



1 Samuel 15:24-35

"Are You Near Or Far"

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28:55

Have you ever been driving to a destination, and somewhere along the way, you made a wrong turn, and found yourself going in the wrong direction?

29:07

Has that ever happened to you? What did you do about it? Did you just keep heading east when you needed to go west? Or did you say something like, oh, silly me, and then make a U-turn, legal or otherwise, to get back on track?

29:29

Well, last week, we saw Saul make another wrong turn. He disobeyed God again. And God rejected him as king over Israel. So what do you think Saul will do now? Will he keep going the wrong way, or will he get back on course with God?



We're going to find out right after we pray together. Will you pray with me, please? Father, what a privilege to come and open your word. And Lord, when we come, we come not only with expectation, but we also come with the prayer of needing the help of your Holy Spirit to give us understanding so that we can be guided by heavenly things here on earth.

30:19

And we ask you, Lord, please open our ears, open our hearts so that we can be transformed by your love and your words of truth. And it's in the name of Jesus, we ask this. Amen. We're going to finish chapter 15 today.

30:36

Our passage is 1 Samuel 15, verses 24 to 35. If you want to use the Bible under your chair in front of you under the chair, it's on page 290, 290. So quick review from Pastor Mike's excellent teaching last week.

30:55

Do you remember the command that God gave to Saul at the beginning of chapter 15? Do you remember that command? God told Saul to destroy all of the Amalekites and all of their livestock as God's judgment for their sin.

31:13

What did Saul do? Do you remember? Saul and his army destroyed everything that had no value to them. But they spared Agag, the Amalekite king, and they kept the best livestock for themselves. So Saul almost obeyed God.

31:32

I think Mike, he gave him 75% if I remember his score. But as Pastor Mike showed us last week, partial obedience is still disobedience to God, just partial. So when the prophet Samuel came to confront Saul, do you remember how Saul greeted Samuel?



Remember what he said? Saul came up to Samuel and said, bless be you to the Lord. I have performed the commandment of the Lord. That's what Saul said. In today's language, Saul would have said, Sammy, bless you, brother.

### 32:07

Man, I did everything God told me to do. I crushed it. Call me king obedience. Samuel had trouble hearing Saul. Do you remember why? Because of all the noise from all the animals that were supposed to have been destroyed.

### 32:22

So Samuel asked Saul about the animals, and Saul had an explanation ready in case of emergency. And Saul said, the people spared the best sheep and oxen to sacrifice to the Lord, and the rest, the inferior stuff, we have devoted to destruction.

# 32:40

Then Samuel gave this message to Saul from the Lord. Let's read just as this is where we left off last week. 1 Samuel 15, verses 22 to 23. And Samuel said, as the Lord has great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord, behold, or Saul, look, to obey is better than sacrifice and to listen than the fat of rams.

### 33:07

For rebellion is as the sin of divination and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has also rejected you from being king. Now back in chapter 13, if you remember, Saul made an unlawful sacrifice to the Lord.



And Samuel told Saul at that time that his dynasty would end and God would appoint a new king. Here in chapter 15, Saul's latest act of disobedience brought God's official declaration of rejection.

33:45

Let's now read Saul's response to God. Let's hope Saul gets it right. 1 Samuel 15, verses 24 to 35. Saul said to Samuel, I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord in your words because I feared the people and obeyed their voice.

34:06

Now therefore, please pardon my sin and return with me that I may bow before the Lord. And Samuel said to Saul, I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of the Lord and the Lord has rejected you from being king over Israel.

34:22

As Samuel turned to go away, Saul seized the skirt of his robe and it tore. And Samuel said to him, the Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours who is better than you.

34:36

And also, the glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man that he should have regret. Then Saul said, I have sinned. Yet honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel and return with me that I may bow before the Lord your God.

34:56

So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul bowed before the Lord. Then Samuel said, bring here to me Agag, the king of the Amalekites. And Agag came to him cheerfully. Agag said, surely the bitterness of death is past.



