

Title: King of kings
Text: 1 Samuel 8: 1-22
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1 Samuel 8: 1: And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. 2: Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba. 3: And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.

Samuel continued well as a judge over Israel. In time, his sons appeared to Samuel to be raised up by the Lord so Samuel appointed them judges. But, they proved that the King of heaven did not govern in their hearts by turning aside out of the way in pursuit of personal gain—they perverted judgment, taking bribes.

1 Samuel 8: 4: Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, 5: And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.

They came together and gave some reasons for their proposal: *Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways.* They gave a pretense that they were fearful that if Samuel died, his sons would take over for good. What was their real desire? (v5) *now make us a king to judge us like all the nations*—They wanted one man to be both their king and their judge—a sole monarch who would serve as the general in battle as well as hear and try cases as their judge. The kind of king the other nations outside of Israel had. Let's hear what the LORD said their problem was.

1 Samuel 8: 6: But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. 7: And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. 8: According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee.

Proposition: WHO IS THE KING OF GOD'S SPIRITUAL ISRAEL? CHRIST JESUS, THE SON OF GOD, IS OUR KING.

A. In the days before king David, there was only one earthly king which was made of God to give us an understanding that his Son is both the King and Priest of God.

Hebrews 7: 1: For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; 2: To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace; 3: Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.

The King of all kings, the Lord over all lords, is the beginning, before all earthly descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life, without father without mother--he was the father of Mary and Joseph--not the other way around. This one who reigns over his Kingdom in righteousness is the Son of God, Christ Jesus. NOTE: It does not say that God made his Son a king like unto Melchisedec but Melchisedec was made a king-priest like unto the Son of God.

B. Israel had a king far better than any of the nations around Israel—their king was God—they have rejected ME, that I should not REIGN over them.

1. It was God the King who formed the nation--so it is with God's spiritual Israel.

2. He delivered them out of Egyptian bondage--so with spiritual Israel.
3. He raised up his judges to govern them--so the King of kings gives his ambassadors through whom he governs.
4. The faithfulness of those judges whom the King raised up was due to the Spirit of God reigning in them--so it is in our day, every child of God is a prince unto God through the spirit of God.

II. OUR KING PRIEST CAME INTO THIS WOLRD, ALREADY THE KING.

Matthew 2:2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews?

A. BUT NOW, OUR GOD IS OUR KING IN HUMAN FLESH.

Isaiah 9: 6: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7: Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

His being born of a virgin was God our King, taking to himself human flesh, becoming one in human nature with those children of his kingdom. Through the Spirit of God he makes his children one with the divine nature, so that we are altogether one. That is what Peter declared the LORD did in Jesus.

Acts 2: he hath shed forth this [the Spirit of God] 34: For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, 35: Until I make thy foes thy footstool. 36: Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

III. CHRIST OUR KING REIGNS IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

Isaiah 32: 1: Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment.

Romans 5:17: For if by one man's offence death reigned by one;

Lucifer deceived man into becoming an "I will" king, a "would-be despot". Adam fell under the ungodly rule of the prince of the power of the air—and death reigned by Adam.

Romans 5: 17:...much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

Isaiah 42: 4 He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.

2. Christ Jesus the Son of God our King Priest reigned over sin in absolute righteousness--sinless perfection.
 - He conquered the prince of the power of the air on Calvary's tree—crushing the serpents head.
 - Our King Captain has triumphed by fulfilling the law--magnifying it and making it honorable--
 - He has declared God just in justifying his people from their sins, and is set down in the throne of God.
 - Our King is our Priest, our Mediator, our Intecessor, our Advocate before God
 - Our King is God in human flesh. What a King!

Isaiah 32: 1: Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment.

IV. OUR KING REIGNS IN EFFECTUAL POWER.

A. Our King rules with more effectual power than any earthly king.

1. Kings of the earth merely reign in a little part of the earth.

Daniel 4:35...he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and *among* the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

2. There are two kinds of kings in the earth. Heathen kings who know not God (every individual sinner thinks himself a king and also those who are actually sitting upon earthly thrones) and then there are those kings which our King has made kings unto our God in the saving operation of his grace. Our King reigns over and in both.

