

**A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART**  
**A study in I and II Samuel and the Psalms of David**  
 AMEN Bible Study 2014-2015

**We Clamor for a King**

I Samuel 7:3-8:22

October 2, 2014

7:3-6 **I. God graciously leads us.**

:3a A. To return to the Lord.

<sup>3</sup> *And Samuel said to all the house of Israel, "If you are returning to the LORD with all your heart,*

:3b 1. Forsake our idols.

*then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtaroth from among you*  
 cf. Joshua 24:14-15; Matthew 10:37, 38; Romans 12:1; Revelation 2:4, 5

:3c 2. Focus on the Lord.

*and direct your heart to the LORD and serve him only,*

:3d 3. Trust His deliverance.

*and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines."*

:4-6 4. Confess our sins.

<sup>4</sup> *So the people of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtaroth, and they served the LORD only.* <sup>5</sup> *Then Samuel said, "Gather all Israel at Mizpah, and I will pray to the LORD for you."* <sup>6</sup> *So they gathered at Mizpah and drew water and poured it out before the LORD and fasted on that day and said there, "We have sinned against the LORD." And Samuel judged the people of Israel at Mizpah.*

Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q 87 – What is repentance unto life?

A – Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.

Hushed was the evening hymn,  
 The temple courts were dark,  
 The lamp was burning dim  
 Before the sacred ark;  
 When suddenly a voice divine  
 Rang through the silence of the shrine.

The old man, meek and mild,  
 The priest of Israel, slept;  
 His watch the temple-child,  
 The little Levite, kept;  
 And what from Eli's sense was sealed,  
 The Lord to Hannah's son revealed.

O give me Samuel's ear:  
 The open ear, O Lord,  
 Alive and quick to hear

Each whisper of Thy Word!  
 Like him to answer at Thy call,  
 And to obey Thee first of all.

O give me Samuel's heart:  
 A lowly heart, that waits  
 Where in Thy house Thou art,  
 Or watches at Thy gate!  
 By day and night, a heart that still  
 Moves at the breathing of Thy will.

O give me Samuel's mind:  
 A sweet, un murmuring faith,  
 Obedient and resigned  
 To Thee in life and death!  
 That I may read with childlike eyes  
 Truths that are hidden from the wise.

:7-11 B. To rely upon the Lord.

:7-9 1. Ask for deliverance.

<sup>7</sup> *Now when the Philistines heard that the people of Israel had gathered at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the people of Israel heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines.* <sup>8</sup> *And the people of Israel said to Samuel, "Do not cease to cry out to the LORD our God for us, that he may save us from the hand of the*

Philistines.”<sup>9</sup> So Samuel took a nursing lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the LORD. And Samuel cried out to the LORD for Israel, and the LORD answered him.  
cf. I Samuel 4:3

:10

2. Watch him work.

<sup>10</sup> As Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to attack Israel. But the LORD thundered with a mighty sound that day against the Philistines and threw them into confusion, and they were defeated before Israel.  
cf. Leviticus 26:8; Deuteronomy 28:7

:11

3. Take up the battle.

<sup>11</sup> And the men of Israel went out from Mizpah and pursued the Philistines and struck them, as far as below Beth-car.

:12-17

C. To remember the Lord’s mercy.

:12

1. In the past.

<sup>12</sup> Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, “Till now the LORD has helped us.”

:13-17

2. In the present.

<sup>13</sup> So the Philistines were subdued and did not again enter the territory of Israel. And the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. <sup>14</sup> The cities that the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron to Gath, and Israel delivered their territory from the hand of the Philistines. There was peace also between Israel and the Amorites. <sup>15</sup> Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. <sup>16</sup> And he went on a circuit year by year to Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah. And he judged Israel in all these places. <sup>17</sup> Then he would return to Ramah, for his home was there, and there also he judged Israel. And he built there an altar to the LORD

\* enemies subdued

\* borders under control

\* peace

Compare chapters 4 and 7 (from *I Samuel*, Ralph Davis)

Chapter 4

Chapter 7

Israel struck down

Philistines struck down

Manipulation Repentance

Result: Ichabod

Result: Ebenezer

8:1-5

**II. We quickly forget God.**

:1-3

A. Beginning with the greatest leaders.

<sup>8</sup> When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel. <sup>2</sup> The name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. <sup>3</sup> Yet his sons did not walk in his ways but turned aside after gain. They took bribes and perverted justice.

cf. Deut. 16:19; Psa. 26:10; Prov. 15:27; Isa. 33:15; Ezek. 22:12; Amos 5:12; Hab. 1:2-4

:4-5

B. Including other leaders.

<sup>4</sup> Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah <sup>5</sup> and said to him, “Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.”

cf. Judges 8:22, 23; 9; Deuteronomy 4:24-30; Leviticus 19:2

:6-22

**III. God never forgets us.**

:6-8

A. He knows how rebellious we are.

<sup>6</sup> But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” And Samuel prayed to the LORD. <sup>7</sup> And the LORD said to Samuel, “Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. <sup>8</sup> According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you.

cf. I Samuel 12

:9-22

B. He uses our rebellion for His purposes.

:9-18

1. We are warned.

<sup>9</sup> Now then, obey their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.” <sup>10</sup> So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who

were asking for a king from him. <sup>11</sup> He said, “These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you:

Deuteronomy 17:14-20

:11b-13

**a. conscription**

*he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen and to run before his chariots. <sup>12</sup> And he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. <sup>13</sup> He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers.*

:14-15

**b. taxation**

*<sup>14</sup>He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his servants. <sup>15</sup> He will take the tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and to his servants.*

:16-17

**c. enslavement**

*<sup>16</sup>He will take your male servants and female servants and the best of your young men and your donkeys, and put them to his work. <sup>17</sup> He will take the tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves.*

:18

**d. entrapment**

*<sup>18</sup>And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you in that day.”*

:19-20

**2. We refuse to listen.**

*<sup>19</sup>But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, “No! But there shall be a king over us, <sup>20</sup> that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.”*

cf. Proverbs 12:15

:21-22

**3. He remains faithful.**

*<sup>21</sup>And when Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the LORD. <sup>22</sup> And the LORD said to Samuel, “Obey their voice and make them a king.” Samuel then said to the men of Israel, “Go every man to his city.”*

cf. II Timothy 2:13