And Samuel said, as your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women. And Samuel hacked Agag to pieces before the Lord in Gilgal. Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul.

35:30

And Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the Lord regretted that he had made Saul king over Israel. We've enjoyed some humorous and heroic moments in 1 Samuel, but there's nothing light or victorious here, is there?

35:56

This is a dark and painful picture of how Saul's decisions to disobey God have caused him to lose all the blessings God had prepared for him. Since we are all as human as Saul was, it would be unwise for us to sit in judgment of him.

36:24

The wise thing for us to do is look at Saul like a mirror and see ourselves and realize how easy it is for us to disobey God and end up on Saul's tragic path. Saul was a man that just kept finding what he thought were good reasons not to do what God told him to do.

36:47

Remember earlier in chapter 15, Saul was full of swagger. He boasted about his obedience to the Lord. He claimed he spared the animals for the Lord. And if you remember when Saul went to Carmel in chapter 15, he built a monument.



He set up a monument to himself. But when Samuel didn't buy his bravado and told him God had rejected him as king, Saul was out of answers, so he decided to fess up. Let's look at verse 24. Saul said to Samuel, I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord in your words because I feared the people and obeyed their voice.

37:31

When Saul admitted his sin, did you notice how it came out of his mouth married to an excuse? You see that? Saul entered a plea of guilty and gave his defense in the same breath. Saul told Samuel, I have sinned.

37:48

I did not do what God and you told me to do because I was afraid of the people and obeyed their voice. In other words, OK, OK. I admit I have sinned, but the people made me do it. Saul's reason for disobeying God is the oldest excuse in the book, literally.

38:14

This is the first excuse for sin in the Bible. Back in the Garden of Eden when the world was new, and Adam and Eve sinned by eating the forbidden fruit, do you remember their excuses? Let's turn so we refresh our memory.

38:29

Genesis chapter 3, verses 11 to 13. The Lord said, who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat? The man said, the woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.

38:49

Then the Lord God said to the woman, what is this that you have done? The woman said, the serpent deceived me, and I ate. Adam blamed his sin on the woman God gave him. Eve blamed the serpent. Saul blamed the people God gave him to lead.



Have we ever blamed someone else for a wrong decision we've made? Probably not. Saul struggled with peer pressure. We're all familiar with peer pressure, aren't we? Have we ever been afraid to obey God at work or at school or when we're out with friends because we're worried about what people might think about us if we didn't go along?

39:43

Saul's excuse for sin actually confirmed exactly why God had rejected him as king. God chose Saul to do what? God chose Saul to lead the people to obey the voice of God. But Saul didn't lead. He followed the people and he obeyed their voice instead of God's.

40:06

In the New Testament, after Jesus returned to heaven and the church was just getting started, the apostles faced all kinds of pressure from the Jewish leaders that were telling them, stop teaching in the name of Jesus.

40:22

And how did the apostles respond to that kind of pressure? Let's remind ourselves, Acts 5, verse 29. How did the apostles respond to peer pressure? But Peter and the apostles answered, we must obey God rather than men.

40:43

This is what Saul should have told the people when they wanted to disobey God and keep the spoils of war that belonged to God, not to them. Saul should have said, I must obey God, not you. And you must obey me.

41:04

Why didn't he say that? Why didn't he just say that?



Well, Saul did not have the courage of wholehearted devotion to the Lord that Peter and the Apostles had. Saul's devotion was divided. He wanted to please God, and he wanted to please the people, and he wanted to please himself.

#### 41:32

Saul's divided heart ruined his reign, ruined his reign. No one can serve God with a divided heart. Why? Because God commands and deserves our whole hearts, not just pieces and parts. Remember the greatest commandment in the Bible?

### 41:54

Let's turn to it. Matthew chapter 22, verses 37 to 38. Matthew 22, 37 to 38. Jesus said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first, or foremost, commandment.

# 42:19

A heart focused on the Lord stays close to the Lord. A distracted or divided heart will wander away. A heart that's focused on the Lord stays close with the Lord, has to. But when our heart is divided or distracted, we will wander away.

