

Bible Class Notes – Studies in The Old Testament – Lesson 90

Judgement and Deliverance

This week – We continue our series on how God blesses those who exercise faith in Him.

**The LORD said unto Samuel,
“They have not rejected thee, but they
have rejected Me.”** *1 Samuel 8 v7*

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	I Samuel 8 v1-22 (The people demand a king)	
Monday	I Samuel 9 v1-14 (Samuel prepares to meet Saul)	
Tuesday	I Samuel 9 v15-27 (Samuel tells Saul the Word of the Lord)	
Wednesday	I Samuel 10 v1-16 (Samuel anoints Saul as king)	
Thursday	I Samuel 10 v17-25 (King Saul is presented to the people)	
Friday	I Samuel 12 v1-12 (Samuel warns the people)	
Saturday	I Samuel 12 v13-25 (Blessings if they are faithful)	

Important Thought for us Today: If God is Sovereign why does He sometimes allow us to go our own sinful way, and suffer the consequences? God does not treat us as robots or puppets on a string. He allows us to use our wills. We are responsible for our actions. The problem is our wills are corrupt - so we are very prone to make the wrong decisions. **Firstly**, if we proudly and resolutely resist and ignore His call to repentance and faith He will allow us to experience sadness. He wants us to return to Him and seek and find His forgiveness.

Secondly, if we are Christian believers we may make the mistake of wanting something so much that we do not seek God's will, **or** we do not apply the principles of His Word to our decision. Many have wanted something so much that, in their reasoning, they force it into being conforming to God's will. Sadly, principles of discernment may be overlooked. We must ask questions such as; Will it occupy too much of my time? Will my service for the Lord and attendance at church be affected? Will my faith in Christ be compromised? **So, please prayerfully and honestly ask – Am I satisfying all of the principles of God's Word?**

A hymn asking God The Holy Spirit to melt our stony heart: (411)

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| 1. O for a glance of heavenly day, | 5. But there is One can do the deed, |
| To take this stubborn stone away; | And His resistless touch I need! |
| And thaw with beams of love divine | Thy Spirit can my dross refine, |
| This heart, this frozen heart of mine. | And move and melt this heart of mine. |

The People Demand a King.

- **Samuel is now approaching the end of his life as Prophet and Judge.**
 - **Without seeking the Lord's will** the people demand a king to be their Ruler and Judge, rejecting God's gracious rule of leadership, freedom, and fairness.

How foolish the Israelites were in rejecting Theocratic Rule (God's Direct Rule)!

- **God's Good Ruler – Samuel - Had devoted his life to God's service.**
 - Samuel as Priest (mediator between man and God), Prophet (preaching God's truth), and Ruler (judging legal cases) had tirelessly and consistently acted with humility and faith.
 - Power had not corrupted him - he lived in deep respect of God's holy standards.
 - Samuel, offended by their demands, took it to God in prayer. God, also very displeased, said, ***“They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected Me.”***
- **The Great Sin of Discontentment and Ingratitude towards God.**
 - The people had so much to thank God and Samuel for, yet were dissatisfied.
 - The sin of discontentment first appeared in the Garden of Eden - Adam and Eve wanted more than God had blessed them with. Their ingratitude led to eternal paradise being lost, only to gain Satan's false promise of ***‘freedom’***.

We must search our hearts to see if we ungratefully complain - then repent of our sin.

- **God Concedes and Gives Them Their Heart's Desire – A King.**
 - **Note:** God never forces loyalty and obedience on unwilling people.
 - Graciously, He gave ample warning of the sadness and danger they will face.
 - God allows them, (and us), to examine their own rebellious and sinful ways.
- Graciously He offers forgiveness to all who will sincerely repent and return to Him.**
- **“God Save The King” – Samuel Anoints Saul - The First King of Israel.**
 - God leads Saul to Samuel when Saul searched for his father's lost donkeys.
 - Samuel passes on God's charge to the people, (1 Samuel 12 vs14,15):

“If ye will fear the LORD, and serve Him, and obey His voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall both ye and also the king that reigneth over you continue following the LORD your God: But if ye will not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then shall the hand of the LORD be against you, as it was against your fathers.”

- Samuel also advised and reminds the people, (1 Samuel 15 v24):

“Only fear (trust) the LORD, and serve Him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things He hath done for you.”

May we too come to the Lord Jesus Christ in repentance and faith.

We must pray like the Prodigal Son, “Father, I have sinned against Heaven, and in Thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called Thy son.” (Lord, please forgive me) *Luke 15 v21*