

# 1 Samuel 8

# Children Do Not Always Walk in the Steps of Their Parents

- 1 Samuel 8:3
- Ezekiel 18:5-18
  - Good father, but wicked son
  - Wicked father, but good son
- Ezekiel 18:21, 24
  - One may change
- Does not lessen yours or my responsibility!

# Samuel Prayed When Faced With Disappointment

- From elders of Israel
- A request against the will of God
  - NASB: “evil”
- Samuel – personally wounded?
- Want and Need to Know from God, God’s will
- 1 Peter 5:7
- Hebrews 5:7; Matthew 26:39-44
- Take your cares & concerns to the Father, but go with a desire for His will in the matter

# God Instructs Samuel to Forewarn Them

- God had already given warning & instruction
  - Deuteronomy 17:14-20
- Now more warning from the mouth of God through His prophet Samuel
- Warnings for their good, to avoid a bad outcome
- God warns with truth
- God is capable of perfect warnings because He is perfect in wisdom
  - Isaiah 46:10
- Satan? 2 Corinthians 11:14

# Oh, the Value of Warnings!

- God is a God who warns!
  - Hebrews 11:7
- Psalm 19:11....7-10
- God warns through His word and thus through the teaching and preaching of His word
  - Ezekiel 33:9, 17-21
  - I Corinthians 4:14
  - Acts 20:31
  - Romans 15:14
  - Colossians 1:28; 3:16 “admonish” = warn
  - Proverbs 1:1-19; 23:19-21, 26-28, 28-35

# They Rejected the Warning

- They asked for trouble, and God responded
- God lays out the choice and the consequences, but He desires that man choose life
  - Proverbs 1:29; 3:31
  - Deuteronomy 30:11-20
  - 2 Peter 3:9
- God allowed them to choose the evil
  - “No, but we will have a king over us”
- Stubbornness...rebellion...willful ignorance
  - 2 Peter 3:5
- Who’s to blame?
  - Matthew 23:37
  - Acts 13:46

# A Bad Motivation

- Conformity, Imitation
  - Conformity: “1) similarity in form or character; agreement; 2) action or behavior in correspondence with current customs, rules, or styles” (AHD)
  - Etymology of word: con (together) + formare (to form)....make something like another thing
- “that we also may be like all the nations” – verse 20
  - Joshua 23:12-13
- “that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles”
  - Acts 13:20
  - Joshua 23:10

# Conformity, Imitation

- What often can be involved in conformity to the world's standards:
  - Discontentedness; "others have something better"
  - Lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes
  - Avoid persecution
  - "We have our reasons"
- ONE standard worthy of conformity, imitation
  - Romans 8:29
  - Romans 12:1-2
  - John 17:17
  - 1 Corinthians 11:1
  - 2 Thessalonians 2:15
  - 2 Timothy 1:13; 2:2; 2:14-15; 3:14; 4:2



# The Big Picture

- “they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them” – verse 7
- Not simply rejecting one way of government in favor of another, or one human plan in favor of another human plan
- Rejecting God’s plan....rejecting God Himself
- In rejecting God’s standard and choosing another standard (the nations), one is rejecting God’s plan, and in rejecting God’s plan, one is rejecting God, and in rejecting God, one is saying, “I will not have your direct my life.”

# Choose The Divine Standard

- Today, as always, every one is faced with a choice, to choose between...
  - a plan, a method God has authorized, given His approval of, and
  - a plan, a method of human origin
- The two are not of equal quality...or authority, power
- This is true individually, and it is true collectively
- Worship
  - John 4:24
  - Instrument, band, clapping
- Work of the church
  - Life center, gymnasium, banquet room, kitchen