### 42:46

So where are you today? Are you close to the Lord or are you drifting? Where do you think you are today? Let's compare Saul's confession of sin with the confession of King David, who came after Saul.

#### 43:06

David sinned against God when he took his eyes off the Lord and put them on Bathsheba. And we find David's confession of sin in Psalm 51. These are David's words of confession directly to God. Let's look at Psalm 51, verse 4.



Psalm 51, verse 4. David said, Against you, you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, for that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. David offered no excuses, no explanation.

### 43:43

He called his sin exactly what it was. Do you see that word he used? He called it evil, evil in God's sight. Okay, now, I don't know if you ever do this, but I think we might tend to rate our sins, right?

### 43:58

We rate them as small, medium, large, and extra large, you know? But we do that in our eyes. But in the eyes of a holy God, every sin, any sin, all sin is evil, period. And that's why David said, I have done evil against you, Lord, and therefore, Lord, you are completely justified to judge me for it.

### 44:21

That was David's confession of sin. Now, let's look a little later in Psalm 51, verses 16 to 17. David says, for you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it. You will not be pleased with the burnt offering.

### 44:35

David understands what Samuel was trying to get Saul to understand. Then David says, in verse 17, the sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. David understood the way to worship God as with wholehearted obedience, not just with exterior external words and religious actions.



So David's own disobedience brought him to tears on his knees before the Lord. David was brokenhearted, not because he got caught. He was brokenhearted for sinning against the God he loved with all his heart.

45:12

Let's look at Saul's confession again. Now that we've read David, let's remind ourselves what Saul said. 1 Samuel 15, verses 24 to 35. Saul said to Samuel, I have sinned for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord and your words because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. Now, please pardon my sin and return with me that I may bow before the Lord.

45:38

Do you hear a broken spirit or a repentant heart in these words from Saul? I don't. I hear his defense, but not his repentance. Saul simply said, please pardon me. Please pardon me. That's what we say when we accidentally bump into somebody in the supermarket.

46:00

Oops, please pardon me. Excuse me. Oops. That's what he said to God for his sin. Oops, please pardon me. Sorry to bump into you God. Saul did not see the seriousness of disobeying God. Do we? Do you?

46:21

Do I see the seriousness when we disobey Almighty God in any way? Saul said, please pardon me, Samuel, and come with me so I can try to bow my way out of trouble with the Lord. Verse 26, Samuel said to Saul, I will not return with you, for you have rejected the word of the Lord and the Lord has rejected you from being king over Israel.



Wow, Samuel's words sound harsh here, but he wasn't trying to be mean. He was trying to get through to Saul, which was a tough assignment because Saul had selective hearing. Saul only heard what he wanted to hear and he disregarded the rest.

47:03

That never describes us, right? Nah, not possible. Samuel said, I'm not going with you, Saul, because you have rejected God's command. You have rejected the authority of the Lord over you, so the Lord has rejected you.

47:23

Past tense. God has rejected you, past tense, as king over Israel. It's a done deal, Saul. There's nothing more I can do for you. Verses 27 and 28, as Samuel turned to go away, Saul seized the skirt of his robe and it tore.

47:41

And Samuel said to him, the Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours who is better than you. When Samuel tried to leave, Saul reacted with anger or desperation, or maybe both, and he grabbed Samuel hard enough to tear his clothes.

48:03

The sound of that ripping fabric made Samuel stop, turn around, and say, did you hear that, Saul? Did you hear that? That's the sound of the Lord tearing the kingdom of Israel away from you. And Samuel also had a prophetic message for Saul, didn't he?

48:29

Samuel said, the next king will be Saul's better neighbor. Who is that better neighbor? This is fascinating because we know from history the next king is David, right? But Samuel had no idea who that neighbor was when he spoke these words from God because God had not revealed David to Samuel yet.



That will happen in the next chapter, so be sure to come back next week. Then Samuel just added this almost like afterthought that is the most profound truth about God in the Bible. Let's look what he said in verse 29.

