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| <b>Duty<br/>or<br/>Devotion</b> | <b>Des Nelson</b><br>August 28, 2022<br>I Samuel 13:13-14; 15:22; Luke 10:38-42; Psalm 51:16-17;<br>Romans 12:9-10; Acts 2:42, 47; John 13:35; Matthew 26:39 |
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**Duty:** a commitment or expectation to perform some action in general or if certain circumstances arise.

**Devotion:** deep love or loyalty, an act of giving

**Obedience (devotion) is better than sacrifice (duty) 1 Samuel 15:22**

Example 1: King Saul's unlawful sacrifice and disobedience.

I Samuel 13-16. Saul sacrificed out of duty. Without devotion, duty/sacrifice has no heart.

Example 2: Martha's complaint to Jesus about Mary sitting listening to Jesus rather than helping. Luke 10:38-42.

Martha was acting out of duty; Mary was acting out of devotion

Doing your duty is not wrong; doing your duty from a heart of devotion is better. If we operate/serve in the heart of devotion it keeps things alive, keeps away toxic leadership, and builds lasting marriages.

Divisions can occur when believers forget what Martha had to learn: "what was most important"--devotion over duty, love one another, honor, worship and praise God.

Romans 12:9-10 NKJV: Acts 2:42, 47 NIV; John 13:35 NKJV

When we approach our relationship with God as just doing our duty, it becomes just a lifeless religious exercise. When we dutifully come to God with a heart of loving devotion, it is called WORSHIP.

**The last full measure of devotion** - *"Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, 'My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.'"*

Matthew 26:39 NIV

**To Think About:**

- ~ What is the one thing you want to take with you?
- ~ Who will you share this with this week?