

Series: 1 Samuel: The Chosen King VI

Text: 1 Samuel 7:1-17

HI: The Lord responds to repentance with deliverance.

Title: *Don't Call it a Comeback*

Hook: LL Cool J // Samuel

Date: 2.19.23

Purpose: To encourage sinners that the Lord always delivers those who repent and trust in him.

FCF: (Fragile): Sick from centuries of sin, Israel is filled with sorrow and desires the Lord's salvation. God's grace meets them here, as the Lord speaks through Samuel to lead the people in repentance so that they can experience deliverance.

COR: Like Israel, people in our generation are longing for truth, justice, and searching for salvation. The story of Israel at Mizpah shows us how the Lord miraculously delivers those who turn to him.

Witness of Christ [WC*]: Through all three movements: Luke 4:8, Romans 3:23-25, and Mark 1:15

Apologetic: Depending on the Lord leads to deliverance. He's the only God who guarantees that. The idols of our age leave us in bondage. Repent and turn to the Lord.

Form: Inductive

Call to Worship: Psalm 121:1-2

Benediction: Hebrews 13:20-21

Outline:

I. True repentance moves from sorrow to substance. (1-6)

A. Israel laments. (1-2)

B. Israel repents. (3-6)

II. The Lord's deliverance of his people centers on sacrifice. (7-11)

A. Faced with their enemies, Israel cries out to the Lord. (7-8)

B. In response to sacrifice, the Lord delivers his people. (9-11)

III. The stone of help tells the story of redemption. (12-17)

A. Ebenezer is redeemed. (12-13)

B. Provision is established. (14-17)

Main Idea:

Subject: What happens when Israel returns to the Lord and serves him only?

Complement: The Lord delivers them from the hand of the Philistines.

Exegetical Idea: When Israel returns to the Lord and serves him only, he delivers them from the hand of the Philistines.

Theological Idea: The Lord delivers those who repent and trust in him.

Homiletical Idea: The Lord responds to repentance with deliverance.

Introduction:

READ 1 Samuel 7:1-17

And the men of Kiriath-jearim came and took up the ark of the Lord and brought it to the house of Abinadab on the hill. And they consecrated his son Eleazar to have charge of the ark of the Lord. ²From the day that the ark was lodged at Kiriath-jearim, a long time passed, some twenty years, and all the house of Israel lamented after the Lord.

³And Samuel said to all the house of Israel, "If you are returning to the Lord with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtaroath from among you and direct your heart to the Lord and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines." ⁴So the people of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtaroath, and they served the Lord only.

⁵Then Samuel said, "Gather all Israel at Mizpah, and I will pray to the Lord for you." ⁶So they gathered at Mizpah and drew water and poured it out before the Lord and fasted on that day and said there, "We have sinned against the Lord." And Samuel judged the people of Israel at Mizpah.

I. True repentance moves from sorrow to substance.

"Lamented" – expression of sadness/grief

Luke 4:7: "If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Satan

Luke 4:8: "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve."

Jesus

READ 1 Samuel 7:7-11

⁷Now when the Philistines heard that the people of Israel had gathered at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the people of

Israel heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines. ⁸ And the people of Israel said to Samuel, “Do not cease to cry out to the Lord our God for us, that he may save us from the hand of the Philistines.” ⁹ So Samuel took a nursing lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the Lord. And Samuel cried out to the Lord for Israel, and the Lord answered him. ¹⁰ As Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to attack Israel. But the Lord thundered with a mighty sound that day against the Philistines and threw them into confusion, and they were defeated before Israel. ¹¹ And the men of Israel went out from Mizpah and pursued the Philistines and struck them, as far as below Beth-car.

2 Corinthians 1:8-10: For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. ⁹ Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. ¹⁰ He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.

RE-READ vv. 9-11

II. The Lord’s deliverance of his people centers on sacrifice.

Romans 3:23-25a: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a [sacrifice] by his blood, to be received by faith.

Hannah: The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; against them he will thunder in heaven. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed.” (1 Samuel 2:10)

III: The Lord responds to repentance with deliverance.

READ 1 Samuel 7:12-17

¹² Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, “Till now the Lord has helped us.” ¹³ So the Philistines were subdued and did not again enter the territory of Israel. And the hand of the

Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. ¹⁴The cities that the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron to Gath, and Israel delivered their territory from the hand of the Philistines. There was peace also between Israel and the Amorites.

¹⁵Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. ¹⁶And he went on a circuit year by year to Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah. And he judged Israel in all these places. ¹⁷Then he would return to Ramah, for his home was there, and there also he judged Israel. And he built there an altar to the Lord.

III. The stone of help tells the story of redemption.

Judges = “whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel.”

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