1 Samuel 14:34

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

> And Saul said, Disperse yourselves among the people, and say unto them, Bring me hither every man his ox, and every man his sheep, and slay them here, and eat; and sin not against the LORD in eating with the blood. And all the people brought every man his ox with him that night, and slew them there.

Analysis

And Saul said, Disperse yourselves among the people, and say unto them, Bring me hither every man his ox, and every man his sheep, and slay them here, and eat; and sin not against the LORD in eating with the blood. And all the people brought every man his ox with him that night, and slew them there.

Saul's instruction to 'Disperse yourselves among the people' and ensure proper slaughter demonstrates administrative competence. He solves the immediate problem: animals would now be killed properly. Yet the deeper issue - his oath's role in creating this crisis - goes unaddressed. Saul manages situations without examining himself. 'And all the people brought every man his ox with him that night' shows compliance with the king's corrective orders. Surface order is restored.

Historical Context

The dispersal of royal representatives throughout the camp to supervise proper slaughter shows organizational capability. Each person bringing their own animal

for supervised slaughter prevented further violations. The administrative solution, however, did not address the oath that caused the problem.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. When do administrative solutions mask spiritual failures?
2. How can competent management coexist with deficient spiritual leadership?

Interlinear Text

לָהֶ ם	וַאֲמַרְתֶ ם	הָעָ ם	פֵ צו	שָׁאֻ ול	וַאֲמַרְתֶ ם
H0	**and say** H559	**And all the people** H5971	**Disperse** H6327	**And Saul** H7586	**and say** H559

וַיַּגִּ שׁו	אֵלַי	אִ יש	שׁור ו	אִ יש	שְׂיֵ הו	וַיִּשְׁחֲטו
brought H5066	H413	**and every man** H376	**his ox** H7794	**and every man** H376	**his sheep** H7716	**and slay** H7819

בָזֶה	לֶאֱכֹ ל	וְלֹא	תֶחֱטְא ו	לַיהוָ ה	לֶאֱכֹ ל	אֶל
H2088	**in eating** H398	H3808	**and sin** H2398	**not against the LORD** H3068	**in eating** H398	H413

הַדָ ם	וַיַּגִּ שׁו	כָל	הָעָ ם	אִ יש	שׁור ו	בְיָ דו
with the blood H1818	**brought** H5066	H3605	**And all the people** H5971	**and every man** H376	**his ox** H7794	**with him** H3027

שָׁם:	וַיִּשְׁחֲטו	הַלָ יְלָה
that night H3915	**and slay** H7819	H8033