Crossroads International Church Singapore Dr. Rick Griffith

Title

12 November 2017 Message 9 of 66

NLT 60 Minutes

**Be Changed**

***Book of 1 Samuel***

**Topic:** Change

**Subject:** Why does God cause change?

**Complement:** God initiates change to fulfill his plans for us.

**Purpose:** The listeners will let God initiate whatever change in their lives he wishes.

**Attribute:** We worship our Unchanging God

**Reading:** 1 Samuel 8

**Song:** Change My Heart, O God or In the Power of Your Love

# Introduction

### Interest: Do you like change?

Bulb

#### Whether you like change or not, change is inevitable.

Constant

#### Some like it while others hate it, so some of us are early adopters while others are laggards. The majority tolerates it.

Desk

### Need: What changes are you experiencing right now?

• Why?

Stopwatch

#### Job?

#### Body?

#### Relationships?

#### Something else?

### Curiosity: Why are you experiencing these changes right now?

#### If we are honest, we really don’t understand why change happens.

#### Is God causing it—or are you causing the change? I can comprehend why some of us initiate change, but…

### Subject: Why does God cause change?

Subject

### Background: In our study through Scripture, Judges had led Israel for 350 years with the only constant being change itself. Judge after judge came and left the scene, some good and some bad. Few agreed that the situation was sustainable. Change needed to happen because each person did what was right in his own eyes with enemies at the door.

Morality

Bible Book by Book

#### Too often we think of the period of the judges as limited only to the book of Judges. Yet it also includes Ruth and 1 Samuel, where Samuel himself was the final judge.

Transition

#### If we keep reading right from the end of Ruth, we see Ruth concluding with its final word, “David.” We are left with the amazing realization that the whole story of Ruth was about David’s great-grandmother!

Ruth

#### In 1 Samuel we will see why David was the climax of Ruth. All along, God’s plan was to delegate his authority to David and his descendants.

Theme

#### The book of 1 Samuel gives the transitions necessary for that change to come about from a theocracy to a monarchy focused on David.

Theocracy Monarchy

### Preview: Today we will see what God was doing in changing Israel’s situation and then see why change occurs for us today.

For Israel and Us

1 Sam 1

(7 slides)

1 Sam 2

(7 slides)

### Text: We will survey the entire book of 1 Samuel—a book that is all about change!

Sub

(Why did God cause change by ending the judges?)

# God had always planned to rule through Davidic kings (EI).

MP

[The LORD even used Israel’s sin to bring in the monarchy under David.]

Theology

## God first prepared Israel for a king by transferring leadership from Eli to Samuel because the nation did not know God's character (1 Sam 1–7).

### Israel’s first national leadership transition from Eli to Samuel came by Samuel's birth, call, and acceptance over Eli's wicked house to prepare for the prophesied monarchy (1 Sam 1–3).

#### Samuel's unique birth and childhood show that God saw that Israel needed a new leader due to the pathetic state of the era of the judges (1 Sam 1).

#### Hannah's prophetic prayer praised God's attributes and his future provision of kings (2:1-11).

#### Eli's wicked priesthood by his sons’ immorality with tabernacle women like the priests of Baal contrasts with Samuel's holy lifestyle to show the need for a new leader for Israel (2:12-36).

#### Samuel's call by the LORD and acceptance by the people verified the leadership transition from Eli to Samuel (1 Sam 3).

1 Sam 3

(2 slides)

### Israel showed its need for Samuel's leadership in their ignorance of the character of God evident in their superstitious use of the ark to fight the Philistines (1 Sam 4–7).

1 Sam 4

(5 slides)

#### The Philistine capture of the ark and deaths of Eli and his sons fulfilled the LORD's prophecy against Eli and showed their need for a new leader due to confusion over God's omnipresence (1 Sam 4).

#### The ark’s superiority over Dagan in the Philistine camp showed God's omnipotence over all gods and grace even in Israel’s disobedience (1 Sam 5).

1 Sam 5

(3 slides)

#### The ark’s return to Beth-Shemesh prompted sacrifices and 50,070 Israelite deaths by high-handedly looking into the ark to display God’s sovereignty and holiness (1 Sam 6).

1 Sam 6

(3 slides)

#### The ark’s restoration to Kiriath Jearim and Israel’s victories over the Philistines show God's presence with the nation and its need for Samuel, a new leader (1 Sam 7).

