



Main Point: As Judges comes to a close we are left with the sad reality that since "no king ruled in Israel" the people of God had slipped into a state of moral & political anarchy. Because of the people's unbelief and the chaos produced, God institutes two new offices to aid in governing His people: prophet & king. 1st Samuel details how God would extend His reign through His Word by way of the prophets, as well as, through human authorities such as a king. Today God's reign in our lives follows a similar structure.... God not only rules through His Word, but he also uses human authorities as His divine instruments as well.

1. Authority by His Word.... 1st Samuel 1-8

Prophet: Life of Samuel

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| a. Birth & Anointing of Samuel | 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11 |
| b. Failure of the Priesthood | 1 Samuel 2:12-36; 4-6 |
| c. Call to be a Prophet | 1 Samuel 3 |
| d. Ministry of Samuel | 1 Samuel 7 |
| e. People Request a King | 1 Samuel 8 |

2. Human Authority.... 1st Samuel 9-31

King Saul: The King the People Chose

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| a. Chosen & Enthroned | 1 Samuel 9-10 |
| b. Early Victories | 1 Samuel 11-12 |
| c. Sin, Foolishness & Failure | 1 Samuel 13-15 |
| d. Wickedness | 1 Samuel 28 |
| e. Defeated & Dead | 1 Samuel 31 |

King David: The King God Anointed

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|--------------------------|------------------------|
| a. Anointed | 1 Samuel 16 |
| b. Proven | 1 Samuel 17-18 |
| c. Developed | 1 Samuel 19-27, 30 |
| - Persecuted by Saul | 1 Samuel 19 |
| - Loyalty of Jonathan | 1 Samuel 20 |
| - Life in the Wilderness | 1 Samuel 21-23, 25, 27 |
| - Heart of Submission | 1 Samuel 24 & 26 |

Important Passage....

"For the Lord will not forsake His people, for His great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you His people.... Only fear the Lord, and serve Him in truth with all of your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you. But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king." - 1 Samuel 12: 22-25



Day 1: Not Plastered....

1 Samuel 1:1-28 // THINKING POINTS: (1). Though Hannah is clearly suffering, did Hannah allow her present trial to make her bitter towards God or more passionate for God? (2). From the lessons learned from this story what practical things should you change about the way you pray? (3). God answered the prayer of Hannah, and he can answer your prayer as well.... do you believe He can?

Day 2: The Prince....

1 Samuel 14: 1-23 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What lessons can you learn about faith from this story about of Jonathan? (2). Jonathan was a man of action, a man of faith, and a man with a plan.... are you more like lazy Saul or victorious Jonathan? (3). How did the faith and action of one man effect the entire camp of Israel?

Day 3: Kill Him....

1 Samuel 15: 1-35 // THINKING POINTS: (1). Do you think Saul was fully aware of the severity of his sin before his interaction with Samuel? (2). Did Samuel give Saul ample opportunity to confess his sin and repent before God? (3). Instead of confessing and owning up, Saul made excuses.... why is it important we own up?

Day 4: Giant Killer....

1 Samuel 17: 1-58 // THINKING POINTS: (1). David's giant was Goliath, what kind of giants exist in your life? (2). David's faith was clearly not in his ability, but rather in the Lord's faithfulness.... what is the key to slaying the giants in your own life? (3). David was so inadequate.... why do you think God used him to slay Goliath?

Day 5: Friendship....

1 Samuel 20: 1-42 // THINKING POINTS: (1). David and Jonathan had an incredible friendship, but what did they have in common that created such a deep bond? (2). Would you describe their friendship as "self-serving" or "self-less" and why is this important? (3). Do you think this story teaches that friendship lasts forever or simply a season?

Day 6: Lords Unsainted....

1 Samuel 24: 1-22 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What was David's justification for not killing King Saul? (2). What should this teach us concerning the authorities we find in our lives and the attitudes we have towards them? (3). Who does the Lord want you to submit too?

DEVOTIONS

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