

DESIRE FOR AN UNWORTHY KING

(10/08/2023; Life Group; 1 Samuel 8:1-11:15; Richie Pendred; Christ Proclamation Church)

Sermon Theme: Our desires give us a window into our hearts, which is exemplified by the Israelite's desire for a king. In God's mercy, He provides an unworthy king. The anointing of King Saul points us forward to the righteous, obedient, and faithful king – the Lord Jesus. Therefore, we must be a people who know the King, cling to the King, and live for His glory!

I. The Desired King – Read 1 Samuel 8:1-22

- A. Read Deuteronomy 17:14-20. What language is similar between Deuteronomy 17 and 1 Samuel 8:1-22?
- B. Why is Samuel displeased with the Israelite's demand? What does their desire tell us about their hearts?
- C. Read 1 Samuel 8:10-18. What does Samuel's warning tell us about the kings the people desired? How is God radically different than the human kings they desired?
- D. What are some indicators that one desires God as king of their life instead of other things? When are you prone to trust in tangible things rather than God?

II. The Anointed King – Read 1 Samuel 9:1-11:15

- A. Read 1 Samuel 9:1-2. What observations do you make about Saul's introduction? How does the introduction highlight how Saul is unfit to be the king of Israel?
- B. Read 1 Samuel 9:3-11:15. How do these passages display Saul as an unworthy king?
- C. Read 1 Samuel 10:6-9. How would you interpret these verses? What does "God gave [Saul] another heart" mean?
- D. What might it look like for Christians to be lethargic about the things of God? When are you prone to be passive rather than active and attentive? How do we cultivate hearts that reject lethargy and pursue Christ intently?

III. The Worthy King – Read Luke 1:67-79

- A. Read Luke 1:67-79. In what ways does Zechariah's prophecy highlight the worthiness of the Lord Jesus? In what ways does King Saul point us to our great need for King Jesus?
- B. What does it look like to know King Jesus and cling to Him? How would you like to grow in dependence upon Him?
- C. In what ways would you like to excel still more in living for the King? How might the gospel penetrate how we work, interact with family, engage those in the world, and love others in our Church to the glory of God?