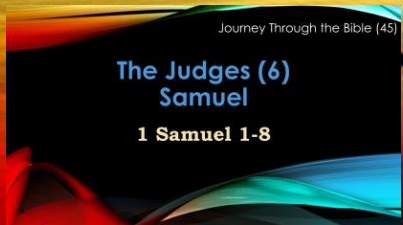


Journey Through the Bible (45)

The Judges (6) Samuel

1 Samuel 1-8



Opening thoughts

- We are examining the 8th of 17 time periods of Bible history – the period of the judges.
- The book of judges is about a period of time where Israel was delivered by “judges” (13 of the 17 judges of Israel are recorded therein)
- The period is recorded in **Judges, Ruth & 1 Samuel 1-8**. It ends with Samuel.
- Judges were not judicial advocates, but deliverers from oppressors. They helped God “judge” these oppressors.

- Thus far we have examined
 - 1) Othniel – a brother of Caleb **3:7-11**
 - 2-3) Ehud & Shamgar **3:12-31**
 - 4) Deborah & Barak – **4 & 5**
 - 5) Gideon – **6-8** – who with 300 delivered Israel from the Midianites
 - 6) Abimelech (?) – **9**
 - 7-8) Tola, Jair – **10:1-5**
 - 9) Jephthah – **11-12**
 - 10-12) Ibzan, Elon and Abdon – **12:8-15**
 - 13) Samson – **13-16**

Our text – **1 Samuel 1-8**

- **1 Samuel 1:1** – We are introduced to Elkanah. A Levite in Ephraim (**1 Chronicles 6:22-25**)
- **1:2-7** – he has 2 wives, Peninnah and Hannah. Hannah was barren and mocked, though Elkanah loved her and treated her well.
- **1:8-18** – at Shiloh, Hannah prays to God for a son and makes a vow. We are introduced to Eli (a judge – **1 Sam. 4:18**) – who was High Priest at the time.

Our text – **1 Samuel 1-8**

- **1 Samuel 1:19-28** – Samuel is born, and when he is weaned, he is presented to Eli to serve where the Ark was (Hannah kept her vow).
- **2:1-11** – the song of Hannah – praise to YHWH. His greatness and power.
- **2:12-17** – Eli's wicked sons, Hophni and Phinehas. Note vs. 17 – men abhorred the offering of the LORD"
- **2:18-21** – Hannah visited Samuel every year with a new linen ephod. God blessed her with 5 more children.

Our text – **1 Samuel 1-8**

- **1 Samuel 2:22-36** – A prophet is sent to Eli rebuking him for failing to restrain his sons. Vs. **26** – Samuel grew...
- **3:1-21** – Samuel's first prophecy. It was against Eli & his sons.
- **4:1-18** – War between Israel and the Philistines recorded. They take the ark to the battlefield. It is captured, Eli's sons die and when he hears the report of the ark, he too dies.
- **4:19-22** – Phinehas' wife goes into labor. As she is dying she names her son, Ichabod – "the glory has departed"

Our text – **1 Samuel 1-8**

- **1 Samuel 5:1-12** – the ark while in possession of the Philistines. Dagon bows before the ark. The people are plagued.
- **6:1-19** – they determine to return the ark to Israel. It is returned on a cart with a gift to Beth Shemesh.
- **6:20-7:2** – the ark is carried to Kirjath Arba where it rested for 20 years in the house of Abinadab (of Judah – **Joshua 18:14**)

Our text – **1 Samuel 1-8**

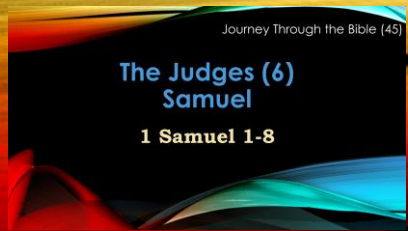
- **1 Samuel 7:3-17** – Israel is lamenting after YHWH. Samuel calls for them to repent and he will pray for them. They put away their idols and gather at Mizpah fasting and confessing. The Philistines hear about it and gather against them. Samuel offers a lamb to YHWH and prays. YHWH answers. The Philistines are defeated by YHWH and Israel. A stone is erected and called Ebenezer. Israel's land is restored and there is rest all the days of Samuel.
- **7:16-17** – Samuel travels year by year on a circuit.

