, God heard the cries of a world in bondage to sin and Satan.
 - The Bible says that we were hopelessly lost in our sins and alienated from the life of God.
 - We needed a man to save us!
4. Do you know what God did? God responded by taking upon Himself the form of man, He came to this earth, and died the death that we deserve. He took our place and paid our sin debt in full. Galatians 1:4
5. He then rose from the dead three days later so that He could impart unto us life eternal and deliver us from Satan and the power of death. Hebrews 2:14-15
6. The people of Jabesh were saved because a man cared enough about them to meet their need. People's greatest need today is to be saved and delivered from the penalty of their sin. But there is good news. A man met that need! 1 Timothy 2:5-6
7. But here is what is really wonderful: Not only does Christ meet our need for deliverance from our sins, but **after** we become His children, He has promised to meet every need we have. Philippians 4:19

Third, you must be willing to obey your deliverer. vs. 10-15

1. The people of Jabesh submitted to Saul and said, "Whatever you want us to do, we'll do." vs. 10
 - Saul broke them up into three companies and they attacked and defeated the Ammonites. vs. 11

2. I remember when I came to that point in my life. I knew that Jesus wanted to save me and I was willing to do whatever it took (climb over broken glass, climb the tallest tree, run 10 miles, etc.).
3. But, I discovered a wonderful truth. All that God asked me to do was to believe on His Son, trust Him as my Savior, and He would forgive me of all my sins and accept me into His family. Acts 16:30-31; Galatians 3:26
4. The people of Jabesh were willing to obey their deliverer. Are you willing to obey God and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ?
5. If you are already a child of God today, are you living in obedience to your deliverer? There is no other way to be set free from the chains of Satan and this world.

In Conclusion:

1. Would the people of Jabesh be bound by Nahash or set free? They were gloriously set free. They were ready to take vengeance on all those who had bad-mouthed Saul and did not want him as king. But notice Saul's humble response. vs. 13-15
2. God wrought salvation for the people of Jabesh and He wants to do that for you today. In fact, He has already made provision for it through His Son, Jesus Christ.
3. Is your faith resting in Him today?