



1 The Book of
Samuel

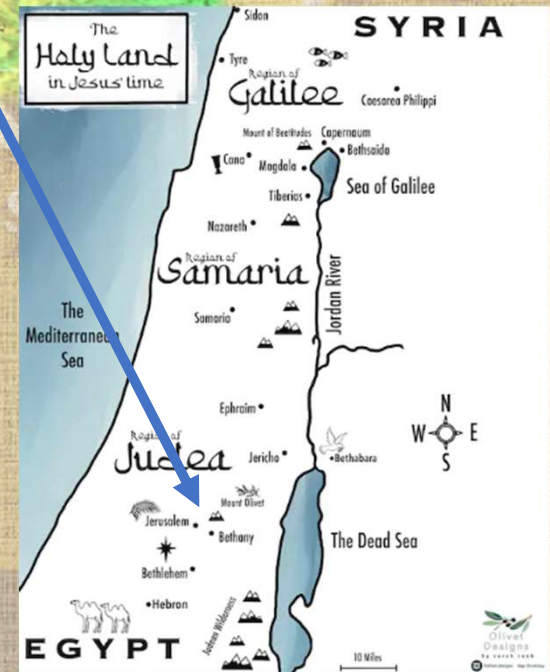
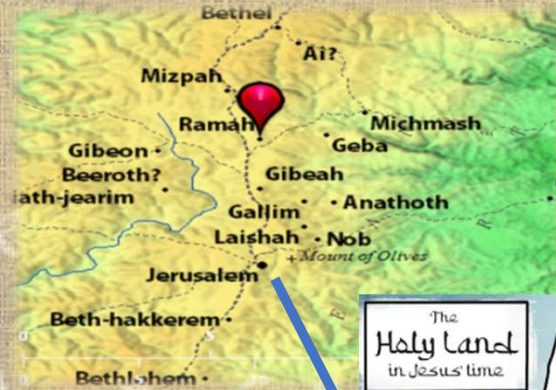
A JOURNEY THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

Israel Wants a King

January 8, 2024

Where are we?

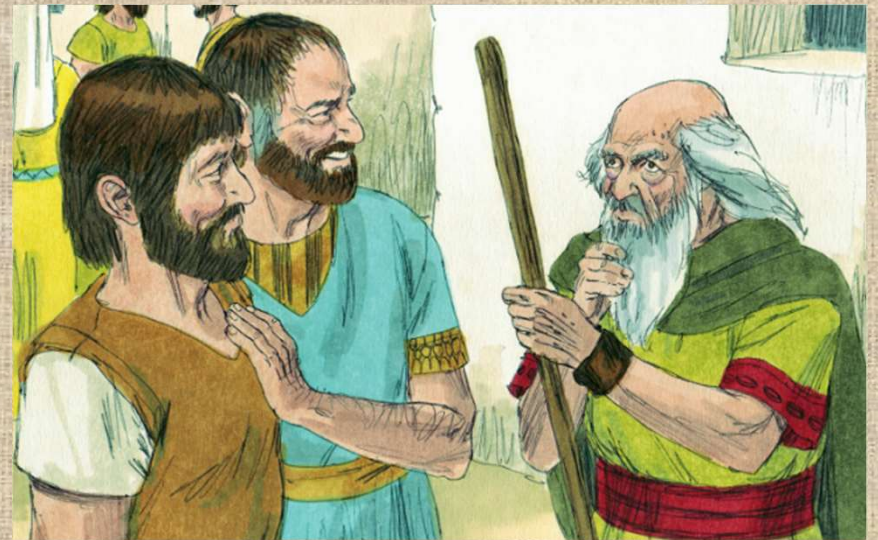
- Old Testament
- Around 1000 B.C.
- Samuel is the last judge of Israel
- 1 Samuel 8 is where we begin in the story



