

FIRST SAMUEL STUDY

CHAPTER 12:1-25

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER WNX324 NOVEMBER 28, 2001

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Responding to God’s Will”

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Obedience

INTRODUCTION *to the text* *I Samuel 12:1-25*

In Chapter 10
“Knowing the Will of God in Your Life”

Chapter 11
“Confirming the Will of God in Your Life”

Here in Chapter 12
“Responding to the Will of God in Your Life”

John 6:40

For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life,

1 Thessalonians 4:3

For this is the will of God, even your sanctification...

1 Thessalonians 5:18

in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

“Responding to God’s Will in Your Life”

1.) *We’re to be Doing His Will* **vv. 1-5**

We’re to be Doing His Will

a.) *Samuel’s Character was a Witness*

Verse 1-3

Now Samuel said to all Israel: "Indeed I have heeded your voice in all that you said to me, and have made a king over you. 2 "And now here is the king, walking before you; and I am old and gray headed, and look, my sons are with you. I have walked before you from my childhood to this day. 3 "Here I am. Witness against me before the LORD and before His anointed: Whose ox have I taken, or whose donkey have I taken, or whom have I cheated? Whom have I oppressed, or from whose hand have I received any bribe with which to blind my eyes? I will restore it to you."

Israel Wanted a Man-made Deliverer Their Way

Verse 1

"Indeed I have heeded your voice in all that you said to me,
and have made a king over you.

In This The People Had Failed at Doing God's Will

1 Samuel 8:19-22

Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, "No, but we will have a king over us, 20 that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." 21 And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he repeated them in the hearing of the LORD. 22 So the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed their voice, and make them a king..."

"I Have Been The Messenger"

Consider Samuel's Character

Paul Had This Character

Philippians 4:8-9

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy-- meditate on these things. 9 The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

The Message and the Messenger

The Message
Is In-errant, Perfect and Without Fault

The Messenger
Is Errant, Imperfect, With Fault

Hebrews 1:1-2

God, who at various times and in various ways **spoke** in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son...

It's God Who Speaks

2 Peter 1:21

for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved (carried along, inspired, possessed) by the Holy Spirit.

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

If the Messenger Believes the Message then his Character will Take on the Meaning of the Message

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

IT IS THE REVELATION OF THE WILL OF GOD TO MAN

Verse 2

"And now here is the king, walking before you; and I am old and gray headed, and look, my sons are with you. I have walked before you from my childhood to this day.

We're to be Doing His Will

b.) *Samuel's Heart was Right (True Motives)*

Verse 4-5

And they said, "You have not cheated us or oppressed us, nor have you taken anything from any man's hand." 5 Then he said to them, "The LORD is witness against you, and His anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand." And they answered, "He is witness."

The Ministry Needs Samuels Today

Listen to the People's Confession-
about Samuel's character

"You have not **cheated** us or **oppressed** us, nor have you **taken anything** from any man's hand."

Exodus 23:8-9

"And you shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the discerning and perverts the words of the righteous. 9 "Also you shall not oppress a stranger, for you know the heart of a stranger, because you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

The Fear of the Lord
is the key to a holy ministry

Having a Right Heart & Right Motives
In Secret and In Public is a Barometer of the Fear of the Lord

What are you like in secret?
Who are you in private?

That Person is the Real Person of Who you Are

“Responding to God’s Will in Your Life”

2.) *We’re to be Knowing the Truth*

vv. 6-18

We’re to be Knowing the Truth

The Truth is

a.) *God has been Historically Faithful*

Verse 6-11

Then Samuel said to the people, "It is the LORD who raised up Moses and Aaron, and who brought your fathers up from the land of Egypt. 7 "Now therefore, stand still, that I may reason with you before the LORD **concerning all the righteous acts of the LORD** which He did to you and your fathers: 8 "When Jacob had gone into Egypt, and your fathers cried out to the LORD, then the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, who brought your fathers out of Egypt and made them dwell in this place. 9 "And when they forgot the LORD their God, He sold them into the hand of Sisera, commander of the army of Hazor, into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab; and they fought against them.

Verse 9

"And when they **forgot the LORD** their God,

Deuteronomy 32:18

...For you have forgotten the Lord who fathered you."

Psalm 103:2

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and **forget not** all His benefits:

Ecclesiastes 7:13

Consider the work of God;

Now, did they literally forget God – NO!

