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## Saul

*Because I Feared the People*



- Eli the priest had two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, who the Bible describes as “worthless men; they did not know the LORD (1 Samuel 2:12).” So, God brought Samuel on the scene to judge Israel “all the days of his life (1 Samuel 7:15.” Now Samuel had two sons, Joel and Abijah, who the Bible says “did not walk in his ways, but turned aside after dishonest gain and took bribes and perverted justice (2 Samuel 8:3).”

- It was into this situation that the elders of Israel came to Samuel and said, “You have grown old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations (1 Samuel 8:5).” Samuel was displeased by such thinking among the elders of Israel.

- Samuel prayed to God and God told Samuel to do this thing that the people are requesting, that their rejection is not a rejection of Samuel, but a rejection of the LORD from being their king (1 Samuel 8:7). So Samuel warned them of this course of action and what it would mean to have a human king, and then selected the man Saul as the first king of Israel.
- In the midst of Saul having the kingdom torn from him and David having been anointed the next king of Israel, one of the greatest Biblical pictures of friendship occurs between Saul’s son Jonathan, the physical heir to the throne, and the shepherd boy David, who God had selected as the next king after the death of Saul. This friendship story can be found scattered through 1 Samuel 18-20.
- opportunity to kill Saul and doesn’t. Once he cuts off a corner of his robe while hiding in a cave (1 Samuel 24:-7) and later takes his spear and water jug (1 Samuel 26:6-12). Both times David’s men saw these opportunities as God delivering Saul into his hands, but David would not touch the LORD’s anointed one.
- 1 Chronicles 10:13 says, “So Saul died for his trespasses which he committed against the LORD, because of the word of the LORD which he did not keep; and also because he asked counsel of a medium, making inquiry of it, and did not inquire of the LORD. Therefore He killed him and turned the kingdom to David the son of Jesse.”

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1 Samuel 9-31

**Introduction:** Saul, the first king of the nation of Israel, is a great example in Old Testament history of a man who sought to perform for God without listening to His voice and responding in obedience. The people wanted a king just like the other nations, and that is just what they got. A man, with physical stature and a handsome appearance, but caught in the trap of fearing man over fearing God. His life reminds us that even when life starts to unravel; obeying the voice of the Lord is always the best plan of action.

### A Jet Tour through the Life of Saul

1 Samuel 9-31

“Give us a king”	8:6
“But he kept silent”	10:27
“Serve the LORD with all your heart”	12:20
“What have you done?”	13:11
“I regret that I have made Saul king”	15:11
“The Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul”	16:14
“Saul became very angry”	18:8
“You are more righteous than I”	24:17
“Thus Saul died”	31:6

### JESUS CHRIST: LIFE FOCUS

Jesus Christ: The perfect mediator. He stands where no human king can, able to lead His people perfectly.

Jesus Christ: The perfect Son. He was confident of the Father’s will, even in the midst of troubling times.

Jesus Christ: The perfect obedient sacrifice. He was obedient to the point of death, so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us.

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## Sermon Notes

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## GOD:LIFE LESSONS

### ABOUT GOD

#### ABOUT GOD

God is king and rules over His creation perfectly.

God keeps His Word in His time.

God requires perfect obedience.

### ABOUT US

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We want control and credibility and so we turn to man to find these.

When life starts to unravel we tend to take matters into our own hands.

We think God will be pleased with our big performances and best efforts.

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