1 Sam 7

(2 slides)

## God then transferred leadership from Samuel to Saul to David despite their evil motives because he wanted rule through Davidic kings (1 Sam 8–31).

### The second transition of national leadership from Samuel to Saul marked the start of the monarchy due to Israel's evil motives (1 Sam 8–12).

Transition #2

#### Israel's demand for a king due to national rejection of the LORD as King showed the nation's evil motives for the monarchy despite future oppression by its kings (1 Sam 8).

1 Sam 8

(12 slides)

#### The transition from Samuel as judge to Saul as king marked the beginning of the monarchy in opposition to God's desire (1 Sam 9–12).

##### Samuel privately anointed Saul as king to prepare him for public coronation (9:1–10:16).

1 Sam 9

(2 slides)

##### Samuel publicly made Saul king as an official declaration of God's displeasure with the nation's decision (10:17-27).

1 Sam 10

(2 slides)

##### Saul's rescue of Jabesh Gilead and confirmation at Gilgal confirmed him as king in Israel’s eyes (1 Sam 11).

1 Sam 11

(2 slides)

##### In Samuel’s retirement speech as judge (but not prophet), he reminded Israel of their sin of asking for a king to motivate them to live based on the Mosaic covenant (1 Sam 12).

1 Sam 12

(2 slides)

### The LORD rejected Saul as king for his many failures to obey God to show Israel's need for a righteous king (1 Sam 13–15).

#### Saul's *impatience* and fear of the Philistines by having priests offer sacrifices before the required seven days results in Samuel hinting at the LORD had already appointed a godly king (13:1-22).

1 Sam 13

(3 slides)

#### Saul's *rashness* by preventing his men from food and leading them to eat blood unlawfully shamed him in his vow to kill the "disobedient" Jonathan and showed his godless rule (13:23–14:52).

1 Sam 14

(2 slides)

#### Saul's *disobedience* by not completely destroying the Amalekites was his last act of disobedience before the LORD rejected him as king to show Israel's need for a righteous king (1 Sam 15).

1 Sam 15

(2 slides)

### The third transition of national leadership from Saul to David recorded their deteriorated relationship to show God rejecting Saul and anointing David and his line (1 Sam 16–31).

Transition #3

#### Saul and David were friends while David rose as his musician and warrior (1 Sam 16–17).

##### After David was privately anointed king he received valuable instruction in royal matters as Saul's personal court musician and friend (1 Sam 16).

1 Sam 16

(11 slides)

##### David's victory over Goliath won Saul's approval as one of his warriors (1 Sam 17).

1 Sam 17

(6 slides)

#### Saul and David were enemies when Saul exiled him and attempted to kill him, thus teaching him valuable lessons that would enable him to rule righteously (1 Sam 18–27).

##### David's flight from Saul evaded his jealous, murderous efforts to reveal God's choice of David as founder of the messianic dynasty of kings (1 Sam 18–20).

1 Sam 17

(6 slides)

###### Saul burned with envy over David's greater popularity in Israel and thus revealed God's choice of David as founder of the messianic dynasty of kings (18:1-9).

1 Sam 18

(7 slides)

###### Saul attempted to kill David out of jealousy over God's blessing on his life as a carnal response to God’s revealed will (18:10–20:42).

Saul tried to kill David by throwing a spear at him (18:10-16).

Saul tried to kill David by tricking him to fight the Philistines (18:17-30).

Saul tried to kill David by commanding his servants to kill David (19:1-7).

1 Sam 19

(2 slides)

Saul tried to kill David by throwing a spear at him again (19:8-10).

Saul tried to kill David by sending messengers to kill him (19:11-17).

Saul tried to kill David by seeking his life at Samuel's house (19:18-24).

Saul tried to kill David by commanding Jonathan to betray him (1 Sam 20).

1 Sam 20

(2 slides)

##### David's exile taught him values he would need as king (1 Sam 21–27).

1 Sam 21

(3 slides)

###### At Nob, David ate the consecrated bread and learned the concession that the Law permitted—that life is more holy than bread (21:1-9; cf. Matt. 12:7-8).

###### At Gath, David feigned insanity before Achish and learned not to go to his enemies for protection (21:10-15).

###### At the cave of Adullam, David gathered 400 "down-and-outers" and learned compassionate leadership (22:1-2).

1 Sam 22

(2 slides)

###### At Mizpah, David left his parents at Moab—kin of his great-grandmother Ruth—and learned the need to care for his family (22:3-4).