Our text – **1 Samuel 1-8**

- **1 Samuel 8:1-22** – Israel demands a king. Samuel's sons, Joel and Abijah were wicked judges. The elders approach Samuel asking for a king. **Vs. 7** – they rejected God. They are warned about what a king would do, but they want one anyway, "that we may be like all the nations" (**19-20**)
- Samuel prepares to anoint a king.

Our text – **1 Samuel 1-8**

- NOTE: This will be the end of the period of the judges. BUT there are a few other texts to consider
 - **Judges 18-21** – everyone did what was right in their own eyes. A story of tragedy.
 - **Ruth** – a story of redemption and hope.



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

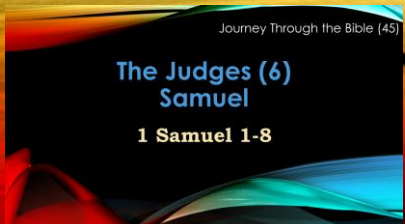
The power of prayer

- **1 Samuel 1:11**, Hannah prays to God and vows to dedicate her son. God hears the prayers of the humble and righteous - **1 Peter 3:12**, **1 John 5:14-15** – but He answers HIS way.

Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

Keep your vows and promises

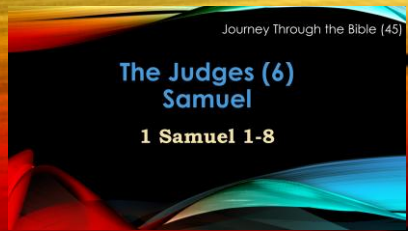
- **1 Samuel 1:27-28**, Hannah had made a powerful and COSTLY vow to YHWH. When she made it she MEANT it.
- When we make promises and vows, we need to keep them – **Ecclesiastes 5:1-7, Matthew 5:37, etc.**



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

God knows what you are going through

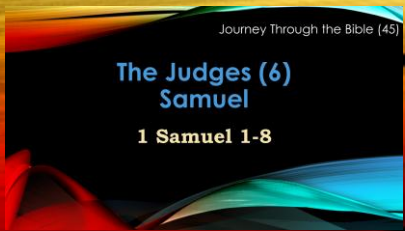
- **1 Samuel 1**, Hannah was barren and mocked by Peninah. She grieved and poured out her heart to YHWH.
- Continually, we must remind ourselves that whatever is going on, God KNOWS what we are going through – including the motives, heart, your actions and interactions.
Hebrews 4:15, 1 Peter 5:7, cast all your cares on Him



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

Parental responsibilities to discipline

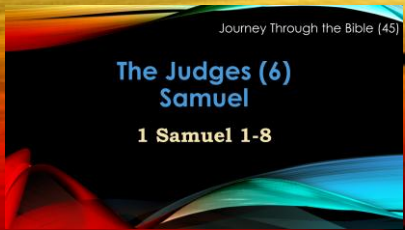
- **1 Samuel 2:29**, Eli failed to adequately discipline his sons.
- We must raise our children – **Proverbs 22:6**, **Ephesians 6:4**, etc.
NOTE: Sometimes, verbal rebuke is NOT enough!
Proverbs 13:24, *He who spares his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him promptly.*



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

Worship God HIS way!

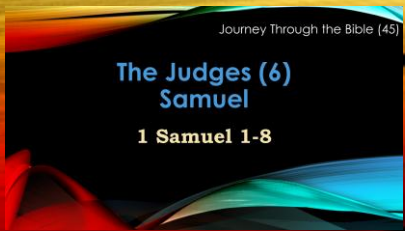
- **1 Samuel 2:29**, Eli's sons (and Samuel's sons) were abusing worship.
- We must worship in spirit and in truth – **John 4:24**



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

Will you listen to God?

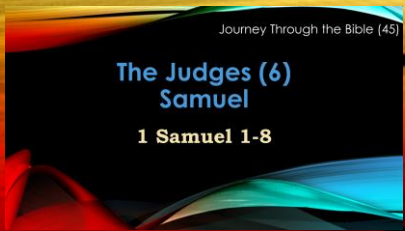
- **1 Samuel 3**, Sameul was told (after 3 times) to listen to what YHWH had to say to him.
- He was also told, “Do not withhold any truth” – **3:17**
- Are we willing to heed “the whole counsel of God” (**cf. Acts 20:26-27**)



