

“Not a King Like Any Other”
Bible Stories Sermon Series, Pt. 21 – 1 Samuel 9
January 20, 2019

Judges 17:6 - In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

I. Israel’s Demand for a King

- A. The *idea* of a king was not the problem.
- B. The problem was the *kind* of king they wanted.

II. Saul, a King Like the Other Nations Had

- A. Some similarities between Saul and other kings were (relatively) positive.

- 1. He was handsome.

1 Samuel 9:2a - And he [Saul’s father Kish] had a son whose name was Saul, a handsome young man. There was not a man among the people of Israel more handsome than he.

- 2. He was physically imposing (1 Sam. 9:2; 10:3).
- 3. He could be a shrewd leader (1 Sam. 11).

- B. Other similarities between Saul and other kings were tragic.

- 1. He ignored God’s word (1 Sam. 13).
- 2. He rebelled against a commandment given directly to him (1 Sam. 15).
- 3. He spurned God’s means of salvation and restoration.

1 Samuel 16:23 - And whenever the harmful spirit from God was upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand. So Saul was refreshed and was well, and the harmful spirit departed from him.

1 Samuel 18:10–11 - ¹⁰ The next day a harmful spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day. Saul had his spear in his hand. ¹¹ And Saul hurled the spear, for he thought, “I will pin David to the wall.” But David evaded him twice.

- 4. He turned to idolatrous religious practices (1 Sam. 19, 28).

III. Jesus, a King Unlike Any Other

- A. Jesus was not a king-candidate the nations would have valued.

Isaiah 53:2–3 - ² For He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, And like a root out of parched ground; He has no stately form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him. ³ He was despised and forsaken of men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; And like one from whom men hide their face He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

B. Yet Jesus was perfectly obedient and then given rule over *all* things.

1. All nations (Matt. 28:18; Rev. 1:5, 11:15).
2. The church.

Colossians 1:18 - He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

3. The nations and the church are currently, and always will be, under His perfect administration.
4. Christ's reign will not be like Saul's.
 - a. Jesus will not selfishly turn from righteousness.
 - b. We will only benefit from His rule, even through trial.
5. King Jesus' perfect reign extends to every single detail of our individual lives as well.
 - a. We can trust Him (unlike Saul).
 - b. We can count on Him (unlike Saul).