**WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY**

**ABOUT THE KINGS?**

**Kingly Living**

(1 Samuel 8)

**Old Age Does Not Guarantee Biblical Wisdom**

v.1 “When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel.”

* Eli’s Mistake: Loved His Kids More than God (1Sam2:29)
	+ “because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them” (1Sam3:13b)
* Eli’s Loss: God Disciplines and Bypasses
	+ “I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew” (1Sam3:13a)
* God’s Plan Is To Greatly Use Those Who “do according to what is in my heart and in my mind” (1Sam2:35)
	+ Know: Daily Communicate with Him
	+ Mind: Understand & Remember His Truths

“Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.” (1Sam3:19)

* + Heart: Obey and Continue in His Love
* Trust In God’s Sovereignty: “It is the Lord. Let him do what seems good to him.” (1Sam3:18)

**Christianity Is Not About Us:**

 **“Do This in Remembrance of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”**

v.3 “Yet his sons did not walk in his ways but turned aside after gain. They took bribes and perverted justice.”

* Watch Out for Self-Serving “Christianity”

*How to Defeat Self-Serving “Christianity”*

1. Love Abundantly (Matt 7:12)
2. Be Satisfied with Christ Alone (Matt 7:13-14)
3. Live Fruitfully (Matt 7:15-20)
4. Fix Your Thoughts: Know God (Matt 7:21)
5. Watch Your Heart: Experience God (Matt 7:22-23)

**WARNING:** Self-Serving “Christians” aren’t Christians.

**Daily Focus: The World or God?**

v.5 “Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.”

* The World Does Not Fully Understand God’s Power
	+ Ark of the Covenant & Philistine Curse (1Sam5)
* Reject Worldly Wisdom & Seek God’s Steps
* God’s People Do Not Fully Understand God’s Power
	+ “The men of Beth-shemesh said, ‘Who is able to stand before the Lord, this holy God?’” (1Sam6:21)
* Focus on Christ First (Mk 8:22-25)
* Let the World Blur Into the Background

**Witness Faithfully,**

**No Matter the Consequences**

v.7-8 “for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them.”

*You are an Ambassador for Christ, so…*

1. Live the Message (Phil 1:27)
2. Communicate the Message(2 Cor 5:18-20)
3. Prepare for Suffering (Eph 6:20)
4. Never Fear the Loss of Your Citizenship (Phil 3:20)

**Godly Love Includes God’s Warnings**

**Speak Up!**

v.9 “only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.” (1 Samuel 8:7-9, ESV)

* There are both temporary and eternal consequences to rejecting God’s kingship.

**The Message?**

**“Reject the Lord or Return to the Lord”**

*True Repentance Means…*

* 1. Turning Away from Sin
	2. Turning Towards God
	3. Traveling In Obedience

**Live Under the Kingship of Christ!**