

FIRST SAMUEL STUDY

CHAPTER 8:1-22

PART I

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Living Life The Hard Way”

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Godlessness, Rebellion, Rejection, Backsliding, Life

INTRODUCTION

to the text

1 Samuel 8:1-22

As a Parent and as a Christian

The greatest desire that I have is that my children might grow up not only knowing what God’s perfect will is for their lives but that they would also DO His perfect will for their lives.

- Knowing what’s right is a good thing, but doing what is right is even better,

Why is That Important?

Because I Want The Very Best for Those I Love -
I Want Them to Have a Great Life

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.

(NKJ) - Proverbs 3:6

In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

(TLB) - Proverbs 3:6

In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success.

WHY IS THAT IMPORTANT DAD?

Because God is wanting to bless obedience. And He is always looking for someone to bless!

2 Chronicles 16:9

"For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.

Is Your Heart Loyal Toward God?

...and when God is in control of your life, you're living in a Theocracy, - Where God is King of Kings, Where He is Lord of Lords, - Where He's the Judge, The Ruler, The Master, The Creator of Worlds

Acts 17:28

"for in Him we live and move and have our being

There's Living Life The Hard Way

then

There's Living Life The Right Way

Proverbs 1:2-3

To know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding, 3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, judgment, and equity

Living Life The Hard Way

1.) *Begins at Home*

vv. 1-3

Now it came to pass when Samuel was old that he made his sons judges over Israel. 2 The name of his firstborn was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. 3 But his sons did not walk in his ways; they turned aside after **dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice.**

It Begins at Home

a.) *Was God in the house?*

Verse 1

Now it came to pass when Samuel was old that he made his sons judges over Israel.

**According to the Old Testament –
*This was the Right Thing to Do***

But Surely the Prophet of God Could well discern the character of his own sons?

WE'RE GIVEN NO REASON FOR THEIR
LOST CONDITION

PARENTS

There is a time when after all you've done to raise your child up
in the Lord – they refuse!

BUT IN CONTRAST

Samuel grew up seeing the failure of Eli with His Sons –
What Went Wrong?

It Begins at Home

b.) Was God in the Heart?

Verse 2-3a

The name of his firstborn was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. 3 **But his sons did not walk in his ways**

#1 - Boo Boo

But his sons did not walk in his ways

Samuel Walked a Good Walk

But It Looks Like he failed at passing the "God Baton" to the boys

How Can These Men Be of the Same Family?

How do some children from a good family - go bad

God Has No Grandchildren

It Begins at Home

c.) Was God in their Thoughts?

Verse 3b

they turned aside after
dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice.

#2 - Boo Boo
They Turned Aside...

Romans 1:28

For they did not like to retain God in their knowledge,
God gave them over to a debased mind,

#3 - Boo Boo
They Went After Dishonest Gain

dishonest gain, “to take what is desirable to the eyes without permission”

1 Timothy 3:2-3

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior,
hospitable, able to teach; 3 not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money

1 Timothy 3:8

Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued,
--, not greedy for money,

1 Tim 6:10

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their
greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

#4 - Boo Boo
They Went After taking Bribes

Bribes - “to receive or to give a gift with demands or request attached”

#5 - Boo Boo
They went after the perverting of justice

perverted justice
“a systematic undermining of what is right”

Living Life The Hard Way

2.) *Spreads Among the Community*

vv. 4-5

Spreads Among the Community

a.) *The Leaders become Corrupt*

Verse 4

Then **all the elders** of Israel gathered together
and came to Samuel at Ramah,

**The Elders Began to Seek After a
Man Made Solution
They Had Lost the Vision of God**

Proverbs 29:18

Where there is no vision, the people perish:

A Failing to Include God in Our Daily Lives

Spreads Among the Community

b.) *The Nation becomes Corrupt*

Verse 5

and said to him, "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. **Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.**"

Their Excuse Was...

#1 – You’re Old Samuel #2 – Your Sons are Jerks

“Make Us a King”

what a strange request

The Sons Affected The Community
And The Community was about to Affect The Nation

Psalm 106:15

And He gave them their request, but sent leanness into their soul.

Be careful about what you demand from god

“like all the nations.”

THE CHURCH

SHOULDN’T LOOK ANYTHING LIKE THE WORLD

The Separation of Church and State

The state shall do nothing to impede or hinder the activity of the church

Article I

The bill of rights

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...

“well the church ought to stay out of government affairs”

then let's be fair and see to it that the government stays out of the churches affairs"

like all the other nations

Living Life The Hard Way

3.) Separates you from God

vv. 6-18

a.) They Wanted a Remedy

Verse 6-7

6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." So Samuel prayed to the LORD.
7 And the LORD said to Samuel, "**Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.**"

Recognize what these people are saying

We've heard about our history. We've heard the stories. We've seen the sites - - History means nothing to us, it's our future we're concerned about!!!

Isaiah 5:20

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Compromising

Their future, their children, their nation

Luke 23:28

Jesus, turning to them, said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children."