Proverbs 21:1: The king's heart *is* in the hand of the LORD, *as* the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

3. He shows us how desperately we need him to reign in our hearts by not setting up his throne in the hearts of Samuels sons or in those elders. He told Samuel saying, "*they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.*" They sent God a message through Samuel saying, Luke 19: 14...*We will not have this man to reign over us.* Because the Spirit of the King was not reigning in the hearts of the elders, they did not have faith to behold the LORD their King--they looked with carnal eyes at the kings of the heathen nations. They wanted a king which all men could see: a king which marched around in great pomp and splendor, wearing his man-made crown of gold, clothed in his man-made royal apparel, carrying around his little man-made sceptre, living in a palace of man's making, setting up his own courts, throwing lavish banquets and dining on kings food.

POINT TO GET

The difference between Samuel and his sons, between Samuel and these elders was that the Spirit of the King of kings ruled in the heart of Samuel but not in their hearts.

5. Where did heathen men get this notion to make one man a king over them? How were you and I born with this desire?

Genesis 3:5: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6. Man has tried to be as god, on a throne, since the fall in the garden

Isaiah 14: 12: How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! *how* art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! 13: For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. 15: Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

7. But when the Spirit of the King enters in he creates a new heart, he makes us one with him. He makes us to bow as willing servants of the most High. He showed us his ability to rule in the heart in the early church:

Acts 4: 31: And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. 32: And

the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any *of them* that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. 33: And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

8/ This same King still works this great grace in his saints in various measures in various times in various ages as he sees fit to do so.

- He still fills with the Holy Ghost
- By his power he still makes his servants to speak with boldness
- He still gives his saints one heart and one soul
- He still makes his servants to know that the things we possess we have from him and in common with each other
- His grace is still great grace
- He giveth more grace and increases these fruits to make sure *distribution is made unto every one of his blood bought saints according as he has need.*

This same government of our King has never failed, and shall never fail, and can never fail. It shall only increase and of that increase there shall be no end. His government is alive and well in our day: I could leave here today without a dime in my pocket, drive to the west coast—eat well, sleep well, and have all my expenses paid—all by my brethren scattered across this land.

APPLICATION: WHAT SHALL YOU HAVE IF YOU WILL NOT HAVE THIS GODMAN—KING JESUS—TO REIGN OVER YOU? (1 Samuel 8: 9-22.)

1 Samuel 8: 9: Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. 10: And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king. 11: And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint *them* for himself, for his chariots, and *to be* his horsemen; and *some* shall run before his chariots. 12: And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and *will set them* to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. 13: And he will take your daughters *to be* confectionaries, and *to be* cooks, and *to be* bakers. 14: And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your oliveyards, *even the best of them*, and give *them* to his servants. 15: And he will take the tenth of your seed, and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. 16: And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put *them* to his work. 17: He will take the tenth of your sheep: and ye shall be his servants. 18: And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day. 19: Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us; 20: 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. 21: And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he rehearsed them in the ears of the LORD. 22: And the LORD said to Samuel, Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king. And Samuel said unto the men of Israel, Go ye every man unto his city.

Within 2 years, their king: Usurped authority of the priest; Rejected God's way of atonement; And offered a sacrifice for himself to God.

CLOSING REMARKS

1. I beseech you to behold the evil of our own hearts in this king--the evil of serving man--of desiring to be like other men--it results in utter slavery.

Psalm 2: 1: Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? 2: The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, 3: Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. 4: He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. 5: Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. 6: Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion....

2. I beseech you to run to Christ the King and bow before his holy throne begging he have mercy on you. He shall.

Psalm 136:3: O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endureth for ever.

3. I beseech you to commit all your care into the hand of this faithful despot and rejoice in his righteous rule for you. He is a Priest upon his throne

Revelation 17:14: These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

4. Be sure of this: "In his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords (1 Timothy 6:15, 16.) And in that last day,:"...at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,..."And every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2: 10, 11.)

Psalm 2: 10: Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. 11: Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. 12: Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

Isaiah 33:22: For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us.

AMEN!