

“Lessons from the Life of David” – Pastor Jim Ruddy

Study # 2 – How The Mighty Are Fallen! – Selected Scripture

I. THE INSISTENCE OF THE PEOPLE 1 Samuel 8

A. The Peoples’ Request - *“Give us a king to judge us!”* 8:6

B. The Peoples’ Reason

1. The presence of ungodly leaders. 8:1-5

2. The influence of ungodly nations. 8:5, 19-20; 12:12

II. THE HESITANCE OF THE LORD 1 Samuel 8

A. His Rejection By The People 8:7,8; cf. 10:17-19

- This was a cry to end Israel’s theocracy! 1 Sam 12:12
- God had been their King and Sovereign. cf. Ex. 15:18
- Note Gideon’s response to a similar cry. Judg. 8:22,23
cf. Ps. 47; 68:24; 74:12; 98:6; 145:1; Isa. 6:5; 33:22; 44:6

B. His Warning To The People 8:9-18

- *“solemnly forewarn them...!”* v9 cf. Deut. 17:14
- The king will be a taker, not a giver! cf. Jam. 1:17

C. His Sanctioning of the People 8:19-22

- While this was not God’s best for Israel, He acquiesced because of their insistence.
- *“He gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.”*
Ps. 106:15; cf. Num. 11:16-20
- You can get everything you want and miss everything you need!

III. THE EXCELLENCE OF THE CANDIDATE 1 Samuel 9-11

A. God’s Selection of Saul

- A chosen man. 9:2; 15-17; 10:20-21, 24; 12:13
- A humble man. 9:6-10; 21; 10:21-22; 15:17
- An anointed man. 10:1,6,10; 11:6
- A changed man. 10:6-12
- An enabled man. 11:6
- An advised man. 11:7; cf. 3:19
- A victorious man. 11:1-11
- An accepted man. 10:26,27; 11:12-15

B. God’s Aspiration for Saul

- It was God’s desire that Saul succeed and that the dynasty remain within his family. 1 Sam. 13:13

IV. THE INFLUENCE OF THE PROPHET 1 Samuel 12

A. The Integrity of His Word 12:1-13

- Samuel presented both his life and ministry before the people. v1-5; cf. 1 Sam. 3:19; Acts 20:33
- Once the people acknowledged Samuel’s integrity, he confronted them with their willful rejection of God.

B. The Consequences of His Word 12:14-25

- The Prophet declares that Israel’s path to victory will be based upon their obedience and the obedience of their king; *“both you and the king!”* v14; cf. v 25
- The Lord confirms Samuel’s word by sending rain and thunder. v16-18 cf. 1 Sam. 2:10; 7:10; 2 Sam. 22:14

V. THE DISOBEDIENCE OF THE KING 1 Samuel 13-15

A. Saul’s Rebellion

- Although Saul was given every advantage and knew the revealed will of God, he chose to disobey.

1. His Presumptuous Acts 1 Sam. 13:1-12

- In an impatient reaction to his circumstances, Saul neglected Samuel’s instructions (1 Sam. 10:8), and presumed upon the office of a priest (Levite).
- cf. Num. 16:40; 2 Ch. 26; 1 Kings 13

2. His Blinding Pride 1 Sam. 14:24-46

- In an act of self-promotion, Saul placed his son and his soldiers under a rash vow, nearly resulting in the death of Jonathan. cf. 1 Sam 15:12; 17
- Saul’s pride blinded him to his own sin, while he focused on the sins of others.

3. His Willful Defiance 1 Sam. 15:1-23

- In an act of open rebellion, Saul disobeyed a direct word from God, and then attempted to justify his actions and shift the responsibility.

B. God’s Response 1 Sam. 13 & 15

1. Saul’s Kingship Foreclosed 13:13-14; 15:26-28

2. David’s Kingship Foreseen 13:14; 15:28

-“the LORD has sought for himself a man after His own heart!”