###### At Hereth, David learned of Saul's slaughter of 85 priests and all of Nob because Abimelech helped David and this taught him of the perils of jealousy (22:5-23).

###### At Keilah, David delivered the town from both the Philistines and Saul, which instructed him to consult the LORD in decision-making (23:1-12).

1 Sam 23

(2 slides)

###### At Horesh in the Ziph desert, Jonathan encouraged David but Ziphites betrayed his spot to Saul, which taught David to find strength in God when betrayed (23:13-23).

###### In the Maon desert, David barely escaped Saul, who broke his pursuit to rout the invading Philistines, which taught David that his life is in God's hands (23:24-28).

###### At En Gedi’s cave, David spared Saul due to his authority as God's chosen king, which taught him to use his future kingly authority only for godly ends (23:29–24:22).

1 Sam 24

(2 slides)

###### In the Maon desert, David learned not to act rashly like Saul through Nabal's wife Abigail, who honored David as God’s anointed and soon married him (1 Sam 25).

1 Sam 25

(3 slides)

###### On the Hakilah hill, David again spared Saul's life as God's chosen king, again showing David to use his future kingly authority for godly purposes (1 Sam 26).

1 Sam 26

(2 slides)

###### At Gath and Ziklag, David developed his leadership and combat skills by carrying out raids against peoples south of the Philistines (1 Sam 27).

1 Sam 27

(3 slides)

Application: When an oppressive superior mistreats you (like Saul mistreated David), how do you respond? If you do not learn submission and brokenness, eventually when *you* get into a position of authority, *you too could become a “Saul”* who grasps for power! Learn the lesson of David. As we will see in 2 Samuel, David eventually had plenty of opportunities to imitate Saul—especially when his son Absalom claimed to be the rightful “third king” after Saul and David. This decision of David *not* to become a Saul is well said in this modern classic for those in ministry transition: Gene Edwards, *A Tale of Three Kings: A Study in Brokenness* (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 1980, 1982). It’s a fast-moving, stirring, and biblical account of only 98 pages.

Tale of 3 Kings

#### God abandoned Saul in his final days but provided for David to show God's blessing on David’s line rather than Saul's dynasty (1 Sam 28–31).

##### By God's intervention via the necromancer of Endor, the dead (resurrected) Samuel told Saul of his death the next day to end Saul's rebellion towards God (1 Sam 28).

1 Sam 28

(4 slides)

##### God providentially spared David from fighting his own people while en route to battle Israel and was commanded by Achish to return to Ziklag (1 Sam 29).

1 Sam 29

(3 slides)

##### David destroyed Amalekite raiders who had destroyed Ziklag and carried off the plunder as an indication of God's providential dealings in his life (1 Sam 30).

1 Sam 30

(2 slides)

##### The Philistines killed Saul as God's penalty for his rebellion and proof of David's virtue by not killing Saul himself to show God blessing David’s—not Saul's—line (1 Sam 31).

1 Sam 31

(5 slides)

(God’s plan to rule through David’s descendants may not seem very relevant to you—until you realize ultimately which King this leads to! But more about that in 2 Samuel… Until God brings about that huge change to fill the seat of David’s throne once again with Jesus, we need to see that…)

# II. God initiates change to fulfill his plans for us (MI).

MP

[The LORD alters our lives to focus on his purposes.]

## Sometimes change comes though our desire to be like the world (1 Sam 8:5).

Chess King

### I don’t see the world trying to be like the church much, but I do see the church trying to be like the world in many ways—dress, authority, morality, technology, etc.

### Our “been there, done that” types of regrets in our lives cause us to change.

### We can learn from the mistakes of others since none of us will live long enough to make all the mistakes ourselves.

## The better way to change is for us to let God lead us.

God at Work

### “The world has yet to see what God can do through one man who is totally yielded to him” (Dwight L. Moody).

DL Moody

### If you gave complete control of your life to God, what would change?

#### Would you still have the same habits?

#### Would you still have the same job?

#### Where would you live?

#### What would you be doing?

(Why does God cause change?)

Subject

# Conclusion

### Why does God cause change? The key reason (Main Points) are:

MPI

#### God had always planned to rule through Davidic kings (EI).

MPII

#### God initiates change to fulfill his plans for us (MI).

### So what should we do (Exhortation)?

Be Changed

#### Be changed! (Notice the title of this sermon.)

#### Do you fear change? Then change your view of change! Max Lucado said, “The circumstances we ask God to change are often the circumstances God is using to change us.”

