

Transition of government from Ch 7 to Ch 8 – No longer under the government of God but the nation chooses the government of man to rule and run their lives. Any nation or family that leaves God & seeks to rule themselves will swallow the bitter pill of reality as things begin to fall apart & freedom is exchanged for bondage.

*1 And it came about when Samuel was old that he appointed his sons judges over Israel. 2 Now the name of his first-born was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judging in Beersheba. 3 His sons, however, did not walk in his ways, but turned aside after dishonest gain and took bribes and perverted justice. 4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah; 5 and they said to him, "Behold, you have grown old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations."*

1-3) Good intentions don't always promise right decisions--Joel YHWH is God; Abijah YHWH is Father. Sam was a good role model but sons didn't value the example. We can't have faith for our kids. They rise or fall to place they allow God to bring them. Testing brings out what's in heart.

*'Bribe blinds the eyes*

Bad decision making in old age – Nepotism? Desperation? Poor judgment? Issue is faith and calling we can't have either for another. We can't ordain those who are not called of God. ***Not a new convert lest they become conceited and fall into condemnation of devil 1Tim 3:6***—Bad for them and for you. Not equipped to handle.

Sam's sons were weak in character, took bribes, greedy for money people saw it & didn't want it & chose alternative....a King. Evidence the people as bad as Sam's sons; backslid, worldly minded, coveting glory, dissatisfied w/ what they had, wanting what other nations had—even when God was faithful **7:12 Ebenezer** ---people discontent w/ God—their fault not God's.

*6 But the thing was displeasing in the sight of Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the LORD. 7 And the LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them. 8 "Like all the deeds which they have done since the day that I brought them up from Egypt even to this day—in that they have forsaken Me and served other gods—so they are doing to you also.*

*Displeasing* – **jealous** for God & the ministry – **hurtful** and **offensive**, take it personally but their issue is with **God**, leaving Him first. Influenced by the pagan world & drawn to what is false. *Bad news gets around the world before good news can get its shoes tied.* Abandon God for rule of man. Sam took it personally—To move away from God is Evil a strategy of Satan-trading Gods rule for mans-‘you will be like God’ Eve. Leaving God for what’s eye appealing, outwardly attractive, visually impressive. We always get what we deserve. *Sow to flesh reap corruption*

Theocracy-God rule thru priests & judges--Monarchy king to rule. Trade sovereignty for carnality, freedom for slavery, democracy for despotism & control – Sam prays God says accommodate to correct compromise and waywardness. *Nu 11:18.....you have wept in the ears of the LORD, saying, "Oh that someone would give us meat to eat! For we were well-off in Egypt." Therefore the LORD will give you meat and you shall eat. 19 'You shall eat, not one day, nor two days, nor five days, nor ten days, nor twenty days, 20 but a whole month, until it comes out of your nostrils and becomes loathsome to you; because you have rejected the LORD who is among you and have wept before Him, saying, "Why did we ever leave Egypt?"'"*

Sam warns what king will do & how people will be under him instead of freedom in the Lord. – God takes it personally, we have a feeling God...*against you & you only have I sinned...*David said

Israel admired how nations gloried in their kings & wanted that—pomp & prestige surrounded by flatterers, fawning over for what they can get, those who praise powerful people to get their approval. **Vicarious importance**. All they had now was Acacia box carried on polls by priests

*9 “Now then, listen to their voice; however, you shall solemnly warn them and tell them of the procedure of the king who will reign over them.” 10 So Samuel spoke all the words of the LORD to the people who had asked of him a king. 11 And he said, “This will be the procedure of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and place them for himself in his chariots and among his horsemen and they will run before his chariots.*

Warning of heavy burden put upon people when leave rule of God & are ruled by man. Pattern of humiliation, put under rulership-degradation. **Pic Run as peasant along side**. God’s choice *Dt 17:14,15 “When you enter the land which the LORD your God gives you, and you possess it and live in it, and you say, ‘I will set a king over me like all the nations who are around me,’ 15 you shall surely set a king over you whom the LORD your God chooses, one from among your countrymen you shall set as king over yourselves.....’*

**Waiting**--If they would have waited---would not have invited the trouble brought on by Saul. He will take more than necessary, use & abuse you & children for his purposes—you will serve him & not he you. When you cry out God will not be there until you are cured of your defiant ways.

Pagan kings want status & prominence will use you to get it.

*12 “And he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and of fifties, and some to do his plowing and to reap his harvest and to make his weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. 13 “He will also take your daughters for perfumers and cooks and bakers. 14 “And he will take the best of your fields and your vineyards and your olive groves, and give them to his servants. 15 “And he will take a tenth of your seed and of your vineyards, and give to his officers and to his servants. 16 “He will also take your male servants and your female servants and your best young men and your donkeys, and use them for his work. 17 “He will take a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his servants.*

Create & army enforce the draft to fight his wars. Practice law of imminent domain—take what is yours for himself & cronies, taxation w/o representation. Spend huge amounts of money on weapons of war. Government corruption will be prominent, taking more than is necessary. Will be a government **of** the king, **by** the king, **for** the king. Wanting to impress, you will be oppressed. Wanting man a king to judge for you, go before your, fight battles on behalf of you—God did all this for you...Saul died in battle Rom 13:1-4; 1Tim 2:1-4

*18 "Then you will cry out in that day because of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you in that day." 19 Nevertheless, the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel, and they said, "No, but there shall be a king over us, 20 that we also may be like all the nations, that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." 21 Now after Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the LORD's hearing. 22 And the LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to their voice, and appoint them a king." So Samuel said to the men of Israel, "Go every man to his city."*

We can choose our sin but we can't choose the consequence—gave up freedom in Lord for slavery to a king plus they gave up Gods help and protection. God accommodates to discipline by their own deeds *Jer 2:19*  
***"Your own wickedness will correct you, And your apostasies will reprove you; Know therefore and see that it is evil and bitter For you to forsake the LORD your God, And the dread of Me is not in you," declares the Lord GOD of hosts.***

**Fear drives people to make bad decisions** "When you saw that [Nahash](#) the king of the sons of Ammon came against you, you said to me, 'No, but a king shall reign over us,' although **the LORD your God was your King.**" 12:12

***"gave them their request; but sent leanness into their souls" Ps 106:15 Us*** 8 x's in five verses 5, 6, 16, 19, 20 They have an eye problem—I **instead of Him, God, Lord.**

John Walton The leaders of Israel have decided that they want a permanent head of government empowered with centralized authority over the tribes and commanding a standing army. They have concluded that their organization as a federation of tribes has put them at a military disadvantage. They believe that a king with a trained standing army at his command will level the playing field and enable them to successfully defend their land. They have been mistaken in assessing their problem as a political problem and consequently opting for a political solution. What Samuel seeks to clarify for them is that their problem is not political but spiritual. Their political solution will solve nothing unless it is accompanied by a spiritual solution.