

YouTube Video:
<https://youtu.be/AHBn6Bdf7HM>
 by Gospel Project



Lesson 1: ISRAEL DEMANDS A KING (1st Samuel 8-10)



The Bible says that Samuel was the last Judge over Israel. Samuel loved God and always tried to do what was right.

When he was old, Samuel appointed his sons Joel and Abijah to be judges, but they did not obey God. They weren't fair or kind to the people.

The people of Israel decided that they wanted to have a king. They told Samuel, "We want a king! We want to be like the nations around us."



Samuel felt bad that they didn't want him to lead them anymore. So, Samuel prayed to God. God told Samuel, "The people aren't rejecting you, Samuel. They are rejecting me as their King. Give them what they want. But be sure to warn them what it will be like to have an earthly king."

Samuel explained to the Israelites, "A King can make your sons fight in the army. He can make your daughters work for him. He can take away your fields and servants. You will be sorry you wanted a king."

But the Israelites didn't care. "Give us a king!" they said.



Meanwhile, in another place, there was a young man named Saul. He was from the tribe of Benjamin. He was taller and more handsome than any of the Israelites. His father's name was Kish. Some of Kish's donkeys were lost, so Kish sent Saul and his servant to find them. They decided to ask the prophet Samuel for help.



They saw a man walking along the road he asked, "Do you know where Samuel's house is?"

Saul got a big surprise when the man said, "Hello, Saul. I am Samuel. Stop worrying about the donkeys. They have been found." Even though they had never met, God had already told Samuel all about Saul and his donkeys. God even told Samuel that Saul would be the king.



Saul went inside Samuel's house and ate a special meal with him. Samuel told Saul that his family will be important to everyone in Israel. Saul didn't understand. He wasn't from a big family. He was from the tribe of Benjamin which was the smallest of all the tribes of Israel.



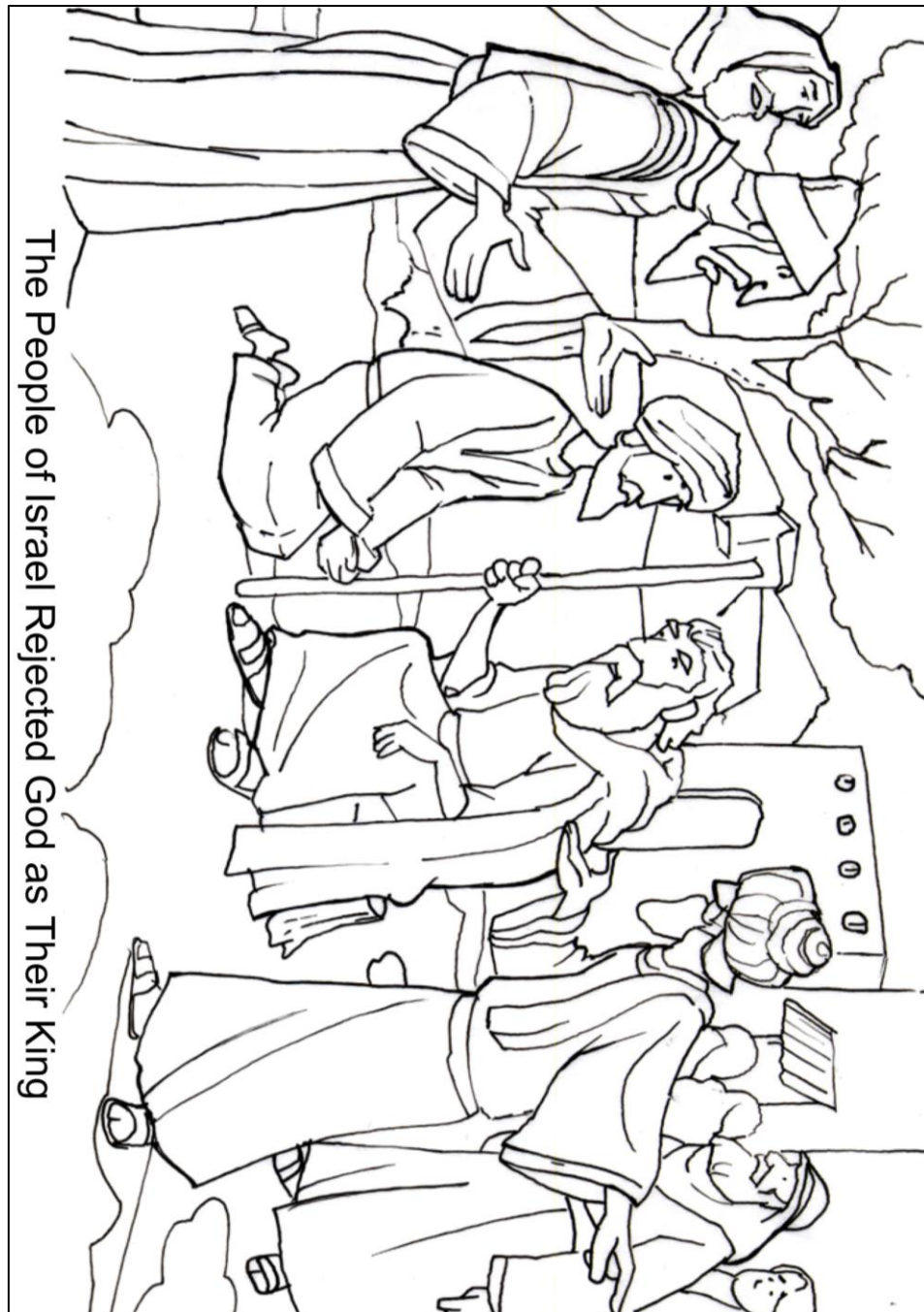
The next morning Samuel poured oil on Saul's head. This is called anointing. He said, "Saul, the Lord has chosen you to be the king over all of Israel."

