

“Historical Books Of The Bible”
1 Samuel 7:1-17
Wednesday January 22, 2014

1 Samuel 7:1-8

1 Samuel 1-7 – The Ministry Of Samuel

1 Samuel 4-6 – God’s Judgment Upon Israel And The Philistines

1 Samuel 4 – The Ark Taken – Eli And His Sons Taken In Judgment

1 Samuel 5 – God Chastened The Philistines

1 Samuel 6 – Ark Sent Home – Not A Good Homecoming

1 Samuel 7 – A Surrender That Brings Victory

1. Verses 1-4 – Preparation For Battle

2. Verses 5-14 – God-Given Victory

3. Verses 15-17 – Samuel The Judge

1. Verses 1-4 – Preparation For Battle:

1 Samuel 7:1

“And the men of Kiriath-jearim” – A city located approximately 10 miles Northeast of Beth Shemesh.

Verses 1-2 – Moving The Ark: 1 Samuel 6:19-21

The Ark would remain the resting place until David brought it to Jerusalem, 100 years later, 2 Sam. 6:1–19.

“consecrated” – “set apart”

1 Samuel 7:2

“for it was twenty years;” – The Ark had been in the home of Abinadab twenty years when Samuel called an assembly of the people to turn from their sins and seek the Lord, 1 Sam. 7:3.

"Lamented" – speaks of "tears"; Something happened in the heart of the nation. Samuel, Transition from Judges; Judges was a cycle – Judges 3: 9, 15; 4:3; 6:6, 7; 10:10.

1 Samuel 12:10

Romans 2:4

1 Samuel 7:3

1 Peter 3:15

1 Samuel 7:4

"Baal" – identified as son of El (chief of the Canaanite pantheon); Supreme male deity, or as son of Dagan (the Mesopotamian deity), recognized as the god of thunder and rain whose task was to make the earth fertile annually.

Baal was the Canaanite storm god to whom the Jews often turned when the land was suffering drought.

"Ashtoreth" – (or Astarte) was mother goddess of both love and war, as were her Babylonian and Greek counterparts, Ishtar and Aphrodite. She apparently functioned with Baal as a fertility deity and by their sexual union, in some magical way, the earth and all its life supposedly experienced annual rejuvenation and fruitfulness.

Ex. 20:3 – "You shall have no other gods before me"

2. Verses 5-14 – God-Given Victory:

1 Samuel 7:5

"Gather all Israel to Mizpah," – "watchtower"; This was 7 miles North of Jerusalem.

Genesis 31:44-55 – So-called "Mizpah Blessing"

Judges 20:1, 3 – Israel had assembled after the murder and dismemberment in Gibeah and all met in Mizpah except Benjamin.

"and I will pray to the LORD for you." – 1 Samuel 12:23

1 Samuel 7:6

“water” – symbol of life – source of life & health.

“Poured out” – sorrow – powerlessness, Psalm 22:14.

2 Samuel 14:14

“and fasted on that day,” – Leviticus 16:29-31

The Key To 20 Disastrous Years: “and said there, ‘We have sinned against the LORD.’”

Psalm 66:18

No amount of sacrifices or rituals could wash away our sins. Ps. 51:17

“And Samuel judged the sons of Israel at Mizpah.” – Samuel judged and the glory of God returned. What a difference between Eli and his leadership, in that the glory departed. 1 Samuel 4:18

Verses 7-11 – Prayer For God’s Help: 1 Samuel 7:7

Isn’t that what typically happens when persons are drawing close to the Lord, that the enemy strikes? Make a commitment to Christ.

1 Samuel 7:8

What To Do When Fear Strikes: “Do not cease to cry to the LORD our God for us,” – We are in Need Of Prayer!

1 Samuel 7:9

“a suckling lamb and offered it for a whole burnt offering to the LORD;” – The burnt offering: “That which ascends, that which goes up”; It is called “The Whole burnt offering”; The worshipper is to be taught that entire consecration is essential to true worship.

Romans 12:1

“Samuel cried to the LORD for Israel and the LORD answered him.” – Psalm 99:6

1 Samuel 7:10

Baal was the Canaanite storm god.

Proverbs 21:31

1 Samuel 7:11

“Beth-car” – “house of a lamb”; This is a village southwest of Mizpah.

1 Samuel 7:12

“named it Ebenezer, saying,” – 1 Samuel 4:1

Ebenezer – “stone of help”; God is reversing the defeat to become a place of victory.

1 Samuel 7:13-14

Joel 2:25

3. Verses 15-17 – Samuel The Judge:

1 Samuel 7:15-16

Samuel was a prophet – 1 Samuel 3:19-20

Samuel had military responsibilities as a Judge, deliverer – 1 Samuel 12:11

1 Samuel 7:17

Application: If We Want To Be Closer To God, We Can Follow Samuel’s Gospel:

1. Like Israel, We Must Return To The LORD With All Of Our Heart, Not Halfhearted.
2. Confess Our Sins. Confess Means To Agree. God Is Right And I Am Wrong.
3. We Must Remove The Foreign gods From Among Us. Repent, Turn From Our Way To His Way.
4. Direct Our Hearts To The LORD And Serve Him Alone. God Is Our Master. What Is It That God Would Have Me To Do?