

HAVE YOU RAISED YOUR EBENEZER?

How might chapter 7 contrast with this dark day in Israel's history? We will soon enough see the difference 20 years makes.

1. Recognition of sin. Vs. 1-2

"... and all the house of Israel lamented after the Lord."

a. _____ sorrow.

b. _____ sorrow.

2. Repentance of sin. Vs. 3-6,

Exodus 20:3, Matthew 10:37-39, 1 John 1:7-9

And Samuel said to all the house of Israel, 'If you are returning to the Lord with all your heart, then:

a. It's a _____ repentance.

b. It's a _____ repentance.

c. It's a _____ repentance.

3. Recommitment to God. Vs. 7-11, Romans 12:1-2, Luke 9:23

"Do not cease to cry out to the Lord our God for us, that he may save us...."

a. The Israelites _____ to God.

b. The Israelites ask Samuel to _____.

c. Samuel offers up a _____.

d. God brings _____.

4. Reminder of God's promised help. Vs. 12-17,

Romans 8:28, Psalm 115:9-13, Hebrews 4:15-16

"Till now the Lord has helped us."

a. Till now the Lord has helped _____.

b. Till now the Lord has helped _____.

For additional study or family discussion

1. What did the Lord say to you today through His word? Did you learn some new truth about God or yourself? Did the Lord challenge you, convict you, or encourage you?
2. Is prayer a central part of your relationship with God?
3. Do you ever recount the ways that God has helped you? Make a list of God's help and praise Him for His help.
4. Do you ask the Holy Spirit to reveal your sin to you? When confronted do you confess and ask for forgiveness?
5. Some may feel defeated by their sin; it seems like an endless war. Possibly the same temptation and sin is getting the best of you. The following prayer may be helpful:

Battle Prayer

- Admit the sin by name.
- Claim the blood of Christ for that sin. 1 John 1:7
- Confess Christ as Lord of all your life. Romans 12:1-2
- Take a definite stand, in prayer against the sin.
- Exalt Christ in worship.
- Ask God for a fresh filling of His spirit.

(Adapted from Spiritual Life Studies, Harold Ewing Burchett)

6. Read Romans 8 and list the benefits of being in Christ and in the Spirit.