

## The Bible Panorama – The History IV: 1 Samuel

“God Reigns!”

1 Samuel 15:17-23

*Going Beyond* the sermons into the Scripture preached by Pastor Peter Oh on July 1, 2018

### *Entering In:*

*Share a time when you genuinely felt that you were led by the Spirit to do something.*

1. The last verse of Judges says, “In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit.” If Israel had no king, what kind of government did it have?

What problem does this verse summarize? (1 Samuel 8:7-8)

Do you think that having a king is going to solve this problem? Why or why not?

Many people sincerely believe that there can be a *political* solution to the problems of mankind in the world today. What do we, as Christians, have to say to that?

2. Where was the Ark of the Covenant during the time of the Judges (Joshua 18:1)?

Why is it called the Ark of the *Covenant*? (Exodus 25:16)?

What else was in the Ark (Exodus 16:33, 34; Numbers 17:10)? Why?

Besides being a container for the objects named above, what other functions did the Ark of the Covenant serve?

- Exodus 25:22
- Numbers 10:11, 33, 35, 36
- Leviticus 16:2ff
- Joshua 3:15, 16; 6:12-16, 20
- Joshua 4:19 [cf. 9:6, 14:6]

3. How did the *priestly family* at Shiloh abuse their office (1 Samuel 2:12ff)?

- ... *the priest would take for himself whatever the fork brought up* (2:13, 14); Deuteronomy 18:3 –
- ... *before the fat was burned ... give the priest some meat to roast* (2:15, 16); Leviticus 3:4, 9-10, 14-15; 4:8 –
- ... *they slept with the women who served at the entrance to the Tent* (2:22); these women were virgins; what does the violation of these women imply?

What are some ways our worship might be corrupted today?

4. How did Israel act presumptuously when they took the Ark of the Covenant into battle against the Philistines (4:3)? What was the result (4:11)?

When the Ark was returned to Israel, how did the people respond (6:13-15)?

What presumptuous thing did some of the men do after that (6:19, 20)?

From there, the Ark was taken to Kiriath Jearim. What was Samuel's exhortation to the people there (7:3)?

How might this exhortation apply to us?

5. What priestly acts did Samuel do when the Philistines attacked Mizpah (7:9)?

By what authority could Samuel act as a priest? [1 Chronicles 6:22-27, 33]

What other offices belonged to Samuel?

- 3:19-4:1a
- 7:15

When was the last time that there was a prophet like Samuel in Israel?

6. In chapter 13, war was about to break out between Israel and the Philistines at Gilgal. What did Saul do (13:7b-10)?

What was wrong with what he did?

What was Samuel's rebuke to Saul (13:13, 14)?

In his rebuke of Saul, Samuel said, "... To obey is better than sacrifice ..." Which of the following do you think best explains what that means? Why?

- A. The LORD would rather have our obedience than our worship.
- B. The LORD will accept our worship only if we are obedient.
- C. If we fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all our heart, he will accept our worship.
- D. Other

Now that Israel had a king, did anything really change (cf. question 1)? Explain.

When the LORD bestows a leadership responsibility on you, are you free to exercise your authority however you please, or are you bound to exercise it under the rule of another? Why?

***Living It Out:***

*How do you submit to the Lord's rule in your work for him?*