

Bible Project Video

Samuel Overview: <https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/samuel/>

Week 17

April 27 – May 3, 2026

BIBLE STUDY COMPANION GUIDE

Main Sermon Passage

1 Samuel 8:1-22

Study Passages of the Week

1 Samuel 1–7, 9–12; Psalm 33

Theme or Focus

1 Samuel 1–7 introduces the transition from the period of the judges to the establishment of monarchy in Israel. Samuel emerges as a prophet and faithful leader, while Israel experiences both spiritual failure and renewal. The ark narrative and national repentance show God's power and willingness to restore His people when they return to Him.

Chapters 9–12 describe the appointment of Saul as Israel's first king. Though God permits this, it is presented as a response to the people's demand to be like other nations. This moment reveals a deeper issue: a rejection of God's kingship in favor of human authority. Even so, God remains sovereign, working through imperfect structures to accomplish His purposes.

Psalm 33 reinforces God's ultimate authority as King over all the earth. It contrasts human plans with God's enduring purposes and calls His people to trust in Him rather than in human strength.

Together, these passages highlight the tension between trusting God's rule and seeking human solutions. They point forward to the need for a true and faithful King.

Memory Verse

How does Psalm 33 contrast trust in God with trust in human power?

1 Samuel 8:7- *“And the LORD told him: ‘Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king.’”*

Fill in the Blanks

Israel asked for a _____ to lead them like other nations.

(1 Samuel 8)

Samuel warned that a king would take their sons, daughters, and

_____.

Saul was chosen from the tribe of _____. (1 Samuel 9)

The LORD looks not at outward appearance but at the _____.

(1 Samuel theme)

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the _____.” (Psalm 33)

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Reflection & Discussion

What problems in leadership are evident in 1 Samuel 1–7?

Why did Israel demand a king according to 1 Samuel 8?

How does Saul’s appointment reflect both God’s allowance and Israel’s failure?

What warnings are given about human kingship in 1 Samuel 8?