

1 Samuel 12: [Loving Confrontation](#)

1 Samuel Chapter 11 Review

- **The Siege:** (Ammonites) We are sometimes **surrounded and paralyzed by our enemies**, the oppression of living in this world, and our own sin. This is a miserable place to be...introspective and weak. Consumed by self.
- **Eyes plucked out:** (Exploiting our weakness) Our enemy wants to humiliate us for all the world to see. Kick us while we're down. To say **"Look, he calls himself a Christian and cant even get out of bed!"** "She calls herself a Christian and she's crying again!" (drinking again, lying again, not keeping his word...again)
- **Messengers sent:** (What we do) Get out of ourselves. We will **not** find deliverance within. We go outside ourselves and call out to God. We **praise...we pray...we shout if we have to!**
- **Deliverance:** (Came upon Saul) The Spirit of God **brings deliverance** and **scatters the enemy!** The way is clear. We have breathing room. We are not petty. We are not ashamed.

1 Samuel Chapter 12

1Then Samuel said to all Israel, "Behold, I have listened to your voice in all that you said to me and I have appointed a king over you. 2"Now, here is the king walking before you, but I am old and gray, and behold my sons are with you And **I have walked before you from my youth** even to this day. 3"Here I am; bear witness against me before the LORD and His anointed **Whose ox have I taken**, or whose donkey have I taken, or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed, or from whose hand have I taken a bribe to blind my eyes with it? I will restore it to you." 4They said, "You have not defrauded us or oppressed us or taken anything from any man's hand." 5He said to them, "The LORD is witness against you, and His anointed is witness this day that you have found nothing in my hand." And they said, "He is witness."

- Samuel **establishes his credibility**
- "You've watched me **since I was boy** in the tabernacle..."
- "Have I stolen or cheated anybody? I will repay it!"
- The **Lord and His anointed** (Saul) are witnesses of my integrity

Deuteronomy 19:15 "A single witness shall not rise up against a man

on account of any iniquity or any sin which he has committed; on the **evidence of two or three witnesses a matter shall be confirmed.**

- God and the King heard the people concede Samuels integrity

6Then Samuel said to the people, "It is the LORD who appointed Moses and Aaron and who brought your fathers up from the land of Egypt. **7**"So now, **take your stand**, that I may plead with you before the LORD concerning all the righteous acts of the LORD which He did for you and your fathers.

- **NIV:** Stand there...**I am going to confront you!**
- **2 ways to Win** the right to speak correction
 1. Be as righteous as Samuel
 2. Walk with the Lord but when you mess up...admit it!
- **Lose** the right to speak
 1. Be wishy washy, critical, never stop talking
 2. Don't walk the walk...just talk, and talk, and talk
- Saul won the right to speak, even **rebuke**, by his life

re-buke

Verb: To criticize or reprove sharply; reprimand. (She rebuked him)

Noun- A sharp reproof. (He gave a scathing rebuke)

re- back (from Latin; see re-) **Buker-** to strike, **chop wood**

- Godly rebuke is for the hearers good
- We will be rebuked and need to rebuke
- Some don't like confrontation...but it is necessary!
- Giving and getting require Godly wisdom

Giving Rebuke

Leviticus 19:17 "Do not hate your brother in your heart. Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not share in his guilt." (Don't store up bitterness...talk)

Proverbs 9:8 Do not rebuke a mocker or he will hate you; rebuke a wise man and he will love you.

Proverbs 17:10 A rebuke impresses a man of discernment more than a hundred lashes a fool

Proverbs 27:5 Better is open rebuke than hidden love.

Luke 17:3 So watch yourselves. "If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he

repents, forgive him. 4If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, 'I repent,' forgive him."

1 Timothy 5:1 Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father.

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

Titus 1:13 This testimony is true. Therefore, rebuke them sharply, so that they will be sound in the faith

Titus 2:15 ...Encourage and rebuke with all authority.

Accepting Rebuke

Psalms 141:5 Let a righteous man strike me—it is a kindness; let him rebuke me—it is oil on my head. My head will not refuse it. (David)

Proverbs 3:11 My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent his rebuke, 12 because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.

Proverbs 15:31 He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise.

Proverbs 25:12 Like an earring of gold or an ornament of fine gold is a wise man's rebuke to a listening ear.

- Godly rebuke seems harsh, but benefits if responded to rightly
- Samuel will now begin (to chop wood) . How will they respond?