Living Life The Hard Way

Separates you from God

b.) But God Knows the Heart

Verse 8-9

8 "According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt, even to this day-- with which they have forsaken Me and served other gods-- **so they are doing to you also.** 9 "Now therefore, heed their voice. However, **you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them."**

God Knows The Heart of Man

"To know me is to love me"

Jeremiah 17:9-10

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it? 10 I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.

We Really Cannot Know Ourselves

We don't really know how we will react or decide on a certain issue

Psalms 139:1-6

O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; you understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it.

Living Life The Hard Way

Separates you from God

c.) Rejection Bankrupts a People

Verse 10-18

10 So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who asked him for a king. 11 And he said, "This will be the behavior of the king who will reign over you: **(1) He will take** your sons and appoint them for his own chariots and to be his horsemen, and some will run before his chariots. 12 **(2) "He will appoint** captains over his thousands and captains over his fifties, **(3) He will set** some to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and some to make his weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. 13 **(4) "He will take** your daughters to be perfumers, cooks, and bakers. 14 "And **(5) he will take** the best of your fields, your vineyards, and your olive groves, and give them to his servants. 15 **(6) "He will take** a tenth of your grain and your vintage, and give it to

his officers and servants. 16 "And **(7) he will take** your male servants, your female servants, your finest young men, and your donkeys, and put them to his work. 17 **(8) "He will take** a tenth of your sheep. **(9) And you will be his servants.** 18 "And **(10) he's going to make you cry** - - you will cry out in that day because of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves, **and the LORD will not hear you in that day."**

Isa 59:1-2

Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. 2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

Living Life The Hard Way

4.) *Conforms you to the way of the world* vv. 18-22

19 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, "**No, but we will have a king over us, 20 that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.**" 21 And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he repeated them in the hearing of the LORD. 22 So the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed their voice, and make them a king." And Samuel said to the men of Israel, "Every man go to his city."

A Theocratic Rule

Is what God desires. He desires that for ALL nations, families and peoples

...so that they might be blessed of God

Living Life The Hard Way

Conforms you to the way of the world

a.) *By Settling for Less*

Verse 19-20

Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, "No, but we will have a king over us , 20 that we also may be like all the nations, "No, but we will have a king over us

“We want to touch and feel and see our king like all the other nations get to”

Isaiah 44:14-17

14 He cuts down cedars for himself, and takes the cypress and the oak; he secures it for himself among the trees of the forest. He plants a pine, and the rain nourishes it. 15 Then it shall be for a man to burn, for he will take some of it and warm himself; yes, he kindles it and bakes bread; indeed he makes a god and worships it; he makes it a carved image, and falls down to it. 16 He burns half of it in the fire; with this half he eats meat; he roasts a roast, and is satisfied. He even warms himself and says, "Ah! I am warm, I have seen the fire." 17 And the rest of it he makes into a god, his carved image. He falls down before it and worships it, prays to it and says, "Deliver me, for you are my god!"

Hosea 13:9-11

"O Israel, you are destroyed, but your help is from Me. 10 I will be your King; where is any other, that he may save you in all your cities? And your judges to whom you said, 'Give me a king and princes'? 11 I gave you a king in My anger, and took him away in My wrath.

The Other Nations Needed a King

Because their gods were fake and made of wood or stone

Human Government Will Always Be Flawed

Our State Power Problem is a Man Made Problem

~~Trusting in Human Government~~ Worldly Conformity - is a Temptation

Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be

transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

If I am Morphing Toward the World - I Will Soon Be Like the World

Ecclesiastes 1:8

All things are wearisome, more than one can say. The eye never has enough of seeing, nor the ear its fill of hearing.

I John 2:15-17

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world-- the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life-- is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

Conforms you to the way of the world

b.) By Avoiding the Faith

Verse 20

and that our king may judge us

GOD CANNOT BE CONTROLLED OR INFLUENCED But A Human Judge is Biased and Conditional Like any Other Man.

John 5:42-43

"But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. 43 "I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive.

John 1:10

He (Jesus) was in the world, and the world was made through Him,
and the world did not know Him.

Conforms you to the way of the world

c.) *By Increased Dependence upon Man*

Verse 20

**That he may judge us and go out before us
and fight our battles**

**That he may judge us
(we can handle him)**

**and go out before us
(we can see him)**

**and fight our battles
(we can trust in him)**

**The People of this World Will Risk Anything
for Fun, Pleasure, Money, Power,**

Christians Should Be the Most Radical People on Earth

CONSIDER THE BIBLE AND IT'S ROMANCE

There is a Realm, There is a Kingdom of Evil and There is a Kingdom of Good. There are subjects in both. There is a dragon and there is a King, there are battles and there are wars, but in the end – the kingdom of light and love wins by the mighty hand of the Prince...

THAT'S RADICAL

We Should Be the Most Radical People on Earth

The 5 Steps to Home Improvement;

(Make God Real to Your Children)

#1 By

talking about how great He is

#2 By

showing them His creative powers

#3 By

telling them who He is

#4 By

leading them to the Bible

#5 By

involving them in His service

REDEDICATION OF YOUR FAMILY TO GOD'S RULE

FURTHER DEDICATION OF YOUR LIFE

FIRST TIME DEDICATION

END OF STUDY