Lucado

#### Be open to God initiating any change he wants in your life. As someone said, “If nothing ever changed, there’d be no butterflies.” Be that butterfly.

Butterfly

#### Are you willing for God to make whatever change in your life that he wants? Then tell him. Tell him that you want “The Power of Your Love” as the song says.

The Power of Your

### Prayer

Prayer

# Preliminary Questions

**Verses Questions**

# Context: What did the author record just prior to this passage?

### Too often we think of the period of the judges as limited only to the book of Judges. Yet it also includes Ruth and 1 Samuel, where Samuel himself was the final judge.

### If we keep reading right from the end of Ruth, we see Ruth concluding with its final word, “David.” We are left with the amazing realization that the whole story of Ruth was about David’s great-grandmother!

# Purpose: Why is this passage in the Bible?

### Now we see in 1 Samuel why David was the climax of Ruth. All along, God’s plan was to delegate his authority to David and his descendants.

### The book of 1 Samuel gives the transitions necessary for that change to come about from a theocracy to a monarchy focused on David.

# Background: What historical context helps us understand this passage?

### God’s plan for kings to rule his people went back to Genesis:

#### God told Abraham that kings would come from him: “I will make you extremely fruitful. Your descendants will become many nations, and kings will be among them!” (Gen 17:6 NLT).

### Jacob prophesied that the scepter would never depart from Judah (Gen 49:10).

### God told Moses various rules that the later kings should follow (Deut. 17).

# Questions

### How does the concept of the book’s three key transitions relate to the Davidic ideal?

### Was Israel's demand for a king based on imitating the other nations only a problem of motive (8:5)? Was it also the wrong timing as David was not yet ready since Saul ruled 40 years before David’s coronation?

# Tentative Main Ideas

# God never changes but we must always be ready for him to do a new thing in our lives.

# Illustrations That Apply

### Change My Heart, O God

#### Why is our church half the size of five years ago?

#### Why am I still the pastor on our 11th anniversary when my goal was to stay two years?

#### Why is it that with the price of cars soaring, but there is still increasing traffic?

#### Why do people say and do the things they do? “Never be surprised at what people say, do and become!”

# Old Testament Survey Notes

**1 Samuel**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Degenerate Theocracy to Davidic Monarchy** | | | | |
| **Theocracy Ended**  **(Decline of Judges)** | | **Monarchy Established**  **(Rise of Kings)** | | |
| **Chapters 1–7** | | **Chapters 8–31** | | |
| **Samuel: “Heavenly King”** | | **Saul: “Earthly King”** | | |
| **Don’t Reject God as King** | | **Accept God’s Rightful King** | | |
| **Eli** | **Samuel** | **Saul** | | **David** |
| **Man After**  **Man’s Heart** | **Man After**  **God’s Heart** | **Man After**  **Man’s Heart** | | **Man After**  **God’s Heart** |
| **Paralysis** | **Prayer** | **Panic** | | **Patience** |
| ***Transition #1***  **Eli to Samuel**  **(1–3)** | **Samuel & Ark’s Wanderings**  **(4–7)** | ***Transition #2***  **Samuel to Saul**  **(8–12)** | **Saul**  **Rejected**  **(13–15)** | ***Transition #3***  **Saul to David**  **(16–31)** |
| **c. 94 Years** | | | | |
| **Birth of Samuel (1105 BC) to Death of Saul (1011 BC)** | | | | |

**Key Word: Transition**

**Key Verse: “[The people] said to [Samuel], ‘You are old and your sons do not walk in your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have’” (1 Samuel 8:5).**

**Summary Statement:**

**The reason God transitioned Israel from a degenerate theocracy under Eli and Samuel to a monarchy under Saul and David was to show that he delegated his rule to Davidic kings for them to rule justly.**

**Applications:**

**Ability to handle transitions comes from honoring God.**

**God raises or lowers us based upon whether we honor or dishonor him: “Those who honor me I will honor, but those who despise me will be disdained” (2:30).**

**1) God blesses obedience: “to obey is better then sacrifice” (15:22).**

**2) God disdains mere show: “the LORD does not see as man sees” (16:7).**

**1 Samuel**

**Introduction**

**I. Title** "Samuel" (laeWmv. *semuel*) means "name of El [God]" or "his name is El [God]" (BDB 1028d 1) from the compound of mve, "name," and lae, "El," the singular form of ~hiAla,, "Elohim." It also sounds like the Hebrew for "heard of God" (from lm;;v"; cf. 1 Sam. 1:20). The Books of Samuel in the earliest Hebrew manuscripts formed one scroll simply entitled "Samuel" after the first important character in the account. The Septuagint was the first translation to divide the book into the two titles First Kingdoms and Second Kingdoms. First and Second Kings then followed with the titles Third Kingdoms and Fourth Kingdoms.

