
A Study In 1 Samuel
"A Bad Decision"
1 Samuel 8

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Introduction: Some time has passed as we come to 1 Samuel 8.

1. Samuel is now old and there is no reasonable successor.
2. So, the people come to Samuel and ask him to appoint a king.
3. This is a mistake, but God will allow it.
4. As we analyze this bad decision, we can learn from their mistakes and make better decisions in our own lives.

I. Problem 1: Motivation

A. Reasons

- Samuel's Sons
- Cultural Conformity
- Military Leadership

B. Reality

- Rejecting God
- Rejecting Samuel
- Impatient

II. Problem 2: Delusion

A. Samuel's Warning

- Military Draft

- Forced Labor
- Taxation/Confiscation
- Loss of Freedom

B. Israel's Response

- Refused To Listen
- Insisted On Their Will

Conclusion: We make decisions all the time.

1. As we do, we should strive to find God's will.
2. The more our will aligns with God's will, the better the outcome.
3. That means we better check our motivation for a given decision.
4. We also must be very realistic about the pros and cons.
5. God has promised us wisdom; wisdom leads to better choices.
6. So, let's get in the habit of looking to God and letting Him direct our decision making!