

Open Heaven 5 May 2025 Devotional & Commentary

Description

The Open Heaven 5 May 2025 devotional for today is LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION II.

This is a daily devotion written by Pastor E. A. Adeboye, General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG).

- Read: [RCCG Open Heaven 4 May 2025 Devotional](#)

OPEN HEAVEN 5 MAY 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION II

MEMORISE

And Samuel said, Hath 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 hearken than the fat of rams.

1 Samuel 15:22

READ: 1 Samuel 15:1-28

Samuel also said unto Saul, The Lord sent me to anoint thee to be king over his people, over Israel: now therefore hearken thou unto the voice of the words of the Lord.

² Thus saith the Lord of hosts, I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt.

³ Now 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.

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And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah.

⁵ And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley.

⁶ And Saul said unto the Kenites, Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for ye shewed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt. So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites.

⁷ And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt.

⁸ And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword.

⁹ But 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, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly.

¹⁰ Then came the word of the Lord unto Samuel, saying,

¹¹ It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following me, and hath not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the Lord all night.

¹² And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal.

¹³ And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed be thou of the Lord: I have performed the commandment of the Lord.

¹⁴ And Samuel said, What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine 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 of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.

¹⁶ Then Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell thee what the Lord hath said to me this night. And he said unto him, Say on.

¹⁷ And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the Lord anointed thee king over Israel?

¹⁸ And the Lord sent thee on a journey, and said, Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.

¹⁹ Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the Lord, but didst fly upon the spoil, and didst evil in the sight of the Lord?

²⁰ And Saul said unto Samuel, Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, and have gone the way which the Lord sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

²¹ But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God in Gilgal.

²² And Samuel said, Hath 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 hearken than the fat of rams.

²³ 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 from being king.

²⁴ And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord, and thy words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice.

Now therefore, I pray thee, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the Lord.

²⁶ And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.

²⁷ And as Samuel turned about to go away, he laid hold upon the skirt of his mantle, and it rent.

²⁸ And Samuel said unto him, The Lord hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day, and hath given it to a neighbour of thine, that is better than thou.

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 5 MAY 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

Yesterday, I mentioned the importance of obeying God at all times because He wrote the script for your life. Not only did He write the script, He is also the Executive Producer, Producer, and Director of the play.

Psalms 33:11 says, "The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations." What God wrote in His play is what we are acting out.

Actors aren't meant to do what they like on stage; whatever the author of a play has written is what must be acted out. If some actors are proving stubborn, all a director needs to do is replace them. There are many examples of people in RCCG who had a role to play in God's plan, but they either left the church or decided to disobey God. Since God's agenda must be fulfilled, He simply replaced them, and they lost out on the things He had in store for them.

God can never be left without options. The moment He calls on one fellow to do something and the person disobeys, He will prepare another person to take over. An example is King Saul; the moment he started to disobey God's instructions, He sent Samuel to anoint David as king in his stead (1 Samuel 16:1). When footballers are playing on a field, and one of them misbehaves or is not meeting up to the coach's expectations, that fellow might be replaced immediately.

Disobedience positions people for replacement. In today's Bible reading, God gave Saul a special assignment and told him exactly how to go about it. He, however, disobeyed God and decided to do things his own way. His disobedience was a sin before God and he got replaced. Another person who got replaced because of his disobedience to divine instruction was Eli. Although God had given his ancestor, Phinehas, the covenant of everlasting priesthood in Numbers 25:11-13, He revoked it when Eli started acting his own script on the stage (1 Samuel 2:27-36). He was eventually replaced by Samuel, his protégé (1 Samuel 3:11-20).

Beloved, God loves you so much, but if you start disobeying His instructions deliberately, you have set yourself against His will. Those who keep disobeying Him will eventually get replaced if they don't repent. Do not be like them; follow the instructions of the Executive Producer, Producer, and Director of your life.

Play your part in His script obediently, and you will experience His glory in all aspects of your life.

PRAYER POINT

Lord, You are the Executive Producer, Producer, and Director of my life; please help me to obey Your instructions at all times.

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

1 Chronicles 20-23

RCCG HYMN 33: GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH!

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 5 MAY 2025 COMMENTARY

Memorise: 1 Samuel 15:22 (KJV)

This verse is the **central theme** of the devotional—God values **obedience** more than religious rituals or good intentions.

Bible Reading: 1 Samuel 15:1-28 (KJV)

This passage recounts **King Saul's disobedience** in sparing Agag and the best livestock (against God's clear command). As a result:

- **Samuel declares:** *"Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, He hath also rejected thee from being king."* (v. 23)
 - **Saul's punishment:** Loss of his dynasty (v. 28).
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Key Lessons from the Devotional:

1. Life Is a Divine Play—God Is the Director

- **Psalm 33:11** confirms that **God's plans are eternal**—He has already written the script.
- **Illustration:** Just as actors **must follow the script**, believers must **follow God's Word** (John 14:15).
- **Warning:** Those who **rebel** (like Saul, Eli) are **replaced** (1 Samuel 16:1, 1 Samuel 2:30-35).

2. Disobedience Leads to Replacement

- **Biblical Examples:**

- **King Saul (1 Samuel 15:26)** ? Replaced by **David**.
- **Eli's Priesthood (1 Samuel 2:30-35)** ? Replaced by **Samuel**.
- **Judas Iscariot (Acts 1:20)** ? Replaced by **Matthias**.
- **Modern Application:**
 - In ministry, business, or personal destiny, **God's work continues**—with or without us.
 - If we **disobey**, He raises others (Matthew 21:43).

3. Partial Obedience = Disobedience

- Saul **thought** he could:
 - Keep Agag (pride).
 - Save the best livestock ("for sacrifice").
- **God's Response:** *"Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft"* (1 Samuel 15:23).
- **Lesson:** We **cannot** negotiate with God's commands (James 2:10).

4. Why Does God Replace People?

- **His Plans Must Be Fulfilled** (Isaiah 14:27).
- **He Is Sovereign** (Daniel 4:35).
- **He Gives Free Will but Holds Us Accountable** (Deuteronomy 30:19).

5. How to Avoid Replacement

1. **Seek God's Will First** (Proverbs 3:5-6).
2. **Obey Completely** (Joshua 1:8).
3. **Repent Quickly When You Fail** (1 John 1:9).
4. **Stay Humble** (James 4:6).

Modern-Day Applications

In Leadership:

- Pastors, CEOs, parents—**don't assume your position is permanent**.
- **Example:** Eli was a high priest, but his sons' rebellion cost him God's favor.

In Personal Growth:

- God may be calling you to **pray more, give, evangelize, etc.**
- **Delayed obedience = disobedience.**

In Ministry:

- Many **start well** but **fall away** due to pride, greed, or compromise.
 - **Stay faithful** (1 Corinthians 4:2).
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Warning vs. Hope

- **Warning:** *"No one is irreplaceable in God's kingdom."*
 - **Hope:** *"If you repent, God restores"* (Joel 2:25).
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Conclusion: Choose Obedience

God's script for your life is **perfect**, but you must **follow His directions**.

- **Saul's Mistake:** He **thought his way was better**.
- **David's Success:** He was *"a man after God's own heart"* (Acts 13:22).

Will you obey fully or risk replacement?

Prayer Response:

"Father, forgive me for any disobedience in my life. Help me to follow Your Word completely, not leaning on my own understanding. Let me not be replaced in Your divine plan. Use me for Your glory. Amen."

Final Encouragement:

"God's plans are unstoppable—but you get to choose whether you'll be part of them."

Will you obey today?

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