



DGM Message Summary: Yesterday's King Pt.1

Takeaway: As believers, it can be tempting to conform to the world and try to live and be like everyone else. However, the desire to be like others should not take priority over obeying God. God will show you how to live the life you've always dreamed of if you simply abide and live in Christ Jesus.

Scriptural References:

- 1 Samuel 16:1
 - Samuel was the last judge to lead the Israelites.
 - After Samuel died, God no longer led the nation with judges; He led the nation with Kings... we'll see why later.
- Judges 2:18a
 - Old Testament judges were not like judges we have in our courtrooms, today.
 - They were men and women of God whom He used to help and protect the people of Israel.
 - Each judge was raised up as an answer to the people's prayer.
 - Each judge was a direct result of the prayer.
- 1 Samuel 3:19a
 - Diving into Samuel's background reveals why the Lord chose him as a judge.
 - Samuel was the miracle child of Hannah and Elkanah.
 - Hannah had promised the Lord that if He healed her barrenness and give her a child, she would give her child back to the Lord.
 - When Samuel was weaned, she brought him to the temple just as she promised.
 - Eli took care of Samuel and taught him about God.
- 1 Samuel 8:19a
 - "Nevertheless, the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel..." (KJV)
 - Samuel was one of the finest leaders the nation had known, but still they would not listen.
 - When people walk away from God, it's not always the fault of the leader or the church.
- 1 Samuel 8:19b-20a
 - "No, but we will have a king over us that we also may be like all the nations..." (ESV)

- The people chose to be like everybody else over what God had planned for them.
 - They didn't want to stand out; they wanted to fit in.
- Matthew 5:13
 - Jesus says, "You are the salt of the Earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men." (NKJV)
 - When grace and obeying God loses its flavor, people leave the church.
 - Jesus was saying that when we try to be like everybody else, we become good for nothing.
- 1 Samuel 8:20b
 - After rejecting Samuel, the people explained why they wanted to be like everybody else.
 - "...that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." (ESV)
 - The people were saying that it wasn't about Samuel, but about their hearts.
 - When Samuel heard what the people were saying, he went before the Lord.
 - As the judge, he was the anointed one to bring before the Lord what the people's hearts were asking for in that hour.
 - He had a prayer life that mattered.
 - When Samuel went to God, it would change the nation.
- 1 Samuel 8:22
 - The Lord told Samuel, "Heed their voice, and make them a king." (NKJV)
 - If we insist, sometimes God will judge us by giving us what we ask for.
 - They wanted a worldly king; that's what God gave them.
 - Sometimes, God's judgement is answering your requests.
- 1 Samuel 16:1
 - Saul became the first king of Israel.
 - The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel?" (NKJV)
 - Saul had not died. Something worse happened — he disobeyed God one time too many.
 - Saul had crossed a line. Our mission is not to flirt with that line, but for each one of us to find out where that line is and not cross it.
 - God loved Saul and the nation, but His love for both didn't stop the consequences.
 - The Scriptures say that Saul lost his power and authority on Earth.
 - People are servants to whom or what they choose to obey.
 - As long as Samuel remained obedient to Christ, he was "today's man," but because he remained obedient to his sins, he became "yesterday's king."
 - People's longevity is determined by their obedience to God, not their position or title.

Key points:

- When leaders echo the same voices and statements of a declining culture, we are in trouble!
- Obedience is an act of respect to the ultimate authority, God, which is reflected by the choices we make every day.
- If you want to experience the life God has for you, you must choose Him first, above all else.
- The enemy would like nothing more than for grace to lose its flavor, for you to walk out of church and be like everybody else, or to go to a church that's like every other church.
- A healthy prayer life helps keep you connected to God and walking in His ways daily.
- God has an amazing plan for our lives, but if we're not worshipping Him through obedience and relationship, we are lost in sin and will lose our Christian flavor.
- As long as we are alive, we should reflect what God's Word says. We should live out truth with fire in our bones and not give way to nonsense or conformity!
- People are hungry for difference and God's Word is just that!
- Speak the message that is our very signature — God's Word.
- Every sin may not keep you out of Heaven, but it will steal the authority and power God has given you in this life.