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

Do not serve God with divided loyalty

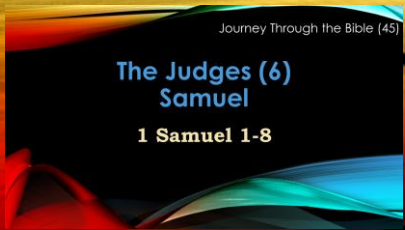
- **1 Samuel 4**, Israel takes the ark to battle against the Philistines thinking that would deliver them.
- We must trust in God with all our heart and serve Him first – **Proverbs 3:5-6, Matthew 6:24**



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

The Futility of Idolatry

- **1 Samuel 5**, the ark in the Philistines possession was put in the temple of Dagon. YHWH was not impressed!
- We cannot put ANYTHING before God. If we do, it becomes an idol – **1 John 5:21**

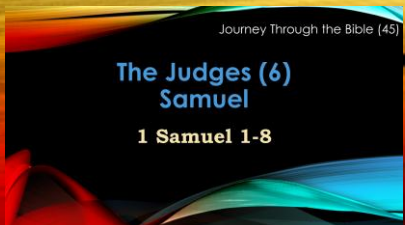


Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

The Ark of the Covenant and Reverence

- Throughout our text, the ark has a role. It demonstrated many things about God – His power, His rules, presence, holiness, etc. It called for reverence!
- We must continually remind ourselves of who God is and who we are in relation to Him. We serve Him with reverence and godly fear –

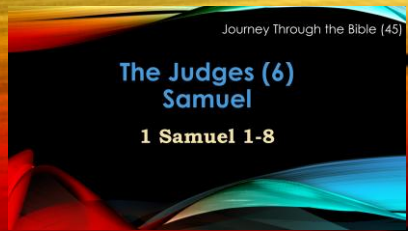
Hebrews 12:28-29



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

A time of repentance and confession

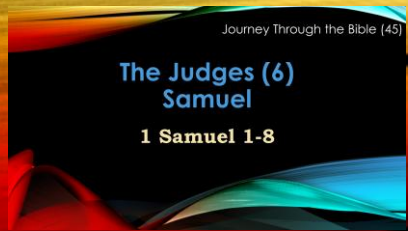
- **1 Samuel 7:1-9**, Israel is finally turning back to God. Samuel calls for them to put away their idols and repent. The people do.
- When we have sin in our lives, we **MUST** take care of them to be restored to Him –
Acts 8:22, 1 John 1:9, 2 Corinthians 7:10-11



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

Ebenezer

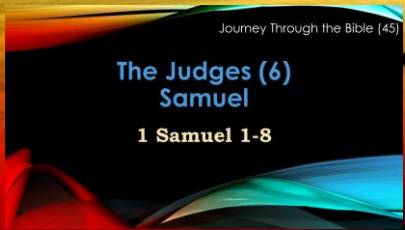
- **1 Samuel 7:12**, as Israel is delivered from the Philistines, Samuel erects a stone at that place and calls it “Ebenezer” – “stone of help”
- NOTE also **1 Samuel 4:1, 5:1** - this was the place where the ark was captured by the Philistines. Without God they were defeated there – With God, they were delivered “there”.
- WHERE are you at before Him?



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

Ebenezer

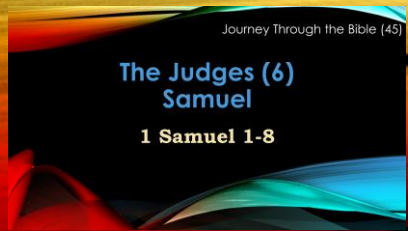
- **1 Samuel 7:12**, “Ebenezer” – “stone of help”; Samuel said, “Thus far the LORD has helped us”
- God has done his part, but we cannot stop there. We must CONTINUE to serve Him – **Hebrews 10:35** – do not cast away your confidence; **Galatians 5:1, 7** – who hindered you?
- We sing, O Thou Found of Every Blessing...” Will we press on serving Him?



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

Whose solution are we seeking

- **1 Samuel 8**, Israel asked for a king. In so doing they rejected God's rule.
 - How many today create their own solutions in religion – works of man, setting aside God's will?
- Matthew 15:7-9** – it is vain worship.



Lessons from Samuel – **1 Samuel 1-8**

“Like all the nations”

- **1 Samuel 8:5, 19-20**, Israel asked for a king. They wanted to be like everyone else around them.
- Far too much of the concept of religion today is based on a desire to be more like the world. Churches cater to society's wants and material needs, setting aside their spiritual needs – which is what we DESPERATELY need!
- God is NOT impressed! **Colossians 3:17**

Is God with you or against you?



Let us pray!