49:10

Samuel said, and also the glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man that he should have regret. The glory of Israel can also be translated as the strength of Israel. This name for God honors his attributes of absolute stability, permanence, and unchanging constancy.

49:34

God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Let's compare verse 29 to another verse in the Old Testament that will help us understand what Samuel said. Let's look at Numbers 23:19. We're going to have them both on the screen so we can compare them.

49:54

Numbers 23 says, God is not a man that he should lie or a son a man that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it? Samuel wanted Saul, and therefore the Lord wants you and me to understand when here's something important we need if you're taking notes here's a good one.

50:18

This is what we need to understand from what Samuel just said. When God says something, he absolutely means it. He doesn't mess around. We, like Saul, we are foolish. We are foolish if we do not take every word of God seriously.



The unchanging, all-powerful God never lies. He never says something he won't bring to pass. The word regret in verse 29 means God never misspeaks or says the wrong thing that he has to regret or change his mind about later.

50:54

God never does that. Samuel wanted Saul to understand God's decision to reject him was final. God won't change his mind even if Samuel goes with Saul to bow before the Lord. God cannot be manipulated like people can.

51:14

Let's look at verse 30, okay? After hearing all this, Saul said, I have sinned. Yet honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me that I may bow before the Lord your God.

51:31

Saul finally revealed why he wanted Samuel to come with him, didn't he? Saul wanted Samuel's show of support in front of the people. Saul cared more about his public image than his sin. And as we've seen in the last few chapters, Saul has started to refer to God.

51:53

Did you see that? As the Lord your God, not the Lord my God. He started doing that a few chapters ago. Saul's words are revealing how far his heart has drifted from the Lord. Let me share a quote with you from St. Augustine. It's a good one.

52:13

He said, remember this. When people choose to withdraw far from a fire, the fire continues to give warmth, but they grow cold. When people choose to withdraw far from light, the light continues to be bright in itself, but they are in darkness.



This is also the case when people withdraw from God. It's true, isn't it? With one step of disobedience after another, Saul inched away from God until those inches became measured in miles and his heart grew cold and dark.

53:01

Remember the question I asked you at the beginning? What should we do when we realize we're driving in the wrong direction? Should we keep going? Should we turn around? Get back on course. The short biblical definition of repentance is a change of heart that results in a change of action or a change of direction.

53:23

That's the short biblical definition of repentance. It's a change of heart that results in something. It results in a change of direction or a change of action from us. Saul had no repentance, so he had no change of direction.

53:39

He just kept moving further and further away from God.

53:45

So sad.

53:49

It's interesting, though, in the next verse, Samuel is the one that had a change of heart and change of direction. Let's look at verse 31. So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul bowed before the Lord.



Samuel decided to go with Saul after all. Why did Samuel change his mind? Well, we don't know, do we? Because we're not told. But here are just a couple of thoughts I had. These are just my thoughts as I studied this.

54:19

I just like to share them with you. Maybe, maybe, maybe Samuel realized it was important for the people to see him go with Saul, so the people would know God had not rejected them, even though Saul and they had disobeyed God.

54:35

Maybe, maybe that's why. Or maybe Samuel hoped when Saul went in and bowed before the Lord, maybe something would start to change inside Saul's heart. He would start to come back to the Lord. This would not save Saul's kingdom, but Samuel cared more about Saul's heart than Saul's throne.

54:55

Of course, Samuel had a practical, very practical reason to return to Saul, didn't he? Samuel needed to carry out God's command that Saul failed to obey. Let's read verses 32 to 33. Then Samuel said, Bring here to me Agag, the king of the Amalekites.

55:16

And Agag came to him cheerfully. Agag said, Surely the bitterness of death is past. And Samuel said, As your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women. And Samuel hacked Agag to pieces before the Lord in Gilgal.

55:33

After Saul bowed before the Lord presumably to ask for forgiveness for his disobedience, Saul continued in disobedience by not carrying out God's command against Agag. So, as Saul stood by, Samuel slayed Agag.



