

Lesson 6: When man rejected God

So up till now we have identified some of the major events of Old Testament history that changed the course of history:

- Creation and the Fall - none Bigger
- Condemnation of man's world – the flood
- Drunkenness, Division and Divine selection – Noah's backslidden moment that lead to family disaster and God's choice of Abraham.
- The Exodus
- The conquest of Canaan and second generation syndrome. (also Ruth God's special deliverer)

So let's take a leap forward of several decades to when man rejected God.

1. Samuel:

- a. His **birth** was an answer to his mother's prayer – 1 Samuel 1:1-19
- b. His **childhood** was spent in learning how to serve God – 2:18-4:1
- c. His adult life involved a **circuit riding** ministry of being Prophet Priest and its greatest judge.
- d. His great revival – chapter 7:2-17
- e. His disappointment came when his people **rejected God** on his watch. 1 Samuel 8:1-8 Read.
 - i. The reason of rejection
 1. Samuel was getting **old**
 2. His **sons** were wicked men
 3. They wanted to be **like all other** nations.
 4. They wanted a king like the other nations who would **fight their battles** for them. 8:19-20

2. Saul: Note: they asked for a king like other nations had not a king like God wanted. So God gave them **Saul**.

- a. Saul's rise to the throne
 - i. Saul was **selected** by God- 1 Sam 9

- ii. Saul was **anointed** by Samuel – He began in **humility** 1 Sam 10
- iii. Saul was confirmed by battle – he began with **victory** over Jabesh in Gilead
- b. Saul's revelation of his heart.
 - i. He entered into the office of a priest against God's law. 1 Sam 13:1-15.
 - ii. He ordered **the death** of his own son when he should have been rewarding him. *1 Sa 14:44*
 - iii. He **disobeyed** the clear command of God regarding the destruction of Amalek.
 - 1. God's clear command: verse 3
 - 2. Saul's daring disobedience: verse 7-9
 - 3. Saul's terminal consequence: verse 19-23
- 3. The high price of rejecting God
 - a. **Disappointment** awaits the people who decide to reject God's plan for their own
 - b. **Destruction** awaits the people that think God is happy with partial obedience:
 - i. Samuel said that obedience is better than sacrifice.
 - c. Why is this a defining moment?
 - i. They chose to be like other nations instead of God's **example** to the nations
 - ii. They chose a king and in doing so they chose **diminishing** prosperity and privacy.
 - iii. They chose a king **to fight their battles** for them instead of trusting God to fight for them.
 - iv. They chose to replace God's plan with their own which laid the trap for their future **ejection** from Canaan.