Samuel's Two Sons

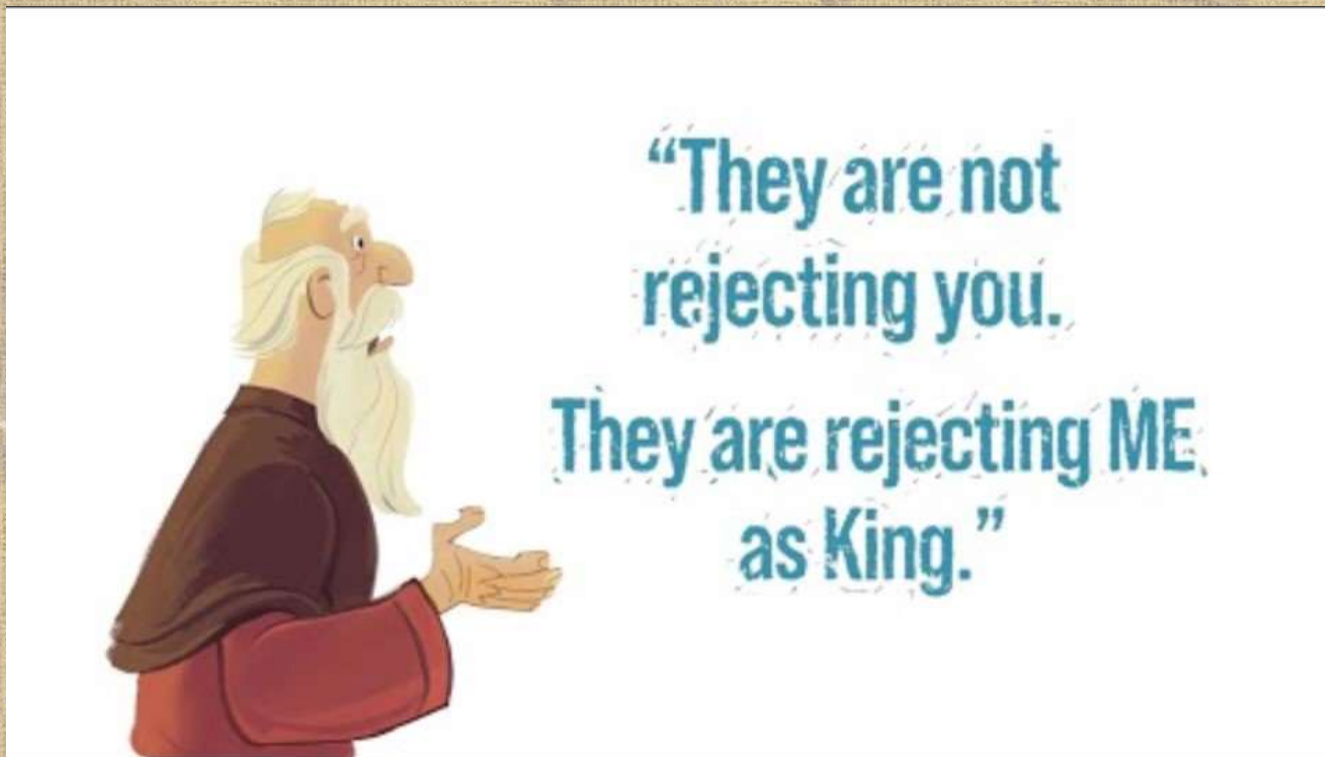
1 Samuel 8 When Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons as Israel's leaders.^[a] ²The name of his firstborn was Joel and the name of his second was Abijah, and they served at Beersheba. ³But his sons did not follow his ways. They turned aside after dishonest gain and accepted bribes and perverted justice.

⁴So all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah. ⁵They said to him, "You are old, and your sons do not follow your ways; now appoint a king to lead^[b] us, such as all the other nations have."



Does this sound familiar? Who did Samuel know who also had sons that were not acting as God's priests should?

Israel Asks for a King



[Journey Kids - Israel Demanded a King \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

God Gives Israel What it Wants

- ¹⁹ But the people refused to listen to Samuel. “No!” they said. “We want a king over us. ²⁰ Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles.”
- ²¹ When Samuel heard all that the people said, he repeated it before the LORD. ²² The LORD answered, “Listen to them and give them a king.”
- **1Samuel 9** There was a Benjamite, a man of standing, whose name was Kish son of Abiel,of Benjamin. ² Kish had a son named Saul, as handsome a young man as could be found anywhere in Israel, and he was a head taller than anyone else.

God Gives Israel What it Wants

- **1 Samuel 10:17** Samuel summoned the people of Israel to the LORD at Mizpah ¹⁸ and said to them, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘I brought Israel up out of Egypt, and I delivered you from the power of Egypt and all the kingdoms that oppressed you.’ ¹⁹ But you have now rejected your God, who saves you out of all your disasters and calamities. And you have said, ‘No, appoint a king over us.’ So now present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes and clans.”
- ²⁴ Samuel said to all the people, “Do you see the man the LORD has chosen? There is no one like him among all the people.”
- Then the people shouted, “Long live the king!”



QUESTIONS

- Why did Israel want a “human” king, when they already had God?
- What problems did God warn Israel of that they would face if He gave them a human king?
- What were some descriptions of Saul that the Bible tells us? Were those good reasons for choosing a King?
- What have you really wanted, and maybe got, that was not good for you or that the result was not what you wanted?