**II. Authorship**

A. External Evidence: The Jewish Talmudic tradition ascribed authorship of 1-2 Samuel to Samuel, but he could not have written past 1 Samuel 25:1 as this verse records his death. First Chronicles 29:29 notes "the Book of Samuel the Seer," "the Book of Nathan the Prophet," and "the Book of Gad the Seer." This may be a reference to the threefold authorship of the Books of Samuel that may have been complied in their final form by a member of the prophetic school. Since First and Second Samuel originally formed a single scroll entitled "Samuel," this may account for his name being attached to both books.

B. Internal Evidence: The author refers to Samuel's written record of the regulations of the kingship (1 Sam. 10:25); so writing a book was not unusual for Samuel. As head of a company of prophets (1 Sam. 10:5; 19:20) he is the most likely candidate to author the first book up to chapter 25.

**III. Circumstances**

A. Date: Although 1 Samuel 1–24 was recorded by Samuel at the end of his life (born ca.1105 BC, died ca.1015 BC), the rest of the Books of Samuel must have been written over 85 years later after Israel and Judah divided in 931 BC. This is shown by references to the divided monarchy (1 Sam. 11:8; 17:52; 19:16; 2 Sam. 5:5; 11:11; 12:8; 19:42-43; 24:1, 9) and the reference to Ziklag, a Philistine city that the writer says, "has belonged to the kings of Judah to this day" (1 Sam. 27:6). In regard to the *latest* possible date of composition, the absence of reference to the fall of Samaria in 722 BC is notable. Therefore, the time of final composition most likely falls between 931 BC and 722 BC

B. Recipients: Since the first author of the Books of Samuel (Samuel himself) records the start of Saul's rule, all the readers of 1 Samuel 1–24 must have been Jews at the time of the monarchy. However, those who read the books in their final form had already experienced the division of the empire.

C. Occasion: Judges 17–21 and Ruth both supplement the main account of the judges period, so the Books of Samuel actually continue the story from Judges 16:31. First Samuel concludes the period of the judges with the final two judges not mentioned in Judges (Eli and Samuel) and introduces the monarchy of Israel with the reign of Saul, Israel's first king. Even though Israel's desire for a king to be "like all the other nations" (1 Sam. 8:5, 20) was a carnal plan by rejecting the LORD as king, God planned for human royalty even as early as the time of the patriarchs (Gen. 17:6, 16; 35:11; cf. Deut. 17:14-20). As to what motivated the authors to record this transitional history from theocracy to monarchy, perhaps it was the desire to defend the Davidic dynasty (cf. 2 Sam. 7).

**IV. Characteristics**

A. First Samuel is the first book in Scripture to use the word *Messiah* ("anointed," 2:10) and the first to refer to God as "the LORD of hosts" (e.g., 1:3).

B. Two of the three major characters in 1 Samuel are types of Christ: Samuel as prophet and priest, and David as the shepherd-king born in Bethlehem.

C. The Book of 1 Samuel introduces the first of the prophets of Israel in the person of Samuel (Acts 3:24), who also served as the last judge. The key word for this book is *transition.*

**Argument**

The Book of 1 Samuel traces the transition from Israel's theocracy in which Samuel serves as the last judge (1 Sam 1–7) to the nation's beginnings as a monarchy under the kingship of Saul (1 Sam 8–31). Within this overall design are three transitions of leadership: from Eli to Samuel (1 Sam 1–3), from Samuel to Saul (1 Sam 8–12), and from Saul to David (1 Sam 16–31). The intervening sections maintain that while Samuel filled a much-needed place of leadership among the people (1 Sam 4–7), the best replacement for him was not Saul, the people's choice as king whom God rejected (1 Sam 13–15), but rather David, a man after God's own heart.

Therefore, the theological design of 1 Samuel is not to simply trace the history of Israel's change of government. Instead it shows that God delegated his sovereignty through David’s line.

