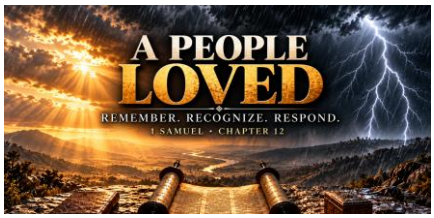
Pastor Doug Kilchenman October 25, 2026

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Scriptures for Today: 1 Samuel 12:1-25 – Samuel's plea to God's people

Today's Message:
"A People Loved"



The Weekly Bulletin

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we saw Saul's first test in a time of crisis. God's people were being terrorized by the leader of the Ammonites, and Saul stepped up as he was enabled by God's Spirit to lead the army to a victory. Today, we will hear the message Samuel preached when the people were gathered at Gilgal. Israel had rejected God as their king and demanded a king to be like the world. God had permitted the request after a solemn protest, and Saul had been established as king. Yet Samuel will deliver a message that combines personal integrity, historical remembrance, spiritual conviction, and a call to faithful service. God's faithfulness is not a license to continue to sin; it is a reason to return to faithful service. Does God's love motivate you? Do you ever just spend time thinking about how good God has been to you?

This is God's message to you…

LEARNING TOGETHER

❖ The Text 1 Samuel 12:1-25

A. A Testimony to Follow 12:1-5

1. Samuel's life was the _____ from which he spoke the words of God.

1Samuel 12:2 *– And now,* ***behold****, the king walketh before you: and I am old…*
1Samuel 12:3 *–* ***Behold****, here I am: witness against me before the LORD…*
1Samuel 12:4 *– And they said, Thou hast not defrauded us, nor oppressed us…*
1Samuel 12:5 *– And he said…* ***The LORD is witness against you****… He is witness.*

"I have walked before you from my childhood unto this day" – what a life story!
"Witness against me this day" – Samuel's life was an open book; they had read it all.
"The LORD is witness against you" – before the people and God, he had been faithful.

"Integrity"
Consistency between what a person professes and how that person actually lives: uprightness of character and conduct.

"Accountability"
Willingness to answer for one's actions and accept appropriate examination of one's conduct.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES **Church leaders** ***(1Tim 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9)***

- **Moses** ***Numbers 16:15*** Moses appealed to his life's conduct as evidence.
- **Paul** ***Acts 20:33-35; 2Cor 1:12*** Paul appealed to his conduct as evidence.
- **Daniel** ***Daniel 6:4-5*** His integrity was so evident, his enemies had to attack his devotion to God rather than expose dishonesty in his work.

KEY TRUTHS

- Samuel did *not* demand unquestioning loyalty; he invited examination of his life!
- Samuel's testimony established the credibility of God's message to them.

Personal Application

A life of integrity gives credibility to a message of accountability.

Samuel's testimony does not make God's Word true; God's Word is true regardless of the messenger. But a messenger's conduct can either strengthen or undermine the credibility of his ministry before those who hear him. The goal is not that people will like you; the goal is your life is honest before God.

B. A Warning to Heed 12:6-25

2. **Part 1:** ***Remember*** what God has done; He has been _____ to you.

1Samuel 12:6 *– …It is* ***the LORD*** *that* ***advanced*** *Moses and Aaron…*
1Samuel 12:7*–… that I may* ***reason with you*** *before the LORD… righteous acts…*

"**Reason with you** before the LORD" – God is reasonable – ***Isaiah 1:18; Job 13:3; 15:3***
"All the **righteous acts** of the LORD" – God is continually good; always for their benefit!
"They **forgat the LORD** their God" – Although God had been good, they forsook Him!

Psalm 77:11-12
I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old. I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

- **The Exodus** ***Ex 14:13-14*** Their national existence was due to God's intervention!
- **Cycles of sin** ***Judges*** God remained faithful even when they were not to Him!
- **Peter** ***Luke 22:61-62; Jn 21:15-17*** God's grace provided restoration after failure!

Lamentations 3:22-23
It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION **Consider how easily we can forget God's faithfulness:**

- When financial pressures arise, we forget previous provisions and help.
- When illness comes, we forget previous comfort and grace provided.
- When ministry becomes difficult, we forget previous opportunities and joy.
- When prayers seem unanswered, we forget previous prayers God answered.

3. **Part 2:** ***Recognize*** where you have failed; be _____ with God about your sin.

1Samuel 12:12 *– …ye said unto me,* ***Nay****; but a king shall reign over us…*
1Samuel 12:16 *–… stand and* ***see this great thing****, which the LORD will do…*
1Samuel 12:19 *–… Pray for thy servants unto the LORD thy God,* ***that we die not****…*

"Perceive… see that **your wickedness is great**" – God was displeased; did they know?
"We have **added unto all our sins** this evil" – The people realized how serious it was!

Practical Application
When the Bible exposes something in our lives, we have a choice to make:
1. Defend ourselves
2. Blame others
3. Minimize seriousness
4. Be honest with God

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

- **David, Bathsheba, Uriah** ***2 Sam 12:1-13*** Nathan confronted his sin; ***Psalm 51!***

KEY TRUTH

- Confession is agreeing with God concerning your sin rather than justifying it.

4. **Part 3:** ***Respond*** to God by serving Him faithfully; give Him the _____ He deserves!

1Samuel 12:20 *–…Fear not…****yet turn not aside****… serve the LORD with all your heart;*
1Samuel 12:21 *–…* ***turn ye not aside****: for then should ye go after vain things… vain.*
1Samuel 12:22 *–… the LORD will not forsake* ***his people****… to make you* ***his people****.*
1Samuel 12:23 *–… God forbid that I should* ***sin against the LORD*** *in ceasing to pray…*
1Samuel 12:24 *– …fear the LORD…* ***consider how great things*** *he hath done for you.*
1Samuel 12:25 *–But* ***if*** *ye shall STILL do wickedly,* ***ye shall be consumed****,*
…both ye and your king.

The Heart of God
Deuteronomy 5:29
O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, ***that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!***

KEY TRUTH *(God would not forsake them and neither would Samuel!* ***Gal 4:19****)*

- God's mercy should move us to renewed faithfulness, *not* continued disobedience.

2 Corinth 12:15
And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, ***the less I be loved.***

God's faithfulness gives us hope and a responsibility to serve Him.
God's faithfulness was not dependent upon the perfection of His people.
He loved them and wanted them to love Him back with humility and gratitude.
We must never use God's grace as an excuse to continue in sin. ***(Romans 6:1-2)***