

Sermon Outline

Saul - Israel's First King | Geoff Lin

"Give us a king to lead us!" (1 Samuel)		
10/5	Hannah - the faithful woman in Israel	1 Samuel 1-2
17/5	Samuel - the last Judge in Israel	1 Samuel 3-7
24/5	THE King of Israel	1 Samuel 8
31/5	What is a Christian? (Commitment Sunday)	
7/6	<i>Saul - Israel's First King</i>	<i>1 Samuel 9-15</i>
14/6	David - Israel's Second King	1 Samuel 16-17
21/6	Civil War in Israel - Part 1	1 Samuel 18-31

1. Samuel chooses Israel's first king (9:1-17)

vv1-5: how is Saul portrayed?

vv6-13: does consulting a prophet about lost donkeys feel like overkill?

vv14-17: who is doing the actual choosing?

- "my people" (v16b, v16d, v17)

What we're skipping over (9:18-10:16): *Samuel privately anoints Saul as king, then sends him home to wait for further instructions (with the good news the donkeys have been found!) ... but Saul doesn't tell his own family what's happened (is he disbelieving, or embarrassed?)*

2. Samuel proclaims Israel's first King (10:17-27)

vv17-19: one last chance to back down ...

vv20-27: the selection process ...

- "casting lots"

- (v22) "supplies" (NIV) = "baggage" (ESV) = "stuff" (KJV)

What we're skipping over (11:1-14:52): *Saul rescues the city of Jabesh Gilead from the Ammonites, after which the whole nation crowns him in a great celebration ... but the new king proceeds to make some terrible decisions (he is too impatient to wait for Samuel's counsel, and he employs poor military strategies that even his own son Jonathan will defy)*

3. Samuel declares the downfall of Israel's first King (1 Sam 15:1-31)

vv1-9: Saul is told to totally destroy the Amalekites (cf Deut 25)

vv10-23: Saul will suffer the consequences of his actions

- "YOUR God" (v15, v21)

vv24-31: what Saul is really like ...

- signs of God's grace and mercy: "Saul worshiped the LORD" (v31)

- but Saul is more worried about saving face than being reconciled to God

For next week: please read 1 Samuel 16-17

So what, for us? (inc NT?)

i. "To obey is better than sacrifice"

- God doesn't need our sacrifices; God wants us

ii. Sin always has consequences

- God has rejected Saul as king over Israel (but God has not entirely rejected Saul)

iii. Does God have regrets? Does God change His mind? Does God make mistakes?

- **Deep Dive** (730-9pm, Thu 25 June, "Does God change His mind?")

2 Pet 3:8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.