**Synthesis**

**Degenerate theocracy to Davidic monarchy**

**1–7 Theocracy ended**

1–3 #1: Eli to Samuel # = 3 Leadership transitions

1 Samuel's birth

2:1-11 Hanna's prayer

2:12-36 Eli's house rejected

3 Samuel's call

4–7 Ark = Samuel needed

4 Captured

5 With Philistines

6 Returned

7 Restored

**8–31 Monarchy established**

8–12 #2: Samuel to Saul

8 King demanded

9:1–10:16 Private anointing

10:17-27 Public coronation

11 Jabesh Gilead/reaffirmation

12 Samuel retires as judge

13–15 Saul rejected

13:1-22 Presumptuous sacrifice

13:23–14:52 Food prohibition

15 Amalekites spared

16–31 #3: Saul to David

16–17 Friends

18–27 Enemies

18–20 David's flight

21–27 David's exile

28–31 Saul abandoned, David blessed

28 Saul at Endor

29 David refused battle

30 David destroys Amalekites

31 Saul's death

**Outline**

**Summary Statement for the Book**

**The reason God transitioned Israel from a degenerate theocracy under Eli and Samuel to a monarchy under Saul and David was to show that he delegated his rule to Davidic kings for them to rule justly.**

# The reason God prepared Israel for a king in the transfer of leadership from Eli to Samuel was because the nation did not know God's character (1 Sam 1–7).

## Israel’s first national leadership transition from Eli to Samuel came by Samuel's birth, call, and acceptance over Eli's wicked house to prepare for the prophesied monarchy (1 Sam 1–3).

### Samuel's unique birth and childhood show that God saw that Israel needed a new leader due to the pathetic state of the era of the judges (1 Sam 1).

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### Samuel's call by the LORD and acceptance by the people verified the leadership transition from Eli to Samuel (1 Sam 3).

## Israel showed its need for Samuel's leadership in their ignorance of the character of God evident in their superstitious use of the ark to fight the Philistines (1 Sam 4–7).

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### The ark’s return to Beth-Shemesh prompted sacrifices and 50,070 Israelite deaths by high-handedly looking into the ark to display God’s sovereignty and holiness (1 Sam 6).

### The ark’s restoration to Kiriath Jearim and Israel’s victories over the Philistines show God's presence with the nation and its need for Samuel, a new leader (1 Sam 7).

# The reason God led a leadership transfer from Samuel to Saul to David despite their evil motives was to show that he delegated rule to Davidic kings (1 Sam 8–31).

## The second transition of national leadership from Samuel to Saul marked the start of the monarchy due to Israel's evil motives (1 Sam 8–12).

### Israel's demand for a king due to national rejection of the LORD as King showed the nation's evil motives for the monarchy despite future oppression by its kings (1 Sam 8).

### The transition from Samuel as judge to Saul as king marked the beginning of the monarchy in opposition to God's desire (1 Sam 9–12).

#### Samuel privately anointed Saul as king to prepare him for public coronation (9:1–10:16).

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#### In Samuel’s retirement speech as judge (but not prophet), he reminded Israel of their sin of asking for a king to motivate them to live based on the Mosaic covenant (1 Sam 12).

## The LORD rejected Saul as king for his many failures to obey God to show Israel's need for a righteous king (1 Sam 13–15).

### Saul's *impatience* and fear of the Philistines by having priests offer sacrifices before the required seven days results in Samuel hinting at the LORD had already appointed a godly king (13:1-22).

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#### After David was privately anointed king he received valuable instruction in royal matters as Saul's personal court musician and friend (1 Sam 16).

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### Saul and David were enemies when Saul exiled him and attempted to kill him, thus teaching him valuable lessons that would enable him to rule righteously (1 Sam 18–27).

#### David's flight from Saul evaded his jealous, murderous efforts to reveal God's choice of David as founder of the messianic dynasty of kings (1 Sam 18–20).

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##### Saul attempted to kill David out of jealousy over God's blessing on his life as a carnal response to God’s revealed will (18:10–20:42).

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##### At Mizpah, David left his parents at Moab—kin of his great-grandmother Ruth—and learned the need to care for his family (22:3-4).

##### At Hereth, David learned of Saul's slaughter of 85 priests and all of Nob because Abimelech helped David and this taught him of the perils of jealousy (22:5-23).

##### At Keilah, David delivered the town from both the Philistines and Saul, which instructed him to consult the LORD in decision-making (23:1-12).

##### At Horesh in the Ziph desert, Jonathan encouraged David but Ziphites betrayed his spot to Saul, which taught David to find strength in God when betrayed (23:13-23).

