

I Samuel 11-13 –27 January 2022

“The Rise & Fall Of The Kingship Of Man”

Introduction

*The book is called “Samuel” b/c it depicts the life & legacy of the man Samuel (1100BC-1000BC)

*I Samuel can be divided into 3 sections

*Instigation of earthly kingship (Chap 1-7)

*Failure of earthly kingship [Saul] (Chap 8-15)

*God’s man chosen & tried (Chap 16-31)

*II Samuel – depicts the entire reign of King David

*Chap 8-10 we saw the establishing of the awkward kingdom in that God allowed them to have a kingdom but having a kingdom is settling for 2nd best

*Today we’ll see even in the 1st few years of the kingdom that the *Spirit of God is available* to them, yet they *choose* to go after their own way

*Even if we don’t have an ideal situation around us, we always have a choice TODAY to choose God!

***Today, let’s see 3 steps in the rise and fall of the kingship of man**

1st step in the rise & fall of man's kingship is the stirring of the Spirit of God (Chap 11)

Read Chap 11:1-3

1. Jabesh-Gilead is an Israeli city on the east of the Jordan River
2. *Right eyes* – Look out beyond shields in battle
3. Men of J-G should have relied on God instead of offering to become tributes to these foreigners
4. Why were the messengers allowed to go?
 - a. They're convinced no one would come help

Read Chap 11:4-6

1. King was moved of God to help his fellow Israelis – this is righteous anger
 - a. It's not that the Spirit of God lead us to be loving & timid OR bold & angry
 - b. It's that the Spirit of God lead us into what is true and right!
2. When Spirit stirs up Saul, he obeys which leads him into an important but dangerous situation

Read Chap 11:7-9

1. Saul musters the army and the army goes b/c they feared God (not necessarily Saul or Samuel)
2. It took Saul's obedience to the Spirit of God to prompt the people into the fear of God
 - a. THIS IS HOW GOD MOVES
 - b. People moved of God to affect their towns

Read Chap 11:10-11

1. Men of Jabesh-Gilead delay the Ammonites until Saul comes and slaughters the Ammonites

Read Chap 11:12-13

1. Rejoicing in a positive example & showing grace rather than punishing a bad example
2. Don't live in a mindset of 'where can I correct things', but a mindset of 'where can I give grace'

Read Chap 11:14-15

1. There's unity b/c there's proof God is in Saul
2. And the credit is going to God for His salvation

2nd step in the rise & fall of man's kingship is the soul's divide between heaven & earth (Chap 12)

Read Chap 12:1-5

1. Samuel has been a leader that used his position to give and not to take
2. As opposed to the kingdom that they've asked for; a king can't help but to take from them
3. Where's your heart?
 - a. People focused on heaven give
 - b. People focused on earth take

Read Chap 12:6-11

1. Samuel centers them on God's delivering power
2. The Lord is always good and we are not Samuel REASONS with them (say Isa 1:18)
3. There's a choice to be made & God is a reasonable God – wise to follow, foolish to resist

Read Chap 12:12-13

1. God wants them not to walk by sight of an earthly king; but to walk in faith of their spiritual King

Read Chap 12:14-15

1. Their actions, whether good or bad, will have results
2. Depend on God for salvation not your new govt

Read Chap 12:16-18

1. Samuel asks God to show thru thunder & rain that He's speaking truth about the kingship
2. God's truth will be evidenced in experiences, but experience isn't evidence of truth
 - a. Don't get this reversed
 - b. Live by what's true & begin to experience it

Read Chap 12:19-22

1. The Lord loves them...couple this with His correction of them & it gives you a good Father
2. When being corrected, know that's it's love

Read Chap 12:23-25

1. Samuel will continue to teach them, but their attention should be to the Lord
2. Human heart always tends to go after the earthy, but honor God w/ all while rejecting earthy lusts

3rd step in the rise & fall of man's kingship is the fearful disobedience of man (Chap 13)

Read Chap 13:1-2

1. Saul kept troops for central govt, just as predicted

Read Chap 13:3-4

1. Military victories for Saul & Jonathan

Read Chap 13:5-7

1. Now the Philistines gather a huge army & put Israel to fear
2. What to do in the day of attack? Fear of faith

Read Chap 13:8-10

1. King Saul was told to wait for Samuel to perform the worship to the Lord (Chap 10:8)
 - a. So, this shows Saul's fearful disobedience
 - b. Saul used situational ethics instead of using Biblical ethics
2. Do we act in fear of faith?
 - a. What you see: May tell you to act
 - b. Faith: Says obey what God's already revealed

Read Chap 13:11-12

1. All Samuel [& God] wanted was confession of sin, not excuses
2. Saul sinned b/c he looked at the people, looked for Samuel & looked at the Philistines but not God
3. Saul got antsy & fearful, like Peter often did
 - a. Peter: "I had to do something"
4. Saul has no misunderstanding, just didn't believe

Read Chap 13:13-16

1. Simply disobeying God's revealed Word is what limits God's blessing He wants to give us
2. Simple belief is needed in the face of fearful men

Read Chap 13:17-18

1. Philistines sent little incursions into Israel

Read Chap 13:19-23

1. Philistines gave themselves a monopoly on swords and metal-working
2. Now Israel is following the lead of their fearful King Saul in not using faith & obedience

Conclusion

So these chapters demonstrate the rise & fall of the kingship of every man trying to run his own life

- 1. There's the stirring of the Spirit of God**
 - a. God's Spirit will always lead us toward truth whether it's easy or hard
 - b. The option's always there to do God's will
- 2. There's the soul's divide between devotion to heaven or earth**
 - a. God's always wanting to reason w/ us to come
- 3. There's the disobedience of man b/c of fear**
 - a. Don't let our heart's lead us into fear
 - b. Let our spirits be lifted toward God in faith

This's synonymous to the rise & fall of man in creation

- Gen 1:2 – Spirit of God moved over the waters
- Gen 3:2 – Satan asked, “Hath God 9really) said
- Gen 3:10 – Adam- I heard Your voice & was afraid

ANSWER: Stop making aprons of figs & allow the Lord God to cloth us with His righteous efforts