

THE CHARACTERS AND DRAMA OF

1 SAMUEL

[PART 13]

COMETH THE HOUR, COMETH SAMUEL

Reading: 1 Samuel 7:1 - 12

Introduction

- In Chapters [4,5 and 6] the Ark of the Covenant had taken centre stage.
- Now in [Ch 7], at last, Samuel takes centre stage.
- Samuel was the miracle baby who was **'lent to the Lord.'**
- The boy has now grown into a man and his hour has come.

1 Here We Go Again

- In the book of Judges Israel was ruled by **'the Judges.'**
- In the early chapters of 1 Samuel we are still in the era of the Judges.
- [4:18] and [7:15] reveal that both Eli and Samuel occupied the office of judge.
- In the book of Judges a series of events occurred 7 times.
- Apostasy / Judgement / Repentance / Deliverance.
- In [1 Samuel 7] another of those cycles is taking place.
- Israel went after Canaanite fertility gods and were judged by Philistines.
- Samuel calls on them to repent which they did.
- They **'put the gods away.'** There was an amnesty.
- Are there things that you need to put away?
- Are there things that nationally we need to put away?
- Our land and nation needs a Samuel.

2 The Praying Prophet. [Vs 5/9]

- Samuel wasn't just any sort of a man.
- He was a praying man. ***'I will pray to the Lord for you.'***
- This is one of the greatest things we can do for a person.
- How's your prayer life?
- [Vs 7] Israel were afraid of the approaching Philistines.
- [vs 8] They pleaded with Samuel to pray for them.
- [Vs 9] Samuel sacrifices and prays.
- Samuel fought the battle on his knees and he won it on his knees.
- The world, the flesh, the devil, doubts and fears would often assail us.
- Fight your enemies on your knees.
- [vs 10] Israel defeated the Philistines and regained lost territory.

3 Ebenezer

- [Vs 12] Always remember the Lord is your helper. [Psalm 54:4].
- **NB.** In the ***'Upper Room Discourse'*** the NKJV refers to the Holy Spirit/ Comforter as ***'our helper.'***
- The Holy Spirit is the ***'parakletos'*** or the one called alongside to help.

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