

THE CHARACTERS AND DRAMA OF

1 SAMUEL

[PART 15]

**GIVE US A KING LIKE
ALL THE NATIONS**

Reading: 1 Samuel 7:15 - 8:7

Introduction

• **Samuel:**

- Came from the womb of a woman who had been considered **'barren.'**
- He was **'lent to the Lord'** when he was still a child.
- Called to be a deliverer of Israel from the Philistines.
- His weapon was his **'prayers.'**
- He was a link piece. Linking the judges to the monarchy.

1 Samuel's Altar

- The secret of his life and influence was his altar where he met with God.
- Every believer needs to have an altar in their experience.
- The altar speaks of the believer's devotional life.
- It speaks of that time and place where we meet with God and He meets with us.
- The altar speaks of prayer, communion, worship and dying to self.
- Maybe your altar is derelict and neglected.
- Consider [1 Kings 18:30]. Sometimes the altar needs to be **'repaired.'**

2 Joel And Abijah

- Samuel had 2 sons: Joel (Jehovah is God) & Abijah (Jehovah is my Father).
- Samuel wanted to **'keep it in the family'** so he appointed his sons as judges.

- The two boys were not men of integrity.
- Grace does not run in families.
- Godly parents do not always produce godly children. Consider Hezekiah and Manasseh.
- Despite that every parent/grandparent is called to ***'train up a child in the way that they should go.'***

3 Wanting To Be Like The World

- The dishonesty of Joel and Abijah created disillusionment in the nation.
- Consider [vs 5] ***'make us a king to judge us like all the nations.'***
- Israel were called to be a ***'theocracy.'***
- They decided that they wanted to be ruled by kings like the nations around them.
- They no longer wanted to be different from the ungodly. They wanted to be like them.
- God's people today are called to be different. [See 1 Peter 2:9].
- We are not meant to be like the world. [2 Corinthians 6:17/18].
- There are places the child of God just doesn't go and things they just don't do.
- Consider [1 John 2:15].

4 The Coming Together Of Two Rivers

- Israel's decision to have a king was wrong and indeed it was sinful and evil. (See 12:19).
- Israel had taken a path that was evil but God can take man's evil and cause something good to happen.
- This is what is called ***'the doctrine of concurrence.'***
- It's like where 2 separate rivers flow into one.
- The point where they merge is called the point of ***'confluence'*** or ***'concurrence.'***
- God took their wickedness and from that line of kings, Christ would come and one day reign over the world on David's throne.
- God works through our decisions, sometimes even evil decisions and His sovereignty causes something good to happen.
- ***'You meant it for evil but God meant it for good.'*** [Genesis 50:20].

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