

The Book of First Samuel: Chapters 7 – 8

Sunday, October 22 & Wednesday, October 25

Chapter 7 (Sunday, October 22)

- According to **1 Samuel 7: 1 – 2**, who was given responsibility to keep the ark? As stated, how long did the ark remain in Kirjath Jearim? (*2 Samuel 6: 1 – 4*)
- In **1 Samuel 7: 3 – 4**, what message did Samuel deliver to the people of Israel? What stipulations did Samuel give, and what would be the outcome of the people's obedience to God? How did the people respond?
- From **1 Samuel 7: 5 – 6**, what command did Samuel give, and how did the people respond? What was the result of the people's actions?
- In **1 Samuel 7: 7 – 8**, how did the Philistines react to the fact that the people of Israel had gathered together at Mizpah? How did the people of Israel respond, and what did they ask Samuel to do for them? (*James 5: 15 – 16*)
- From **1 Samuel 7: 9 – 11**, how did Samuel respond to the people's request, and how did God respond? What was the outcome of the battle with the Philistines?
- According to **1 Samuel 7: 12**, what did Samuel do to recognize and commemorate God's assistance during the battle? What do we learn from his action about giving thanks to the Lord?
(*Psalms 107: 1 – 2; 1 Thessalonians 5: 16 – 18*)
- In **1 Samuel 7: 13 – 14**, what was the strategic outcome of the battle?
- From **1 Samuel 7: 15 – 17**, describe Samuel's life of service to the Lord. What does this say about his commitment to serving God and His people, and what can we learn from Samuel's example? (*2 Timothy 2: 15*)

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Chapter 8 (Wednesday, October 25)

- From **1 Samuel 8: 1 – 3**, what position did Samuel give to his sons? Where were they located, and how are they described? (*1 Samuel 2: 12*)
- In **1 Samuel 8: 4 – 6**, what criticisms did the elders of Israel bring to Samuel, and what demand did they make? How did this demand affect Samuel, and what action did he take initially?
- Characterize God's response, as recorded in **1 Samuel 8: 7 – 8**. What encouragement does God give to Samuel, what historical perspective does the Lord provide, and what charge does He bring against the people of Israel? (*Matthew 10: 22; John 15: 18 – 19*)
- In **1 Samuel 8: 9**, what task does God give to Samuel? Why did God want Samuel to issue this warning to the people?
- What specific warnings does Samuel provide, as recorded in **1 Samuel 8: 10 – 17**? According to Samuel, how would the future king rule over the people?
- In **1 Samuel 8: 18**, how does Samuel summarize his warnings to the people regarding the rule of a future king, and how would the Lord respond?
- From **1 Samuel 8: 19 – 20**, how did the people respond to Samuel's warnings? What was their justification for their demand to have a king? What lessons can we learn from the people's demand and attempted justification? (*Romans 12: 2; 1 John 2: 15 – 17*)
- In **1 Samuel 8: 21 – 22**, how does God respond to the people's demand? What does this teach us about the fact that God gives us free will, and how does God expect us to respond? (*Joshua 24: 15; Galatians 6: 7 – 8*)