We never really forget him in our memory, But we do forget his nature, his person, his holiness

Romans 1:21

because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

We make him casual, easygoing, half-blind and nearly deaf until he’s our buddy, our pal.

“Me and the big man upstairs”

When We Forget God –

We Forget to Hold Him High and Awesome

Psalm 106:19-22

They made a calf in Horeb, and worshiped the molded image. 20 Thus they changed their glory into the image of an ox that eats grass. 21 They forgot God their Savior, who had done great things in Egypt, 22 Wondrous works in the land of Ham, awesome things by the Red Sea.

We're to be Knowing the Truth

The Truth is

b.) God is Continuously Faithful

Verse 10-11

10 "Then they cried out to the LORD, and said, 'We have sinned, because we have forsaken the LORD and served the Baals and Ashtoreths; but now deliver us from the hand of our enemies, and we will serve You.' 11 "And the LORD sent Jerubbaal, Bedan, Jephthah, and Samuel, and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side; and you dwelt in safety.

Notice How God Allowed the Hardships Because They Had Forgotten God

Evil Comes Upon the People – They Cry Out to God...

Verse 11

"And the LORD... delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side; and you dwelt in safety."

I Personally Believe That Who or What Your Serving is an Indicator of either coming blessings or impending correction

Verse 10

Then they cried out to the LORD, and said, 'We have sinned, because we have forsaken the LORD

The History of Israel / a Christian / America / Any Nation

We're to be Knowing the Truth

The Truth is

c.) God is Desiring to be Faithful Still

Verse 12-13

"And when you saw that Nahash king of the Ammonites came against you, you said to me, 'No, but a king shall reign over us,' - when the LORD your God was your king. 13 "Now therefore, here is the king whom you have chosen and whom you have desired. And take note, the LORD has set a king over you.

Like Your Fathers – You Too Have Forgotten God

Even in the Midst of Our Failure His Kindness is Toward Us

"Responding to God's Will in Your Life"

3.) We're to Recognize His Conditions

vv. 14-25

a.) He wants an actual relationship

Verse 14-15

14 "If you **fear** the LORD and **serve** Him and **obey** His voice, and **do not rebel** against the commandment of the LORD, then both you and the king who reigns over you will continue following the LORD your God. 15 "However, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then the hand of the LORD will be against you, as it was against your fathers.

Verse 16-18

"Now therefore, stand and see this great thing which the LORD will do before your eyes: 17 "Is today not the wheat harvest? I will call to the LORD, and He will send thunder and rain, that you may perceive and see that your wickedness is great, which you have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking a king for yourselves." 18 So Samuel called to the LORD, and the LORD sent thunder and rain that day; and all the people greatly feared the LORD and Samuel.

We're to Recognize His Conditions

b.) He wants us blessed beyond others

Verse 19-21

19 And all the people said to Samuel, "Pray for your servants to the LORD your God, that we may not die; for we have added to all our sins the evil of asking a king for ourselves." 20 Then Samuel said to the people, "Do not fear. You have done all this wickedness; yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. 21 "And do not turn aside; for then you would go after empty things which cannot profit or deliver, for they are nothing.

They're Now "Bless-able"

Verse 19

"Pray for your servants to the LORD your God, that we may not die; for we have added to all our sins the evil of asking a king for ourselves

First of All

They are no longer independent from God

Second of All

They're Confessing Their sin

Psalm 51:17

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart-- these, O God, You will not despise.

Luke 18:10-14

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 "The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men-- extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. 12 'I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' 13 "And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' 14 "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

c.) He wants us to be His

Verse 22-25

22 "For the LORD will not forsake His people, for His great name's sake, because it has pleased the LORD to make you His people. 23 "Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you; but I will teach you the good and the right way. 24 "Only fear the LORD, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you. 25 "But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king."
"For **(because)** the LORD will not forsake His people, for **(because)** His great name's sake, **(because)** it has pleased the LORD to make you His people.

The Greatest Verse

The Three "Because" of God

#1 - For **(because)**

the LORD will not forsake His people,

#2 - for **(because)**

His great name's sake,

#3 - **(because)**

it has pleased the LORD to make you His people.

Jeremiah 31:3

The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you."

Luke 12:31-32

"But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. 32 "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

End of study