



WORTH THE WAIT

Studies in I Samuel

November 6, 2011

Growing in Spirit & Truth

Volume 10, Issue 3

Don't Take It Personal I Samuel 8-12



The
5 Purposes of the
Purpose Driven
Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God's pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God's family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for God's mission

When someone disagrees with us and says, "Don't take it personal" they mean that they aren't personally rejecting us, but our position on the matter. In this week's study Samuel felt this way, but God, in essence told him, "Don't take it personal". The people of Israel had asked for a king, partly because Samuel's sons who would succeed him were evil. Israel also wanted to be like the nations around them and they wanted someone to fight their battles for them. God permitted their selfish request which in reality was a rejection of Him. He told Samuel to consent to them, but to warn them that life with a king would be harsh because he would demand everything from them. Because of their sinful desires, though, they still wanted a king. The man who provided as king was

Saul, a stylish answer for the people. He was tall and handsome, externally attractive, but inwardly was not the man they needed. God revealed him to Samuel after Saul had gone on a search for his father's lost donkeys. Having no success, he and his servant went to a "man of God" in a near city and that happened to be Samuel. God had told him that the man who would be king was coming to him that day. Upon seeing Saul he told him that he was God's choice as king over the people, but he was surprised since his tribe was one of Israel's smallest. Later, when he was publicly chosen as king he was found hiding among the baggage to keep from showing his face. This insecurity showed itself even after he had fulfilled prophecy by prophesying and being filled with the



Anything of true value is worth waiting for.

Holy Spirit. Some didn't accept him, but he did nothing about this. Rather, God confirmed him by using him to lead a victory over the Ammonites. The kingdom was then renewed and Samuel concluded by probing the substantive issue—their rejection of God. He reminded them of his integrity and of God's faithfulness, who had redeemed them from Egypt and repeatedly delivered them in response to their cries. God then sent a thunderstorm to express his displeasure. Realizing their sin, they feared God's and Samuel's rejection; but he urged obedience and promised to pray for them. He did the right thing, rather than taking it personal.

Study Questions for I Samuel 8-12

(For answers go to [http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf/html/study questions](http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf/html/study%20questions))

<p>1. 1. Read 1 Sam 8:1-9. What did Samuel do when he got old and how did that turn out (v1-3)? How did the leaders respond (v4, 5) and how did this affect Samuel (v6)? What did he do (v6) and what was God's answer (v7-9)?</p>	
<p>2. From 8:10-22 what did Samuel tell them a king would demand (v10-12, 13, 14-15, 16, 17)? How would they respond (v18) and what did they say to all this (v19) and why (v20)? What did God direct Samuel to do (v21-22)?</p>	
<p>3. In 9:1-14 who appears (v2) and what was he like (v1-2)? What job was given to Saul by his dad (v3) and how did it go (v4-5)? What was his next step (v6-10)? Who did they encounter and how (v11-15)?</p>	

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I Samuel 8-12 - Daily Study Questions (cont)

<p>4. Continuing in 1 Sam 9:15-27 what had God revealed to Samuel (v15-17)? Why had He done this (v16)? What 3 things did Samuel say (v18-19, 20) and how did Saul react (v21)? What did Samuel then do (v22, 23-24, 25-27)?</p>	
<p>5. Using 10:1-13 What did Samuel tell Saul (v1) and what did he prophesy to confirm this (v2, 3-4, 5-6)? What else did he instruct (v7, 8)? What happened (v9, 10) and what resulted (v11-13)?</p>	
<p>6. In 10:14-27 what did Saul say (v14-16) and omit (v16)? At Mizpah what did Samuel first say (v17-19), and then do (v20-21)? Where was Saul (v22)? Why was he there? What did they do (v23) and what resulted (v23-24, 25-27)?</p>	
<p>7. Looking at 11:1-15 what problem occurred (v1-2) and what did the elders do (v3-4)? What was Saul's response (v5-7, 8-9) and why (v5)? What was the course of events then (v10, 11, 12-13, 14-15) and why was this good (v15)?</p>	
<p>8. From 12:1-11 what did Samuel recount (v1-2) and what was his main concern (v3, 5)? How did they answer (v4)? What acts had God done for them (v6-11) and what were they like (v7)?</p>	
<p>9. Based on 12:12-18 what had Israel done wrong (v12) and what was the result (v13)? What did they now need to do (v14) and not do (v15)? How was this reinforced (v16-18) and what resulted (v18)?</p>	
<p>10. Concluding in 12:19-25 what did the people ask (v19) and how did Samuel answer (v20-22, 24-25) and what did he promise (v23)?</p>	
<p>11. Look back over these chapters. Why do you think God permitted them to have a king, and such a "stylish" king at that? How does He do that with us? What was the real issue that Samuel caused them to think about in chapter 12? What lessons can we draw from that?</p>	

Scripture to Remember

"For the Lord will not abandon His people on account of His great name, because the Lord has been pleased to make you a people for Himself. Moreover, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you; but I will instruct you in the good and right way.

I Samuel 12:22-23 (NASB)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

We're on the web

www.thehospitalchurch.com

Life Group Questions—Who's Your Daddy—Part 1 (*Identity Theft, Week 1*)

(Using questions from Sunday's sermon, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship, helping us to grow in Christ.)

1. Share with the group something that "stops you in your tracks" when you see it, and why. Describe a time when something about God did that for you.
2. Read Exod 3:1-6. How did God get Moses' attention and why did He use this approach? What does He use to get your attention and why does He do this in our lives?
3. Where was Moses standing (v5), but what did he not realize about who he was (v5)? Why does our understanding of who we are start with who God is?
4. Discuss how God brings us to an understanding of Him—how do we see *Him* as set apart and how does He set us apart?
5. Talk about the connection between God's "set apart-ness" (holiness) and ours. What do you think we are to be set apart from and set apart to?
6. From the message why is Mormonism anti-Christian? Why does it matter if someone, simply confused, believes this as long as they are sincere? Give some examples of how a person's understanding of God affects the way they see themselves and live their life.
7. Discuss anything else meaningful from the message if you have time.