This brutal description is like this whole chapter. It shows us the reality of God's holy anger against sin. Sin brings God's righteous wrath and judgment. It's hard to read these words, isn't it? I'm trying to imagine what this moment must have been like.

### 56:21

But, as seen with Agag, it's not the most shocking example of God's wrath in the Bible, is it? The most striking demonstration of God's terrible judgment for sin is when God poured out his wrath on Jesus as he hung on the cross to pay for your sins and pay for my sins.

### 56:48

Jesus bore the full wrath of God that we deserve. All sin, any sin, is evil in the sight of God and the punishment for sin is death. Would you like some really good news on Father's Day? If you are trusting in Jesus as your Lord and Savior, then your sins are covered by the blood of Jesus.

### 57:12

And that means God's wrath will never fall on you. Not ever. Let's look at Romans 5:9, one of the great promises in the Bible. Romans 5:9, since therefore we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. So, we can trust in Jesus and be saved from God's wrath forever.

#### 57:47

Or we can reject Jesus and face God's wrath forever. Which choice have you made? Which choice have you made? Let's look at verse 32 and 33, one more time. Then Samuel said bring here to me Agag the king of the Amalekites, and Agag came to him cheerfully. Agag said surely the bitterness of death is past. And Samuel said, as your sword has made women childless, so shall your mother be childless among women and Samuel hacked Agag to pieces before the Lord.



When King Agag was summoned before Samuel, this ancient word we translate as cheerfully is a little bit of a challenging word to translate.

58:32

It can absolutely be translated as cheerfully, or it can also mean cautiously, or it can mean being in shackles. So, we cannot be certain if Agag was hopeful, nervous or in chains, but we can be sure of this, Agag stood before Samuel to face the judgment of God whether Agag realized it or not. Agag said surely the bitterness of death is past.

58:59

There's also a question about what this statement means. Most likely it meant that King Agag felt safe under Saul's protection and he didn't think Samuel would harm him. However, the language here could mean Agag also knew that he was coming to be executed and it had been several days and he was protesting that delay. Let's look at Samuel's words, they're important.

59:22

Samuel says Agag your sword has made women childless. This declaration meant that God held Agag responsible for the death of God's people. That was the Lord's sentence. And then Samuel slayed Agag and we have the words before the Lord. This meant Samuel carried out God's judgment against Agag.

59:42

And I'm sure we all understand this, you're very bright wonderful people, I'm sure we all understand this but it's important just to be very clear about what this passage is not teaching us. The command to slay the Amalekites and to slay Agag was God's holy judgment against the sin of Agag and the Amalekites only for Saul and Samuel to carry out. This passage does not in any way teach us that we should think we are instruments of God's righteous anger, and we should take justice into our own hands and ever harm someone else.



### 01:00:18

Let's finish the chapter 34 to 35. And Samuel went to Ramah and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul, and Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death. But Samuel grieved over Saul, and the Lord regretted that he had made Saul king over Israel.

#### 01:00:41

Samuel went home. So did Saul, they lived about 10 miles apart from each other, but Samuel did not see him again. In chapter 19, when we get there, Saul will come to Ramah to hunt for David. But when Saul is there the Spirit of God is going to come upon Saul and he's going to prophesy with other prophets and be and seemingly be unaware of Samuel and he being unaware of him. They had no interaction with each other. So our passage ends With Samuel's broken heart.

### 01:01:14

He grieved. He loves Saul He grieved over Saul and we see God's heart here, too don't we. And the Lord regretted he had made Saul king over Israel. Okay, you're probably thinking back to just a few minutes ago when we read verse 29 that said God does not have regret. Here we are in verse 35 that says the Lord regretted he made Saul king over Israel. What is our passage telling us?

# 01:01:46

Well pastor Mike helped us understand this last week. We humans we feel regret. When we've made a mistake or a wrong decision, but God never makes a mistake or a wrong decision, so he never has that kind of regret.

### 01:02:02

That's what verse 29 was saying. Almighty God is all-powerful and all-knowing at all times. This means whatever, try to understand this, whatever God does in a moment of time is something God purposed to do in eternity past with full knowledge of eternity



future. There is no possibility of God ever making a wrong choice or a miscalculation, or not knowing every outcome of every decision to the tiniest detail.

