

## 4 – THE DEMAND FOR A KING (1 SAMUEL 7:2-8:22)

### I. Samuel as Prophet and Judge (1 Samuel 7:2-17)

#### A. The Time Between (7:2)

- The writer describes the twenty years between the death of Eli and the ministry of Samuel.
- The Ark remained in the home of Abinadab and all Israel lamented for the Lord.

#### B. The Call to Repentance (7:3-4)

- Samuel told Israel, that if they wanted to return to the Lord they must get rid of the idols.
- They also had to prepare their hearts for the Lord and serve him only.
- Only then would he deliver them from the Philistines.
- Israel responded by getting rid of the Baals and Ashtoreths and begin to serve the Lord.

#### C. The Gathering at Mizpah (7:5-6)

- Samuel called all Israel to assemble at Mizpah so that he can intercede for them.
- Israel gathered together and made a drink offering to Lord.
- They fasted that day and confessed that they have sinned against the Lord.
- Samuel also judged the Israelites at Mizpah.

#### D. The Threat of War (7:7-8)

- When the Philistines heard that Israel had gather at Mizpah, they went against them.
- The news of the approaching army reached the Israelites and they were fearful.
- Israel cried out to Samuel to not stop praying to the Lord for their deliverance.

#### E. The Victory over the Philistines (7:9-14)

- Samuel made a sacrifice of a lamb to the Lord as he prayed and the Lord responded.
- The Lord created confusion among the approaching Philistines with thunder.
- They were so confused by the thunder that Israel defeated them.
- Samuel set up a memorial stone and called it Ebenezer, “The Lord has helped us.”

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- During the days of Samuel, the Philistines were subdued and Israel regained its territory.

## F. Samuel as Judge (7:15-17)

- Samuel judged Israel all of his life as he traveled Israel on a circuit.
- His home was in Ramah and he built an altar to the Lord there.

## II. The Request for a King (1 Samuel 8:1-22)

### A. Samuel's sons (8:1-3)

- As Samuel got older, he made his two sons judges over Israel in Beersheba.
- Unlike their father, they were corrupted and perverted justice as they took bribes.

### B. The Request (8:4-5)

- The elders came to Samuel and requested a king since he was old and his sons were corrupted.
- They wanted a king to judge them like the other nations.

### C. Samuel Prays (8:6-9)

- The request displeased Samuel and he prayed to the Lord about their demand.
- The Lord told Samuel to heed their request since they had rejected the Lord's reign over them.
- The Lord pointed out their continual rebellion in seeking after other gods.
- Samuel was to warn them concerning the behavior of a king who rules over them.

### D. Samuel's Warning (8:10-18)

- Samuel told the people that the Lord would grant their request for a king.
- However, the king will exploit them and they will cry out to the Lord.
- When they cry out about the king, the Lord will not hear them.

### E. The Response of the People (8:19-20)

- The people did not listen and stated that they wanted a king so that they can be like the nations.

### F. Samuel Prays Again (8:21-22)

- Samuel prayed again and the Lord told him to make them a king.