8"When Jacob went into Egypt and your fathers cried out to the LORD, then the LORD sent Moses and Aaron who brought your fathers out of Egypt and **settled them** in this place. 9"But they **forgot the LORD** their God, so **He sold them** into the hand of Sisera, captain of the army of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them. 10"They **cried out** to the LORD and said, '**We have sinned** because we have forsaken the LORD and have served the Baals and the Ashtaroth; but now **deliver us** from the hands of our enemies, and **we will serve You.**'

11"Then the LORD sent Jerubbaal and Bedan and Jephthah and Samuel, and **delivered** you from the hands of your enemies all around, so that you **lived in security**. 12"When you saw that Nahash the king of the sons of Ammon came against you, you said to me, '**No, but a king shall** reign over us,' although the LORD your God was your king.

- **Summary:** "From Egypt until now you repeat the same pattern"
- Cry out, God hears and delivers (blesses), Walk or drift away, Completely Rebel, God Corrects and allows your enemies to prevail, Cry out...God hears...

13"**Now** therefore, here is the king whom you have chosen, whom you have asked for, and behold, the LORD has set a king over you.

14"**If** you will **fear the LORD and serve Him**, and listen to His voice and not rebel against the command of the LORD, then both you and also the king who reigns over you **will follow the LORD your God**.

15"**If** you **will not listen to the voice** of the LORD, but rebel against the command of the LORD, then the **hand of the LORD will be against you**, as it was against your fathers.

- Wanting a King to be like other nations **was sin**
- God works **in spite** of our sin...Grace (undeserved favor)
- **Imagine** if God stopped working after our first mistake! He doesn't!
- The God of 2nd,3rd, ...chances

16"Even now, **take your stand** and see this great thing which the LORD will do before your eyes. 17"Is it not the wheat harvest today? I will call to the LORD, that He may send thunder and rain. Then you will know and see that your wickedness is great which you have done in the sight of the LORD by asking for yourselves a king." 18So Samuel called to the LORD, and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.

- Just stand there! I am going to confront you!...again
- It was not the rainy season. God validates Samuel's words

19Then all the people said to Samuel, "**Pray for your servants** to the LORD your God, so that we may not die, **for we have added** to all our sins this evil by asking for ourselves a king."

- Right response! Repentance.

20Samuel said to the people, "**Do not fear**. You have committed all this evil, yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, **but serve** the LORD with all your heart. 21"You must not turn aside, for then you would go after futile things which can not profit or deliver, because they are futile.

- Do not fear...but serve

- **Fear, Love and Service** are very closely related

1 John 4:18 There is **no fear in love**; but **perfect love casts out fear**, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love. 19We love, because He first loved us.

- If we love God and know His love for us, we will have **no** fear
- **Love** is directly related to **service**

John 13:1 (Read) having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. (**NIV**: showed them the **full extent of his love**) 2During supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray Him, 3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God, 4 got up from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself. 5Then He poured water into the basin, and began to **wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel** with which He was girded.

- How do we love and **eliminate fear**? We love. How do we love? **We Serve!**

John 14:15 (Read) **If** you love Me, **you will** keep My commandments.

John 15:12 (Read) "This is My commandment, **that you love one another, just as I have loved you**. 13"Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. 14"**You are My friends if you do what I command you**.

- By serving both God and man we show our love and Jesus calls us friends
- Summary: Friends of God need not fear
- Back to Samuel

22"For the LORD **will not abandon His people** on account of His **great name**, because the LORD has been **pleased to make you a people for Himself**. 23"Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by ceasing to pray for you; but I will instruct you in the good and right way. 24"**Only** fear the LORD and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He **has** done for you. 25"**But** if you still do wickedly, both you and your king will be swept away."

- He loves you right where you are but too much to leave you there
- **He will rebuke and discipline** us and then we have a choice
- How we accept rebuke and discipline from our loving Father in heaven will affect our life and those around us on earth

Hebrews 12:7 (Read) It is for discipline that you endure; **(NIV: endure hardship as discipline)** God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? 8But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. 9Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; **shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live?** 10For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that **we may share His holiness.** 11All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards **it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.**

- Trained by...hardship
- School of hard knocks produces good teachers

(Continue Hebrews) **12**Therefore, **strengthen the hands that are weak** and the knees that are feeble, 13and make straight paths for your feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

- How we respond to discipline will either **heal or maim** others
- If we rebel and complain, the lame, those who need Christ will take notice and be further hurt

Philippians 2:14 Do **all things without grumbling or disputing**; 15so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom **you appear as lights in the world,**

- If we accept God's rebuke and teaching...the world will **see life** and we will win the right to speak

Revelation 3:19 'Those whom I love, I reprove [**rebuke**] and discipline; therefore be zealous and **repent.** 20'Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, **I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.** 21'He who overcomes, I will grant to him **to sit down with Me on My throne,** as I also overcame and sat down

with My Father on His throne.