01:02:30

So God does not have the kind of regret it causes him to be sorry for making a wrong decision. In verse 35 when the Lord regretted he had made Saul king over Israel, the word regretted here expresses God's profound displeasure at the sin of Saul. We know this because God regretted Saul's disobedience just like Jesus regretted the disobedience of the people of Jerusalem that rejected him as king. Remember that in Matthew 23?

01:03:06

Let's turn to it real quick 37-38. Here is Jesus saying, Oh Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it. How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings? And you were not willing, see your house is left to you desolate.

01:03:32

Jesus regretted the people that rejected him, God regretted Saul's rejection of his command that left him desolate, empty, and alone. Our passage is like others in the Bible that confront us with one of the great mysteries of God that is, quite frankly, impossible for us to fully comprehend with our finite brains.

01:03:54

And here it is. That mystery is that God is in complete control of everything, isn't He? Complete control of everything, yet at the same time He gives people like Saul, like Adam and Eve, like the people of ancient Jerusalem, and like you and me, He gives us the freedom to choose to obey Him or not.



01:04:12

Obedience to God brings countless blessings. Disobedience brings God's wrath, but Almighty God will always achieve His purposes whether we cooperate or not. We can obey God's will or we can disobey God's will, but we cannot prevent God's will.

01:04:34

God gave Saul every advantage to be a great king, but Saul chose to disobey God. God knew Saul would fail even as he gave Saul every, every opportunity to succeed. And then God raised up David, and even though King David sinned and failed, God used the line of David to prepare the way for the coming of the perfect King, Jesus.

01:05:03

Okay, I'll finish with this. This is, this is a heavy message for Father's Day, but, but it gives every one of us an important truth we need to think about. Here's the truth. Every minute of every day, you and I, we are making choices to obey the Lord or not.

01:05:25

Every minute of every day. Whenever we disobey God, if we try to excuse our disobedience instead of honestly confess it and turn away from it, then we can easily end up on the tragic path that Saul took.

01:05:42

We can become people that disregard the things we don't want to hear from God, and then what happens? Then all we listen to are the voices of other people, or we listen to the voice in our own head that just keeps us going in the wrong direction, further away from God, and our heart grows colder and darker.

01:06:00

Our passage raises that very important question I asked you earlier. I'll ask it one more time. Where are you today? Where are you? Are you near to the Lord, or are you far?



For those of us who know Pastor John Werhas, RockCC's founding pastor, he, then you remember this, he used to set his watch to beep every hour, remember?

# 01:06:26

And he did that just so he would stop every hour. This is a check. Where is his walk with the Lord? It's amazing how far you and I can drift in an hour, let along a day or more. If you realize there is any distance between you and God today, any distance at all, please don't be like Saul.

#### 01:06:47

Please don't be like Saul. Don't keep moving in the wrong direction. Confess your sin and repent. Repentance means have a change of heart that results in a change of action or direction. So please, for homework, make sure whatever direction you go home today is toward the Lord, not away.

### 01:07:14

Our prayer team will be up here to pray with you if you have something in your going on in your heart that you would just love to be lifted in prayer, or if you would just like to write it out. We have a prayer wall out the door to the right.

#### 01:07:26

You can write your request, leave it, and our prayer warriors will pray for you. Will you pray with me now, please? Father, we need to take every word you say seriously. Please forgive us, Lord, for the times when we value anyone's words higher than yours.

### 01:07:48

Please, I pray as we looked at your passage today you showed us if we've drifted from you, maybe a little, maybe a lot, but let us stop right now, right here where we are today, and repent and turn around and confess and get away from that sin so we can be close and stay close to you by your side and enjoy the complete love, mercy, grace, and forgiveness that's only possible through Jesus, our Lord.



# 01:08:19

Thank you, Father, and we can be justified by the blood of your Son. So we can be saved by Him from your wrath today, tomorrow, and forever. It's in the all-powerful name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.