He gave Saul some instructions and told him to go home and wait for the right time to start ruling over the Israelites. The Spirit of God was with Saul.



God intended for a Heavenly King to rule over Israel. But the Israelites did not trust God's plan. They wanted a king like the nations around them. God had a better plan to eventually send His son Jesus to be the perfect Forever King!

PRIMARY GRADES ACTIVITY
COLOR THE PICTURE



The People of Israel Rejected God as Their King

ISRAEL DEMANDS A KING WORD SEARCH

D S L R K N L X Y P N Z
P Y R D K A N W S N B E
R E J E C T I N G N G T
Q K Q Y R I S N S D O P
T N D A L O M A U A L S
V O K R R N N J M I U G
B D M P B S W L O U O L
G N I K P W T D N D E D
D R D J X J N L T Z N L

1. This lesson is found in the Bible Book 1st _____.
2. Samuel was the last _____ over Israel.
3. Samuel's 2 _____ weren't fair or kind to God's people.
4. The Israelites said, "We want a _____!"
5. The Israelites wanted to be like the _____ around them.
6. When Samuel heard the peoples' demands, he _____.
7. God said, "The people aren't rejecting you. They are _____ me as their king.
8. _____ was from the small tribe of Benjamin.
9. Saul was out searching for his father's _____.
10. _____ told Samuel that He had chosen Saul to be the king.
11. Samuel poured _____ on Saul's head to anoint him as king.

WORD BANK

DONKEYS	PRAYED	JUDGE	KING.	NATIONS
OIL	SONS	GOD	SAMUEL	SAUL
				REJECTING

THINK ABOUT THIS:

- In some visuals, Samuel has very long hair. Can you think of why he is drawn like that? Remember Hannah's vow. (1st Samuel 1:11) Did Samuel honor this vow? Was he a good Judge?
- God was the Heavenly King over the Israelites. But the Israelites wanted their own way. God wants Jesus to be king of our heart!

