

Overcoming Disappointments

August Sermon Series

The Blessing in Disappointments

Lesson Two



I Samuel 8:1-10

Scripture Lesson



Now it came to pass when Samuel was old that he made his sons judges over Israel. The name of his firstborn was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. But his sons did not walk in his ways; they turned aside after dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice.

Then all the elders of Israel gathered and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations." But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." So, Samuel prayed to the LORD. And the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.

According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt, even to this day - with which they have forsaken Me and served other gods - so they are doing to you also. "Now therefore, heed their voice. However, you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them." So, Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who asked him for a king.

**What were the disappointments
Samuel experienced in his
personal life and in his
ministry?**

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- ❖ **Disappointment Over Age (8:1)**
 - ❖ **Disappointment in Children (8:1-3)**
 - ❖ **Disappointment in People (8:4-20)**
 - ❖ **Disappointment in God (8:21-22)**

**Rather than turn from God in
bitterness, Samuel turned to
God in prayer**

**Prayer is a good antidote for
disappointments.**



“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

DISAPPOINTMENT OVER AGE

I Samuel 8:1-2



**The best way to deal with
disappointing situations in life is
to pray.**



“The cure for age is interest and enthusiasm and work. Life’s evening will take its character from the day which had preceded it.”

George Matheson

Psalm 92:12-14, The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord Shall flourish in the courts of our God. They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing.

**Psalm 78:18, Now also when I am old and
gray headed, O God, do not forsake me,
Until I declare Your strength to this
generation, your power to everyone who is
to come.**

“Old age may have its limitations and challenges, but despite them, our latter years can be some of the most rewarding and fulfilling of our lives.”


Billy Graham

DISAPPOINTMENT IN CHILDREN

I Samuel 8:3



“But his sons did not walk in his ways; they turned aside after dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice.”



Bad appointments produced bad behavior.



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- 1. Show them God's love**
 - 2. Impart godly wisdom**
 - 3. Share biblical values and standards**
 - 4. Be led by the Spirit**
 - 5. Constantly cover them in prayer**
 - 6. Be honest and forthright**

**“It is easier to build strong children
than to repair broken men.”**

Frederick Douglass



“The greatest legacy one can pass on to one's children and grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of character and faith.”

Billy Graham

DISAPPOINTMENT IN PEOPLE

Samuel 8:4-20



**“No! We want a king...to lead us and
to go out before us and fight our
battles.”**

Samuel 8:20



**If you stay in the church long
enough, you will experience
disappointment with God's people.**

“Some people come into your life as blessings. Others come into your life as lessons.”



DISAPPOINTMENT IN GOD

I Samuel 8:21-22



**And Samuel heard all the words of the people,
and he repeated them in the hearing of
the LORD. So, the LORD said to Samuel, “Heed
their voice, and make them a king.”**

I Samuel 8:21-22

Often through prayer if you are listening, God may tell you something that you do not want to hear, and/or tell you to do something you do not want to do.

It is a lot easier to ask for God to help us, even when we are in distress, than it is to trust God and do what He commands, when we are under stress.

“Pray when you feel like it, for it is a sin to neglect such an opportunity. Pray when you don’t feel like it, for it is dangerous to remain in such a condition.”

Ruth Bell Graham



Disappointments are just God's way of saying, "I have something better, be patient, live life, have faith."
