Sermon Outline

The People's Choice

1 Samuel 7:15-9:2

Introduction: The "People's Choice Awards"

Context: Chapter 8 is a transitional chapter

Israel failed to learn their lesson from the ark incident.

1 Samuel 7:3 "returning to the Lord"

1 Samuel 4⇒8 "the ark among us" ⇒ "a king over us"

I. 7:15-8:6 Samuel and his sons – from Judgeship to Kingship

Judges (God's choice) vs. kings (inherited) (Judges 8:22-23)

The people's expectation for a king (Ge 3:15, 49:10, Dt 17:14-20)

II. 8:7-17 Give the people what they ask for but warn them.

They are rejecting and rebelling against Yahweh "He will take"

III. 8:18-9:2 The People's Choice prevails

God's answer in wrath (Hosea 13:10-11)

Samuel's reluctance to obey God

A good king waiting in the wings – the King of kings!

Saul: a bad king (1 Samuel 2:4-10, Psalm 20:7-8)

IV. Application

We tend to trust in substitutes for God

Be careful what you ask for ...

We Disdain counsel and wisdom

We are opposed to holiness (being different)

We are attracted to tyranny