

# 1 Samuel 14:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said he unto all Israel, Be ye on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side. And the people said unto Saul, Do what seemeth good unto thee.

## Analysis

**Then said he unto all Israel, Be ye on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side. And the people said unto Saul, Do what seemeth good unto thee.**

Saul's division of the assembly - 'Be ye on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side' - places himself and Jonathan together, opposite Israel. This arrangement suggests Saul considers royal house more likely innocent than the general population. The people's response 'Do what seemeth good unto thee' reflects resignation rather than enthusiasm. They comply but do not affirm. The process moves toward tragedy with a sense of inevitability.

## Historical Context

Lot-casting typically narrowed from larger to smaller groups. Saul's arrangement assumed the sin was more likely among commoners than in the royal family. This assumption proved wrong, intensifying the irony of the situation.

## Related Passages

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How do assumptions about who is guilty affect how we investigate problems?
2. What does the people's passive compliance suggest about their relationship with Saul?

## Interlinear Text

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אָמַר	וְ	כָל	אֶל	יֹאמֶר	וְ	לְ	שְׁרָאֵל	כָל	יֹאמֶר	וְ	תְּהִוֵּי	בָּר	לְ	עַד	אָמַר	וְ
<b>Then said</b>		H413	H3605	<b>he unto all Israel</b>		H3478		H859		H1961		<b>side</b>		<b>Be ye on one</b>		
		H559										H5676			H259	
אָמַר	וְ	כָל	אֶל	יֹאמֶר	וְ	לְ	שְׁרָאֵל	כָל	יֹאמֶר	וְ	תְּהִוֵּי	בָּר	לְ	עַד	אָמַר	וְ
<b>and I and Jonathan</b>		H589		<b>my son</b>		H1121		H1961		H1961		<b>side</b>		<b>Be ye on one</b>		<b>Then said</b>
		H3129										H5676			H259	H559
בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	בְּעִינֵּנִי	
<b>And the people</b>		H5971	H413	<b>unto Saul</b>		H7586	<b>good</b>	H2896	<b>what seemeth</b>	H5869	<b>Do</b>	H6213				

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