

Title: The Election

Text: I Sam. 8

When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as judges for Israel. 2 The name of his firstborn was Joel and the name of his second was Abijah, and they served at Beersheba. 3 But his sons did not walk in his ways. They turned aside after dishonest gain and accepted bribes and perverted justice.

4 So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. 5 They said to him, "You are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways; now appoint a king to lead ^[a] us, such as all the other nations have."

6 But when they said, "Give us a king to lead us," this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD. 7 And the LORD told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. 8 As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. 9 Now listen to them; but warn them solemnly and let them know what the king who will reign over them will do."

10 Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. 11 He said, "This is what the king who will reign over you will do: He will take your sons and make them serve with his chariots and horses, and they will run in front of his chariots. 12 Some he will assign to be commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and others to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and still others to make weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. 13 He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. 14 He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his attendants. 15 He will take a tenth of your grain and of your vintage and give it to his officials and attendants. 16 Your menservants and maidservants and the best of your cattle ^[b] and donkeys he will take for his own use. 17 He will take a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his slaves. 18 When that day comes, you will cry out for relief from the king you have chosen, and the LORD will not answer you in that day."

19 But the people refused to listen to Samuel. "No!" they said. "We want a king over us. 20 Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles."

21 When Samuel heard all that the people said, he repeated it before the LORD. 22 The LORD answered, "Listen to them and give them a king."

Then Samuel said to the men of Israel, "Everyone go back to his town."

Message Discussion Questions

1. Read I Sam. 8. Was it right or wrong for Israel to want a human king? Discuss.
2. Israel's problem in wanting a king, according to v7 and v19-20, was that they trusted in government rather than God to give them what they wanted. How do you see this at work in 2008 in your life and/or in our country?
3. According to verses 19-20, Israel wanted a king to be like other nations, yet God wanted Israel to be distinct and set apart as a nation. If you're a Christian, how do you seek to be distinct in the way you live at home and at work? If you're not a Christian, discuss how you try to be distinct from the world you live in.
4. In verses 7-9, we see that God concedes and gives them their wish for a king, even though he knows it will bring suffering into their lives. Discuss how this impacts your prayer life.
5. How is King Jesus the fulfillment of this text?

Nov. 9th Worship Service

Song of Preparation

Welcome & Call to Worship

Songs of Praise

Children's Church Dismissed

English-Speaking Sermon Dismissed

Scripture Reading

Message

Prayers of the People

Personal Story

Family Announcements

Celebration of Giving

Songs of Praise

Blessing

Message Outline

A. Israel's First Election

B. Lessons from Israel's First Election for 2008

(1)

(2)

(3)