

THE PROGRESS OF REDEMPTION

Lesson 8 – Steps 9-10 in the Making of the Nation (Act 1)

The Progress of Redemption - Dave Sturkey

No Review ...

Intro: We move today into the Book of 1 Samuel, which is the beginning of a series of books about the same thing. 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, and 1 and 2 Chronicles.

Judges shows us this: We need A KING

Ruth shows us this: God is preparing for a King.

Samuel/Kings/Chronicles: These books are about KINGSHIP

Spiritual atmosphere = GROSS IMMORALITY

Notice how the Book of 1 Samuel opens. It opens with the story of two women married to a man by the name of Elkanah. There is a rivalry going on between the women. Does this story remind you of a previous story? Do you remember the two wives of Jacob?

Read 1 Samuel 1:12-17.

Why did Eli think that Hannah was moving her lips? If you saw someone moving his or her lips silently at the temple, what would you think? Does this tell you something about the spiritual condition of the people at the temple?

See 1 Samuel 2:12,17,22

HANAH'S PROBLEM:

HOW DID DEDICATION WORK IN THE OT?

WHAT DOES THE KING JAMES MEAN WHEN IT SAYS IN 1 SAM. 3:1 THAT THE "WORD OF GOD WAS PRECIOUS IN THOSE DAYS"?

Precious = RARE

Read 1 Samuel 3:20. 1 Samuel 3:20 ²⁰ And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD.

The last time that we heard about a prophet was during the time of Moses. Who recognizes this prophet Where is Dan and where is Beersheba? Is this a sign of change from the book of Judges? How?

All of Israel recognizes that Samuel is the prophet of the Lord.

What step towards being a great nation happened under Samuel?
See 1 Samuel 7:3-6.

SPIRITUAL REVIVAL AND NATIONAL UNITY happened under Samuel.

STEP 9 - SAMUEL THE PROPHET-JUDGE! PROPHET, REVIVAL, NATIONAL UNITY

What was the next step according to 1 Samuel 8:1-5? Compare this with Deuteronomy 17:14,15. (They ask for a king)

God anticipated way back in Deuteronomy that Israel would someday have a King. He had set principles down for the type of King they should have and the type of life the King should live. He is not to be like the kings of the earth who rule for themselves, but he is to be a king who is under the Lord and the Lord's law, a king who is like everyone else.

When Israel asked for a King, they displeased Samuel and God, why?
Read 1 Samuel 8:7-22.

Israel is here rejecting GOD'S KINGSHIP and desiring to be JUST LIKE THE PEOPLE AROUND THEM.

THE ACCEPTED GOD-GIVEN STRUCTURE LOOKED LIKE THIS...

GOD = KING OVER ISRAEL

PROPHET = GOD'S VOICE TO THE KING TO TELL THE KING GOD'S WILL.

HUMAN KING = GOD'S WILL CARRIED OUT BY THE KING, THE LEADER/DELIVER/JUDGE, AS TOLD TO HIM BY THE PROPHET.

THIS IS A THEOCRACY, WHERE GOD RULES THROUGH HUMAN AGENTS.

The human King was to be the **NATIONAL JUDGE**, or Deliverer. Israel had denied God to be King over them, therefore they did not seek God's design for a King, and instead they sought a human king. This was a step towards God's design, but it was far from the glory that God wanted in a King.

God warns them of **the consequences of not having a proper king**. This limited human king would *"take your sons ... appoint commanders and servants ... take your daughters ... take a tenth of all you own ... and you will CRY OUT in that day because of your King."*

STEP 10 - MONARCHY UNDER SAUL!!!

What do we learn about Saul's family and Saul from 1 Samuel 9:1,2?

There is evidence, really quite early, that Saul was NOT cut out to be a king.
READ 1 Samuel 10:19-24

Saul becomes King in 1 Samuel chapters 9-13. Samuel explains to them that they have sinned by asking for a King, and the people of God repent (1 Sam. 12:10ff). But they have their king.

And God empowers him to be king.

1 Samuel 10:5-10 ⁵ After that you shall come to Gibeath-elohim, where there is a garrison of the Philistines. And there, as soon as you come to the city, you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with harp, tambourine, flute, and lyre before them, prophesying. ⁶ Then the Spirit of the LORD will rush upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. ⁷ Now when these signs meet you, do what your hand finds to do, for God is with you. ⁸ Then go down before me to Gilgal. And behold, I am coming to you to offer burnt offerings and to sacrifice peace offerings. Seven days you shall wait, until I come to you and show you what you shall do." ⁹ When he turned his back to leave Samuel, God gave him another heart. And all these signs came to pass that day. ¹⁰ When they came to Gibeah, behold, a group of prophets met him, and the Spirit of God rushed upon him, and he prophesied among them.

BUT THEN SOMETHING HAPPENS VERY QUICKLY in the Biblical story. **Saul sins and God rejects him as King over Israel.**

1 Samuel 15:1-11 And Samuel said to Saul, "The LORD sent me to anoint you king over his

people Israel; now therefore listen to the words of the LORD. ² Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'I have noted what Amalek did to Israel in opposing them on the way when they came up out of Egypt. ³ Now go and strike Amalek and devote to destruction all that they have. Do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.'" ⁴ So Saul summoned the people and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand men on foot, and ten thousand men of Judah. ⁵ And Saul came to the city of Amalek and lay in wait in the valley. ⁶ Then Saul said to the Kenites, "Go, depart; go down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them. For you showed kindness to all the people of Israel when they came up out of Egypt." So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites. ⁷ And Saul defeated the Amalekites from Havilah as far as Shur, which is east of Egypt. ⁸ And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive and devoted to destruction all the people with the edge of the sword. ⁹ But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep and of the oxen and of the fattened calves and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them. All that was despised and worthless they devoted to destruction. ¹⁰ The word of the LORD came to Samuel: ¹¹ "I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following me and has not performed my commandments." And Samuel was angry, and he cried to the LORD all night.

Saul is to "devote to destruction" everything of the Amalekites, but he does not. God rejects him as king and takes the Holy Spirit from him.

IN THE OT, THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME UPON GOD'S SPECIAL SERVANTS TO EMPOWER THEM FOR MINISTRY. IN THE NT, THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES UPON ALL OF GOD'S PEOPLE.

What is the significance of 1 Samuel 15:35?

1 Samuel 15:35 ³⁵ And Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD regretted that he had made Saul king over Israel.

If Saul never heard from Samuel, then Saul never heard from GOD. A human king is limited. He has limited wisdom, authority, knowledge, battle strategy, and resources.

Is Israel a Great Nation???? No, they are not yet a great nation, but they are now a nation. **The only difference between a Monarchy and a Democracy is the number of limited people that are involved. A Theocracy is a God-centered government that is unlimited in authority, battle strategy, resources, and in every other area. Man cannot "decide" to have a theocracy, it must be "given" by God. God takes the final step towards building a great nation when he brings a Theocracy about with David and Solomon.**