

# 1 Samuel 8-9

## Lesson 5

### Samuel's Sons

- “Joel” (“Yahweh is God”) and “Abijah” (“My father is Yahweh”)
- Judges in Beersheba
- Took bribes and perverted justice
- NOT sexually immoral like Eli's sons
- Samuel not judged like Eli; therefore, sons' sin was not his.



- Beersheba in the far south of Israel
- 66 miles southwest of Jerusalem (driving distance)

### Samuel's Sons—1Tim. 6:9-10

- But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.
- For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

## Samuel's Sons

- Ex 23:8 You shall not take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the clear-sighted and subverts the cause of the just.
- Deut. 6:6-7 And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

## Samuel's Sons—Restored?

- 1 Chronicles 6:33 says that Heman, Joel's son, was one of the singers appointed by David to serve in front of the Tabernacle.
- Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, And when he is old he will not depart from it.
- Godliness is not hereditary. Our children must choose for themselves.

## The Elders' Demand for a King

- Samuel was old.
- His sons were dishonest.
- They wanted a king like the other nations (8:5).
- They had not consulted God.
- They were, in fact, rejecting God as their King (8:7).

## Samuel's Exemplary Reaction

- He was displeased.
- He prayed (8:6).
- Godly people experience disappointment, but they turn first to God before reacting.
- Then they obey God.

## A King Would

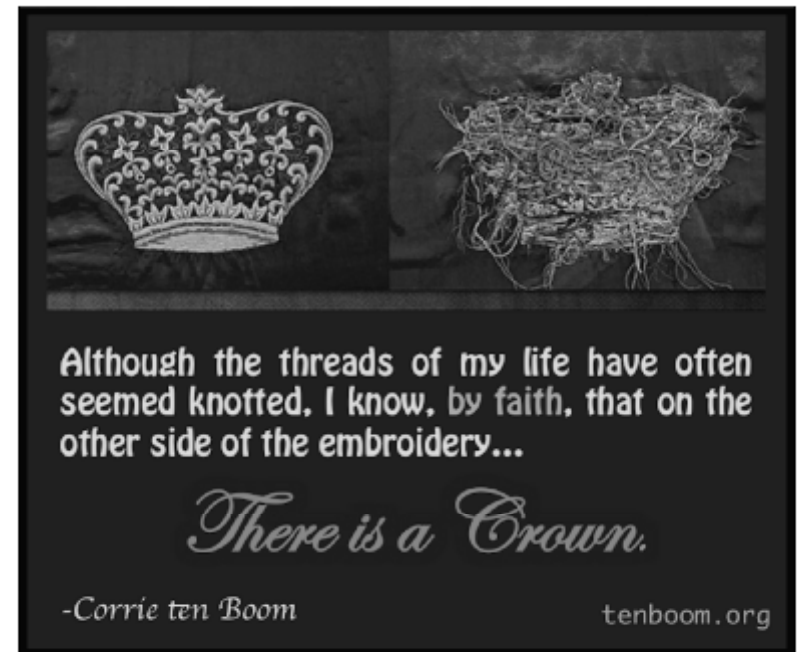
- conscript their sons and daughters to serve him personally and to be in his army (8:11-13).
- take their best land and a tenth of their harvests and give them to his servants (8:14-15).
- take their servants, the best of their cattle & donkeys, and a tenth of their flocks (8:16-17).

## A king would enslave them!

- Yet they were determined to be miserably mistreated.
- God granted their request, but He also warned that He wouldn't rescue them in the future when they cried out under the king's oppression (8:18).

## Be careful what you ask for.

- We can't see the whole picture. Only God can.
- God has a reason for the trials:
  - § To make us more Christlike (Rom. 8:29)
  - § To make us more effective in ministering to others (2 Cor. 1:4)
  - § To strengthen our faith (1 Pet. 1:6-7)



## Kintsugi (“golden joinery”)



## Deut. 17:14-20 (Godly King)

1. The king must be chosen by God.
2. He must be an Israelite.
3. He was not to multiply horses.
4. He was not to multiply wives.
5. He was not to accumulate personal wealth.

## Deut. 17:14-20 (Godly King)

6. He was to make his own copy of God’s law under the supervision of priests. Then he was to read & obey it if he wanted God to bless him & his descendants as rulers.

## God’s Sovereignty:

- He had long ago given the requirements for a godly king (Dt. 17).
- He arranged for Saul & Samuel to meet at just the right time.
- He had already revealed to Samuel that Saul would come and when.

## God's Sovereignty:

- He had already revealed that the donkeys were safe, & Samuel told Saul without being asked.
- He confirmed to Samuel that Saul was the chosen one.
- Samuel had already ordered food for Saul & was prepared to host him in his own home overnight.

## Similarities—Samuel and Saul

- Fathers & their genealogies introduced first.
- From the same region of Israel
- Both names from a verb meaning “requested” / “asked”
- Both led Israel against the Philistines.
- Both built altars to God.

## Final Thoughts:

1. God is in control.
2. Be careful what you ask for.
3. Trials can be blessings in disguise.
4. God has no grandchildren.

