



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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Way Point 65

We Want It Our Way

Story of Saul Becoming King

Travel Log

Personal Notes

One of the sayings often found to be true is the more things change the more they stay the same. This is certainly true of humanity. We begin life crying and throwing a fit to get our way and as we mature, we must constantly struggle with selfishness. The children of Israel had murmured and wanted their way instead of God's say throughout the exodus and setting in the Promised Land. It had been a pattern through their history of wanting their own way. The more things change the more they stay the same.

Chronological, we are moving from the period of the Judges, to the time of the kings of Israel. We move from the times of Samuel, Gideon, Eli and others to the likes of Saul, David, and others. Until this point in time the nation of Israel had been a loose confederation of the twelve tribes, actually thirteen counting Levi. Remember Joseph has become two tribes, Ephraim and Manasseh, and Levi was the tribe of priest scattered through the land in cities but without a territory. We are now at the end of the Judges and this Way Point will be a transition to the next phase of Israel's history.

I- God had A Plan:

Some thing, in error I feel, that God never had planned for the nation to have a king. We see that He clearly did plan to give them a King. *Deuteronomy 17:14-15* When thou art come unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, and shalt possess it, and shalt dwell therein, and shalt say, I will set a king over me, like as all the nations that are about me; 15 Thou shalt in any wise set him king over thee, whom the LORD thy God shall choose: one from among thy brethren shalt thou set king over thee: thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which is not thy brother.

God had a plan for Israel to have a king in their future but it was to be His choosing and His time. I have always felt that David was to be the first king of Israel. You may ask why? It is because the line of the kings is clearly understood to be the tribe of Judah. *Genesis 49:10* The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be. Saul was not in the line of Judah, but Benjamin. So why not Jesse the father of David. Why did God not chose him? Glad you ask.

David, or his brothers, was the first in the lineage that could have been king. *Deuteronomy 23:2* A bastard shall not enter into the congregation

Lined area for personal notes.



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of the LORD; even to his tenth generation shall he not enter into the congregation of the LORD.

So what does this have to do with David and Jesse? Back nine generations from Jesse was the story of Judah and Tamar. You may recall, the story of Judah and Tamar from Way Point 25. **Matthew 1:3 And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram;**

Based on this I submit that God had a plan for Israel to have a king but it was not Saul but David.

II- Cry for a King:

The story unfolds for us with the sons of Samuel being made judges. **1 Samuel 8:1-3 And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. 2 Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba. 3 And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.**

The results of this were that the elders of Israel cried out against Samuel and ask that a king be placed over them. **1 Samuel 8:4-5 Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, 5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.**

They wanted to be like the other nations around them. They wanted to have a king.

III- We Want it Our Way, the Rejection of God:

God's first desire was that they walk with Him in obedience to His commands and that He be allowed to rule over them. Still today God's desire is for that personal relationship with us.

When Samuel was told this he took it as a personal rejection. **1 Samuel 8:6 But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD.**

The pattern that I spoke of in the introduction is spoken by God next. **1 Samuel 8:7-8 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Harken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. 8 According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee.**

The rejection of God was the reason they had continually rejected the leaders of God. They did not want God reigning over



Coordinates:

1 Samuel 8:1-9:17

Sights to See:

- 1- Self will and self-rule is as old as mankind and is as new as a baby.
- 2- God has a perfect plan for the lives of His children.
- 3- The urgency of men's hearts sometimes pushed them to run ahead of God and His plan.
- I remind us again of Abraham and Sarah.
- 4- Sometimes when God's perfect plan cannot come about because of men God allows a less than perfect thing to transpire.
- 5- The children of Israel had rejected God and therefore rejected God's leadership.
- 6- Self will is more often than not opposed to the will of God because it is born of selfishness in the human heart.
- 7- Many times God will send someone to express reasons for not doing a particular thing such as Samuel expressed.
- 8 Our way, if it out of God's will, is never the best thing for us.
- 9- God was still in control of the circumstances as we see with the prophetic word He spoke to Samuel about who he was to anoint as King.
- 10- God chose Saul, not His perfect will but His choice none the less.

