

CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN ISRAEL, PART I

JUNE 19, 2022

EXODUS 19:4-6; 18:13-27; DEUTERONOMY 17:14-20; JUDGES 2:7-23; 8; 17-21; 1 SAMUEL 8

- I. God Establishes Israel as a Holy Nation (Exo 19:4-6)

- II. The Principles of Civil Government in Israel
 - A. God as Supreme Ruler and Lawgiver (Exo 20-23; Num 35)

 - B. Moses as Prophet and Judge (Exo 18:13-27)

 - C. The Advice of Jethro and the Rule of Elders, a.k.a. Presbyterianism (Exodus 18:13-27)

- III. Kingship in Israel
 - A. The Law Limiting the King (Deu 17:14-20)

 - B. Judges and the Problems of Having No King
 1. Prologue and the Death of Joshua (Judges 2:7-23)

 2. Gideon Rejects Kingship (Judges 8)

 3. Political and Moral Anarchy (Judges 17-21; 21:25)

 - C. Samuel and the Problems of Demanding a King Like the Nations (1 Sam 8)

Reflection and Application Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

1. What was unique about the nation of Old Testament Israel? How can we learn from its laws and apply the principles today?
2. What lessons can we learn from the time of the judges in Israel's history?
3. What was wrong about Israel's desire for a king? What does Samuel warn them about concerning their coming king? Wasn't God planning all along for Israel to have a king? How do we know this?