##### In the Maon desert, David barely escaped Saul, who broke his pursuit to rout the invading Philistines, which taught David that his life is in God's hands (23:24-28).

##### At En Gedi’s cave, David spared Saul due to his authority as God's chosen king, which taught him to use his future kingly authority only for godly ends (23:29–24:22).

##### In the Maon desert, David learned not to act rashly like Saul through Nabal's wife Abigail, who honored David as God’s anointed and soon married him (1 Sam 25).

##### On the Hakilah hill, David again spared Saul's life as God's chosen king, again showing David to use his future kingly authority for godly purposes (1 Sam 26).

##### At Gath and Ziklag, David developed his leadership and combat skills by carrying out raids against peoples south of the Philistines (1 Sam 27).

Application: When an oppressive superior mistreats you (like Saul mistreated David), how do you respond? If you do not learn submission and brokenness, eventually when *you* get into a position of authority, *you too could become a “Saul”* who grasps for power! Learn the lesson of David. As we will see in 2 Samuel, David eventually had plenty of opportunities to imitate Saul—especially when his son Absalom claimed to be the rightful “third king” after Saul and David. This decision of David *not* to become a Saul is well said in this modern classic for those in ministry transition: Gene Edwards, *A Tale of Three Kings: A Study in Brokenness* (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 1980, 1982). It’s a fast-moving, stirring, and biblical account of only 98 pages.

### God abandoned Saul in his final days but provided for David to show God's blessing on David’s line rather than Saul's dynasty (1 Sam 28–31).

#### By God's intervention via the necromancer of Endor, the dead (resurrected) Samuel told Saul of his death the next day to end Saul's rebellion towards God (1 Sam 28).

#### God providentially spared David from fighting his own people while en route to battle Israel and was commanded by Achish to return to Ziklag (1 Sam 29).

#### David destroyed Amalekite raiders who had destroyed Ziklag and carried off the plunder as an indication of God's providential dealings in his life (1 Sam 30).

#### The Philistines killed Saul as God's penalty for his rebellion and proof of David's virtue by not killing Saul himself to show God blessing David’s—not Saul's—line (1 Sam 31).

**Be Changed**

***1 Samuel***

**Exegetical Outline (Steps 2-3)**

# *Exegetical Idea*: The reason God transitioned Israel from a degenerate theocracy under Eli and Samuel to a monarchy under Saul and David was to show that he delegated his rule to Davidic kings for them to rule justly.

# The reason God prepared Israel for a king in the transfer of leadership from Eli to Samuel was because the nation did not know God's character (1 Sam 1–7).

## Israel’s first national leadership transition from Eli to Samuel came by Samuel's birth, call, and acceptance over Eli's wicked house to prepare for the prophesied monarchy (1 Sam 1–3).

## Israel showed its need for Samuel's leadership in their ignorance of the character of God evident in their superstitious use of the ark to fight the Philistines (1 Sam 4–7).

# The reason God led a leadership transfer from Samuel to Saul to David despite their evil motives was to show that he delegated rule to Davidic kings (1 Sam 8–31).

## The second transition of national leadership from Samuel to Saul marked the start of the monarchy due to Israel's evil motives (1 Sam 8–12).

## The LORD rejected Saul as king for his many failures to obey God to show Israel's need for a righteous king (1 Sam 13–15).

## The third transition of national leadership from Saul to David recorded their deteriorated relationship to show God rejecting Saul and anointing David and his line (1 Sam 16–31).

**Purpose or Desired Listener Response (Step 4)**

The listeners will let God initiate whatever change in their lives he wishes.

**Homiletical Outline** (Cyclical inductive form)

# Introduction

### Interest: Do you like change?

### Need: What changes are you experiencing right now?

### Curiosity: Why are you experiencing these changes right now?

### Subject: Why does God cause change?

### Background: Judges had led Israel for 350 years with the only constant being change itself. Judge after judge came and left the scene, some good and some bad. Few agreed that the situation was sustainable. Change needed to happen because each person did what was right in his own eyes.

### Preview: Today we will see what God was doing in changing Israel’s situation and then see why change occurs for us today.

### Text: We will survey the entire book of 1 Samuel—a book that is all about change!

(Why did God cause change by ending the judges?)

# God had always planned to rule through Davidic kings (EI).

## God first prepared Israel for a king by transferring leadership from Eli to Samuel because the nation did not know God's character (1 Sam 1–7).

