

## SERMON NOTES

**Title: Choosing the Right Leader**

**Text: I Samuel 8:4&5**

**Topic: Who Is Your King?**

**Teacher: Pastor Barry**

**Time: 11/3/24**



Hannah gives her son, **Samuel**, to the Lord to serve Him as she promised she would do. Samuel is trained by Eli to become a **priest**.

The Israelites demand that Samuel **anoint a King** against God's will.

God's **permissive will** allows the nation of Israel to have a king even though He knows it's not best for them. They make three foolish choices.

THEY CHOSE...

### **POWER OVER PURPOSE**

God's plan was that as God led Israel they would become an **example**.

Israel decides they want to be **like** other nations.

*"We want a king over us. Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles."* 1 Samuel 8:19&20.

We are never told to **blend in**.

Samuel, Anointed **Saul** as the first king of Israel.

### **CIRCUMSTANCES OVER SALVATION.**

Samuel gathers everyone together and **reminds** them of God's power, God's provision & God's salvation.

*If you fear the Lord and serve and obey him and do not rebel against his commands, and if both you and the king who reigns over you follow the Lord your God—good! But if you do not obey the Lord, and if you rebel against his commands, his hand will be against you, as it was against your ancestors."* 1 Samuel 12:12ff

The **current** circumstances were so overwhelming they **forgot** what God had done.

### **OPTIONS OVER OBEDIENCE.**

God gave Saul a very **specific** command, but two words change everything for the Israelites... "**But Saul...**" 1 Samuel 15 *But Saul*, Instead of doing everything as God commanded him to do he **disobeyed** God.

When confronted he **blames** others.

When someone questions your behavior, ask yourself, "*Is there any truth in this?*" A humble person looks for a way to take **responsibility** for his/her actions.

*Does the Lord delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the Lord? To obey is better than sacrifice.* 1 Samuel 15:22

"God's love language is **obedience**."

When we try to keep our **options open** we're saying, "*We really don't want God as our king*".