



Lesson 67

Lesson 67: What Is Faith? (Part 23) Faith of Samuel

Scripture: Hebrews 11:32; 1 Samuel 8

The Times!

- The Book of Judges – 4x we are told that there was no king in Israel. And everyone did what was right in his own eyes. (Judges 17:6; 18:1; 19:1; 21:25)
 - JUST LIKE IN THE “CHURCH” TODAY!
 - The Law of the King and Law-Giver (Isaiah 33:22) is redefined and ignored.
- This book records some the **most dark** times of Israel.
- **BUT** during these dark times (as in all times) God was working.
 - The Book of Ruth shines through the darkness!
 - Ruth (a Moabite) marries Boaz (son of Rahab) and they give birth to Obed, the father of Jesse, the father of David – from whom’s line comes the Messiah!
- (1 Samuel 2:12, 17) The sons of Eli, the high priest, were corrupt and did not **know** the LORD.
 - **Compromise of a father:** (vv. 22-31)
 - ★ See Luke 14:27-33
- (1 Samuel 3:1) “The word of God was **rare** and there was no widespread revelation.” (Read Amos 8:11)
 - JUST LIKE TODAY!

Samuel – His Birth (1 Samuel 1-2)

- Elkanah, his father; Hannah, his mother (1:1-2)
- “the Lord closed her womb” (1:5)
- Hannah promises that Samuel would be a Nazarite, one completely dedicated to the Lord (1:11). - Like He did with Samson.
- His birth (1:19-20)! Hannah prayed **and** acted!

- **HANNAH's PRAYER and GOD!** (1 Samuel 2)
 - Her God causes her to **REJOICE!** (v. 1)
 - She acknowledges that there is no other god, that God is HOLY, and He is a ROCK.
 - God KNOWS and God weighs motives.
 - (v. 6) God **kills** and God makes **alive**. Life and death is in God's hands!
 - Deuteronomy 32:39; 2 Kings 5:7.
 - (v. 7) God makes poor and God makes rich. (Deut 8:17-18)

Samuel – His Call (1 Samuel 3:1-18)

- Four times the LORD calls Samuel.
- **NOTICE:** God calls His own **by name!**
- Samuel's response: "**Speak, for Your servant hears!**" (3:10; John 10:3, 14)
- A **chilling** message (vv. 11-14)
 - God uses this expression four times in the OT – 2 Kings 21:9-13; Jeremiah 19:1-6; Habakkuk 3:16, with 1:5-7)
- Samuel tells Eli **everything!** We are not to withhold any part of God's Word!
 - Acts 20:20, 27; Ezekiel 3:18-21; Jeremiah 1:8; 2 Timothy 4:1-4.

Samuel – Judge and Prophet (1 Samuel 3:19-21)

- Samuel **grew** and the Lord was with him.
- The LORD **revealed** Himself **by** the Word of the LORD.
 - 1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 3:18; Hebrews 5:12-14; Deut. 8:3; Matt. 4:4

Superstitious Israelites (1 Samuel 4-7)

- (1 Samuel 4) Israel loses to the Philistines. (Consider Lev. 26:39; Deut. 28:25)
 - Eli and his sons died – **as the LORD had said!**
 - The ark is captured!! ICHABOD – the glory has departed!
- (1 Samuel 5) Dagon bows to Yahweh!
- (1 Samuel 6:7-12) An ark, a new cart, two milk cows!
- (1 Samuel 7) **20 years later!!!**
 - Samuel calls for **repentance!** (vv. 3-4)

We Want A King! (1 Samuel 8)

- Asking for a king did not **surprise** God. (Psalm 33:10-11; Isaiah 46:10)
- God had already **planned** to give Israel a king. (Genesis 17:6, 16; 35:11; 49:10; Deuteronomy 17:14-20) **BUT** it was not time!

- Israel belonged to God and God was their King! They were **rejecting** God for a man! They were using **worldly wisdom!**
- One of the worst judgments that God can impose is giving us what we want when we want it! (Hosea 13:11; Psalm 106:15)

The Cost of Having Your Own King (1 Samuel 8:9-18)

The People's Response (1 Samuel 8:19-20)

- IN REJECTING GOD'S MESSENGER THEY WERE REJECTING GOD!

WHO IS YOUR KING?

- When the King of kings came into the world to die for His people's sin, the JEWS rejected Him. "We have no king but Caesar!" (John 19:15; Luke 19:14)
- Who **RULES** you? Do you **rule** yourself? Who is your LORD?
- Unbelievers are just like the Jews in both our OT and our NT examples.
- (Romans 10:9-10) **Salvation is dependent on who your Lord is!**
- Saying "Lord" is not sufficient! (Matthew 7:21-23; Luke 6:46)
- Jesus Christ **IS** LORD! (Acts 2:36)
- Rejecting Christ is rejecting the LORD of the heavens and earth!
- (Psalm 2:11-12) "Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him!"