## God then transferred leadership from Samuel to Saul to David despite their evil motives because he wanted rule through Davidic kings (1 Sam 8–31).

(God’s plan to rule through David’s descendants may not seem very relevant to you—until you realize ultimately which King this leads to! But more about that in 2 Samuel… Until God brings about that huge change to fill the seat of David’s throne once again with Jesus, we need to see that…)

# II. God initiates change to fulfill his plans for us (MI).

## Sometimes change comes though our desire to be like the world (1 Sam 8:5).

## The better way to change is for us to let God lead us.

### “The world has yet to see what God can do through one man who is totally yielded to him” (Dwight L. Moody).

### If you gave complete control of your life to God, what would change?

(Why does God cause change?)

# Conclusion

### God initiates change to fulfill his plans for us (Main Idea).

### Why does God cause change? The key reason (Main Points) are:

#### God had always planned to rule through Davidic kings (EI).

#### God initiates change to fulfill his plans for us (MI).

### So what should we do (Exhortation)?

#### Be changed! (Notice the title of this sermon.)

#### Do you fear change? Then change your view of change!

#### Be open to God initiating any change he wants in your life.

#### Are you willing for God to make whatever change in your life that he wants? Then tell him.

### Prayer



**Rick Griffith**

12 November 2017

Message 9 of 66

**Be Changed**

***1 Samuel***

# Introduction

### Do you like change?

### What changes are you experiencing right now?

### Why are you experiencing these changes right now?

### Why does \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cause change?

### Judges had led Israel for 350 years with the only constant being change itself. Judge after judge came and left the scene, some good and some bad. Few agreed that the situation was sustainable. Change needed to happen because each person did what was right in his own eyes.

# God had always planned to rule through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ kings.

## God first prepared Israel for a king by transferring leadership from Eli to Samuel because the nation did not know God's character (1 Sam 1–7).

## God then transferred leadership from Samuel to Saul to David despite their evil motives because he wanted rule through Davidic kings (1 Sam 8–31).

# II. God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ change to fulfill his plans for us.

## Sometimes change comes though our desire to be like the world (1 Sam 8:5).

## The better way to change is for us to let God lead us.

### “The world has yet to see what God can do through one man who is totally yielded to him” (Dwight L. Moody).

### If you gave complete control of your life to God, what would change?

# Conclusion

### God initiates change to fulfill his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for us (Main Idea).

### So what should you do?

Download this sermon PPT and notes for free at BibleStudyDownloads.org/resource/old-testament-preaching/

Listen to this message online at cicfamily.com/sermon-listing/

**1 Samuel**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Degenerate Theocracy to Davidic Monarchy** | | | | |
| **Theocracy Ended**  **(Decline of Judges)** | | **Monarchy Established**  **(Rise of Kings)** | | |
| **Chapters 1–7** | | **Chapters 8–31** | | |
| **Samuel: “Heavenly King”** | | **Saul: “Earthly King”** | | |
| **Don’t Reject God as King** | | **Accept God’s Rightful King** | | |
| **Eli** | **Samuel** | **Saul** | | **David** |
| **Man After**  **Man’s Heart** | **Man After**  **God’s Heart** | **Man After**  **Man’s Heart** | | **Man After**  **God’s Heart** |
| **Paralysis** | **Prayer** | **Panic** | | **Patience** |
| ***Transition #1***  **Eli to Samuel**  **(1–3)** | **Samuel & Ark’s Wanderings**  **(4–7)** | ***Transition #2***  **Samuel to Saul**  **(8–12)** | **Saul**  **Rejected**  **(13–15)** | ***Transition #3***  **Saul to David**  **(16–31)** |
| **c. 94 Years** | | | | |
| **Birth of Samuel (1105 BC) to Death of Saul (1011 BC)** | | | | |

**Key Word: Transition**

**Key Verse: “[The people] said to [Samuel], ‘You are old and your sons do not walk in your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have’” (1 Samuel 8:5).**

**Summary Statement:**

**The reason God transitioned Israel from a degenerate theocracy under Eli and Samuel to a monarchy under Saul and David was to show that he delegated his rule to Davidic kings for them to rule justly.**

**Applications:**

**Ability to handle transitions comes from honoring God.**

**God raises or lowers us based upon whether we honor or dishonor him: “Those who honor me I will honor, but those who despise me will be disdained” (2:30).**

**1) God blesses obedience: “to obey is better then sacrifice” (15:22).**

**2) God disdains mere show: “the LORD does not see as man sees” (16:7).**