

Sermon Follow-up | December 8, 2019 — 2nd Sunday of Advent

12 Books of History — Waiting for the King: Saul and David

Focus Passage: Matthew 1:6; 1 Samuel 8:1–22

Additional Context: 1 Samuel 8:1–16:13

Corollary Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:1–17

Other Passages Referenced: Deut 17:14–20; Prov 12:5; Isa 9:6–7; Luke 1:31–33; Acts 13:20–23

Sermon Recap: Samuel had been a faithful prophet, priest, and judge. Near the end of Samuel's life, the people of Israel demanded that God give them a king **like all the nations** around them. God had already anticipated the day His people would have a king (Deut 17:14–20). He intended them to have a king in the future who would be devoted to the Torah, precisely to show that the people of Israel were **unlike any of the other nations** on earth. Their king would actually receive his instruction (Torah) from the LORD as ultimate King. The LORD warned that any king, other than the LORD, would ultimately abuse his power and enslave the people. The LORD understood the people's demand for a king to be a rejection of Him as their true King. He told Samuel to anoint Saul as Israel's first national king. Saul was the type of king the Israelites had demanded but he was not the type of king God desired them to have. Saul was disobedient to the LORD and prideful. The LORD then tells Samuel to anoint David as the future king of Israel. David is a stark contrast to Saul in that he is obedient and humble before the LORD. Although David, himself, committed some heinous sins, he was called a man after God's heart (Acts 13:20–23). The "Davidic Covenant" in 2 Sam 7:1–17 points to Jesus as the everlasting King from David's lineage (Luke 1:31–33). Is your first allegiance to King Jesus?

Connect: Making Honest Connections with One Another

- How did God speak to you through the sermon or your Bible reading this week?
- Did anyone take part in some sort of fast in response to last week's sermon?
- What was something that brought you joy in the past week?
- Are you dreading anything in the coming weeks?

Grow: Listening to and Learning from God's Word – Read Matt 1:6. Then also read 1 Samuel 8:1–22.

1. What did Samuel's two sons do after he appointed them as judges over the land of Beersheba (1 Sam 8:1-3)?
2. How did the LORD interpret the people's demand to have a king like the other nations? (1 Sam 8:7)
3. What did the LORD warn the Israelites would happen? Make a list of the abuses of power the LORD said would likely follow with a king other than Himself.
4. God's people said they wanted a king so that they could be like the other nations (1 Sam 8:5, 20). Do you see any parallels with the Church today? Have you seen examples of how our efforts to be like the wider culture can lead us to reject Jesus' rule in our lives?

Serve: Serving King Jesus and Others, By Living Out and Letting Others Know God's Word

1. The people of Israel were unwilling to listen to God's warning about what a king would do to them. Do you have other followers of King Jesus speaking God's truth into your life? ... Do you welcome and listen to what they say?
2. God gave the Israelites the king they demanded although it wasn't the king He desired to give them or the time He desired to give them a king. Sometimes God gives us what we demand to show us the consequences of not waiting for His leadership and His timing. Are you struggling to wait for God's will and timing in a particular

matter? Will you share your struggle with the group and invite them to speak God's truth (not their own opinions) into your situation?

3. Was there something new that you learned this week or something that specifically spoke to you? Would you pray about sharing that "something" with someone else, possibly someone not walking with Jesus? It could be as simple as "This week I learned something from the Bible that I had never known ..." or "The other day I read something from the Bible that seemed like it was written directly to me" and tell them what it was with the same relaxed but energized tone of telling them about a show you watched and like or a restaurant you really enjoyed.

Further Resources

- The Bible Project overview of 1 Samuel – <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/181310?episode=11>
- Illustrations and quotes from the sermon can be found on the "Sermon Slides" link at the bottom of www.wcchapel.org