

THE DESIRE TO FIT IN

I Samuel 8:1-22

INTRODUCTION:

- A. One of the things people fear is not fitting in and missing out on what everyone else is a part of.
- B. The desire to fit in can cause people to do some foolish things (EX: people do things they live to regret).
- C. Israel reject God as their king because they had a desire to fit in with the world around them.

BACKGROUND

- A. From the time Moses led Israel out of Egypt, we see God serving as their provider and protector.
- B. After years of having God lead them, Israel decided they wanted something different.
- C. Israel no longer wanted God to rule over them. Instead, they desired to have a man appointed as king.

ISRAEL'S DESIRE TO FIT IN CAUSED THEM TO ACT FOOLISHLY

- A. Israel was willing to live like the world around them (vs. 1-8).
 - 1. Israel's desire for a king was not wrong in and of itself (Deut. 17:14-20). The problem was their motive.
 - 2. They demanded a king like all the other nations and not a king after God's own heart (I Sam. 13:14).
 - 3. We are called to live differently than the world around us (Rom. 12:2; I Pet. 2:9).
 - 4. Just because we live in the world doesn't mean we have to live like the world (I Jn. 2:15-17).
- B. Israel refused to heed the warnings given to them by God (vs. 9-19).
 - 1. Samuel told the people how their king would reign over them and take from them.
 - 2. Israel still demanded a king rule over them despite any consequences they would have to face.
 - 3. Maybe we are guilty of ignoring warnings concerning our speech (Eph. 4:29-32; Mt. 12:36-37).
 - 4. Maybe we are guilty of ignoring warnings concerning repentance (I Pet. 1:15-16; Lk. 13:3, 5; Tit. 2:11-13).
- C. Israel placed their trust of man over their trust of God (vs. 20-22).
 - 1. They wanted a man to go out before them and fight their battles.
 - 2. Had they forgotten how God had delivered them and their ancestors throughout history?
 - 3. Maybe we are guilty of placing our trust in mankind/relationships (Psa. 118:8).
 - 4. Maybe we are guilty of placing our trust and security in the riches of this world (I Tim. 6:17; Prov. 11:28).
 - 5. Many of the things we are guilty of placing our trust/security in on earth will one day pass away (I Jn. 2:17).

CONCLUSION:

- A. Fitting in with the world comes at a great price (Gal. 6:7-8; Jam. 4:4).
- B. If we reject the Lord now, He will reject us when we stand before Him in judgment (Matt. 10: 32-33).
- C. Let's guard against allowing ourselves to reject the Lord in order to fit in with the world.