

Royalty

SERMON TITLE: Remember-Repent-Replace

DATE: March 19, 2023

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 12

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SERIES SUMMARY

The Bible is the story of God as King and becoming King in Jesus. And we are his image bearers, created for royal reflection. But we don't live in a monarchy, so "kingship" and "royalty" can feel like foreign ideas to us. Yet, we're still called to recognize and submit to God as King. And in the Old Testament, it was God's desire for a king to reign over his people as a reminder of these things. So, what do the kings of old teach us about ourselves, our need, our calling, and our God? How can the lives and reigns of Saul, David, and Solomon be instructive to us as God's people today? How should royalty shape identity? And most importantly, how do all of these things make us look to Jesus as the King of kings?

SERMON SUMMARY

1 Samuel 12 is a testimony to Samuel's leadership. He calls Israel to remember how merciful God is, repent of their sins, and replace their idols with obedience and reverence to the one true King.

SCRIPTURE: 1 Samuel 12

SERMON SCREENSHOTS & KEY POINTS

"Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?" Romans 2:4

Common Idols

- *Approval of Others*
- *Money/Retirement Security*
- *Material Possessions*
- *Politics*
- *Power*
- *Job (Form or Title)*
- *Sex/Sexuality*
- *Comfort*
- *Freedom*
- *Athletics/Academics/Education*
- *Audience/Platform*
- *Ministry Success*
- *Good Works*
- *Marriage/Spouse/Children*
- *Safety*
- *Love*
- *Friendships*
- *Dreams/Ambitions*
- *Talents*
- *Social Status*
- *Work Ethic*
- *Reputation*

Questions to Identify Idols

- What do I tend to worry about most?
- What, if I lost it, would cause me to feel despair?
- What do I use to comfort myself when things go wrong or get difficult and/or stressful?
- What do I do to cope? What are my release valves when the pressures of life grow? What do I do to feel better?
- What preoccupies me? What do I daydream about?
- What makes me feel the most self-worth? Of what am I the proudest? For what do I want to be known?
- Who is the hero of most of my stories?
- Early on in meeting someone new, what do I want to ensure other people know about me?
- What do you write or post about the most on social networks?
- What prayer, unanswered, would make me seriously question the goodness of God?
- What prayer, answered, would make me love God more or believe He loves me more than He does now?

"Little children, keep yourselves from idols." 1 John 5:21 (ESV)

"Dear children, keep away from anything that might take God's place in your hearts." 1 John 5:21 (NLT)

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

- Read 1 Samuel 12
 - Why is it that, even when God reasons with people very convincingly, we so often fail to accept what he says?
 - What idols are you most struggling not to worship and trust right now?
 - Can you identify the false promise of those idols and how they will not help you or rescue you?
 - What would it practically look like for you to REMEMBER-REPENT-REPLACE in this moment?
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Recommended commentaries for the "Royalty" Series: *1 Samuel for You and 2 Samuel for You*, both by Tim Chester; *1 and 2 Samuel for Everyone*, by John Goldingay; *1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings* (four excellent, separate commentaries), by Dale Ralph Davis; and *1 & 2 Samuel*, by Joyee G. Baldwin. Also, I (Charlie) have benefited from the teachings of Tim Keller, Andy Stanley, Tim Mackie, and others whom I will credit during my messages. I have adapted and borrowed insights and illustrations from others and incorporated them into the messages in this series.