

Lesson 3
Samuel's Later Life
(1 Samuel 7:3 – 9:27)

Questions

1. What did Samuel tell the Israelites they needed to do in order to be delivered out of the hand of the Philistines (7:3-4)?

2. What did Israel and Samuel do at Mizpah to show their devotion to the Lord and what did the Lord do for them (7:5-11)?

3. What does the name "Eben-ezer" mean and what did the Lord do to the Philistines (7:12-14)?

4. Where did Samuel travel to judge Israel and where was his home (7:15-17)?

5. What kind of men were the sons of Samuel (8:1-3, 5)?

6. What request did the elders of Israel have for Samuel and what was the Lord's response to their request (8:4-9)?

7. What did Samuel warn the elders of Israel about (8:10-18)?

8. How did the people respond to Samuel's warning (8:19-22)?

9. How is Saul described and what did his father tell him to do (9:1-4)?

10. Who did Saul's servant want to see before returning home and why (9:5-14)?
11. How did Samuel know who to anoint as prince (king) over Israel (9:15-21)?
12. What did Samuel do for Saul and his servant (9:22-24) and what did he want Saul to hear before he returned home (9:25-27)?

Digging Deeper

1. Locate the following on a map: Mizpah (7:5), Beth-car (7:11), Shen (7:12), Gath, Ekron, and the Amorites (7:14), Bethel, Gilgal, and Ramah (7:16-17; 8:4), the hill-country of Ephraim (9:4), and the land of Zuph (9:5).
2. What does it mean to pour out water before the Lord (7:6)?
3. What does the term "Seer" mean in reference to a prophet (9:9, 11, 18-19)? What was Samuel besides being a judge (Jer. 15:1; Psa. 99:6; 1 Chron. 9:22; 26:28; 29:29; 2 Chron. 35:18; Acts 3:24; 13:20)? What was he also known for according to Hebrews 11:32?
4. What is the "high place" (9:12-14, 19, 25)?
5. Why was it wrong for Israel to ask for a king when they had been told before by God that they would have a king (8:5; see Gen. 17:16; 35:11; 49:10; Deut. 17:14-20; 28:36; 1 Sam. 10:19; 12:17, 19-20)?

Applications for Today

1. When Lord's people fall away they need to return to him with a whole heart in order to be successful in life (7:3-4; Deut. 30:2; 1 K. 8:48; 2 Chron. 6:38; Jer. 3:10).

2. Be at peace with the Lord before going to war for the Lord (7:3-11; Isaiah 6:6-8; Acts 9:1-30).
3. There is no need to fear when the Lord gives you a promise and you obey his word (7:3, 7-8; 2 Tim. 1:7).
4. The Lord will help you fight your battles (7:10-12; Acts 26:22; Heb. 4:16; 13:6).
5. Godly men who do great good can have ungodly sons who do great harm. Be careful that you do not neglect the goodness in your children while you are working on your own goodness (2:22; 8:1-3; Prov. 22:6).
6. The pull of the world is very strong and God's people often want to be like the world around them (8:5, 20; Rom. 12:2; Jas. 4:4).
7. Human plans and ideas are often made because people reject the Lord (8:7; 10:19; 2 K. 17:15; Jer. 6:19; Hos. 4:6; Mk. 7:9; Lk. 7:30).
8. Be careful what you ask for; you might just get it and then regret it (8:10-18; Psa. 78:18-30).
9. One's outward looks are not as important as one's inward character (9:2; 10:23; Prov. 31:30; 1 Pet. 3:1-6).
10. God resists the proud, but exalts the humble (9:21; Jas. 4:10; 1 Pet. 5:6).