

People asked a king--Saul impressive, GQ; Hero; Vman; Port; Esquire; Man about town..... appointed king-peoples choice, anointed, back to farming, victory over Nahash Ammonites, official coronation. **Tendency to now trust in the king.** Not the metal but the men behind the metal....I think it's God behind the men, behind the metal.

Transition can be difficult – Sam feels rejected & replaced by lesser, not his choice but God accommodates people's choice. **Sam defense 30x's God.**

**1 Then Samuel said to all Israel, "Behold, I have listened to your voice in all that you said to me, and I have appointed a king over you. 2 "And now, here is the king walking before you, but I am old and gray, and behold my sons are with you. And I have walked before you from my youth even to this day.**

Sometimes people bent toward wrong & can't change their mind. Sam feels rejected, unappreciated for his leadership from a child to old and gray. **Hurt** often comes out as anger & defensiveness or self-protection. His sons not walk his ways-they rejected took bribes. I listened to your voice, not Lord, appointed a king---your choice you have to live w/ it. Parent/kid/marry

**3 "Here I am; bear witness against me before the LORD and His anointed. Whose ox have I taken, or whose donkey have I taken, or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed, or from whose hand have I taken a bribe to blind my eyes with it? I will restore *it* to you."**

Were there rumors? Kids took bribes. Accuse me before God & new king—stole, defrauded, oppressed, bribed. These things done w/ Eli' sons generation earlier—**projection** is putting your own or others sins on the person you're accusing. Sam; I'll give back if done any of this. Sam an open book..Honesty & integrity

**4And they said, "You have not defrauded us, or oppressed us, or taken anything from any man's hand." 5And he said to them, "The LORD is witness against you, and His anointed is witness this day that you have found nothing in my hand." And they said, "He is witness."**

People know & declared Sam innocent of any crime or wrong doing against God or the people. Sam invokes *'in the mouth of two witnesses a thing is established'* So he calls God & the new king as witnesses & the people witness to the witnesses. In the future when things go wrong because of the king Sam can't be blamed or accused.

6 Then Samuel said to the people, "It is the LORD who appointed Moses and Aaron and who brought your fathers up from the land of Egypt. 7" So now, take your stand, that I may plead with you before the LORD concerning all the righteous acts of the LORD which He did for you and your fathers. 8" When Jacob went 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 settled them in this place. 9" But they forgot the LORD their God, so He sold them into the hand of Sisera, captain of the army of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they fought against them. 10" And they cried out to the LORD and said, 'We have sinned because we have forsaken the LORD and have served the Baals and the Ashtaroth; but now deliver us from the hands of our enemies, and we will serve Thee.' 11" Then the LORD sent Jerubbaal and Bedan and Jephthah and Samuel, and delivered you from the hands of your enemies all around, so that you lived in security.

Sam gives a history lesson of God's faithfulness delivering them from bondage of Egypt, when the nation was a **theocracy**--God ruled & even in times of Israel's rebellion & them sold into bondage to other nations, when they cried to God, He delivered. They were serving other God's Baal, Ashtaroth when repenting God again delivered & they lived securely. Our history w/ God, ups & downs things we don't understand but He does.

12 "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. 13" Now therefore, here is the king whom you have chosen, whom you have asked for, and behold, the LORD has set a king over you. 14" If you will fear the LORD and serve Him, and listen to His voice and not rebel against the command of the LORD, then both you and also the king who reigns over you will follow the LORD your God. 15" And if you will not listen to the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the command of the LORD, then the hand of the LORD will be against you, as it was against your fathers. 16" Even now, take your stand and see this great thing which the LORD will do before your eyes. 17" Is it

not the wheat harvest today? I will call to the LORD, that He may send thunder and rain. Then you will know and see that your wickedness is great which you have done in the sight of the LORD by asking for yourselves a king.” 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.

Saw Nahash & said **No**, meaning not God but a king to deliver us. Stopped trusting God when Nahash threatened & wanted a king to reign and beat Nahash. Wanted a visible king rather than the invisible **yet** present God.

*Hearing ear, seeing eye God has made both.* Trust in what you see & not what can't see. *The eyes w/ seeing are never satisfied.* Gaudy, lavish decorations of pagan altars & in some churches.

God accommodates & in spite of this God will be w/ you & w/ your king if fear, serve, listen & not rebel or God will turn against you when you turn from God. To prove His word a **weather phenomenon**—thunder & rain in time of Harvest a testimony against people's wickedness in rejecting God and asking for a king. Fear of Lord and Sam fell on people.

19 Then all the people said to Samuel, “Pray for your servants to the LORD your God, so that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins *this* evil by asking for ourselves a king.” 20 And Samuel said to the people, “Do not fear. You have committed all this evil, yet do not turn aside from following the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. 21 “And you must not turn aside, for *then you would* go after futile things which can not profit or deliver, because they are futile. 22 “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. 23 “Moreover, as for me, 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. 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, both you and your king shall be swept away.”

Fear triggers prayer but not always honest prayer. **Sunset beach prayer.**

People said *'you pray Sam to your God'*. Guilty conscience thinks God is after them...*that we not die*....we added to our sins by asking for a king.

Yet they don't turn & impeach this new king....which would be highly unlikely....they've set a course.....some decisions are irreversible.....I married the wrong person...you the bride of Christ what if God said that to you. Make it work.

In spite of your sin don't turn from God He will not turn from you. If do turn you'll go deeper & farther away from Him. God doesn't abandon His own but His own often abandon Him. It is for His name sake that He sticks w/ us. We are a pleasure to Him...**He brings us close thru reproof**

Sam will not stop praying....and calls it sin if he does & sin against God's calling because Sam the mediator between God & people. But he will instruct the people to live & please the Lord. Fear, serve w/ whole heart not half hearted. Consider your history w/ God, all He has done for you. Warning don't go back to old ways of wickedness or you and your king be swept away –consumed-perish-captured-remove-destroy-heap--**Babylon**

New life w/ God w/ a new Method, a king to go before them. But the principle is the same serve and love God w/ all your heart.

Methods are many, principles are few, methods are changing, principles never do.....You got your way, a king, new method to live by, principles are the same *love the Lord w/ all your heart mind soul and strength.*