

## Samuel's Ministry

1 Samuel 7

**Introduction:** 1 Samuel 7:1-2 - Kiriath-jearim was not a Godly place; it was a cultic community

### - Samuel's Leadership -

1 Samuel 7:3-11 - Samuel's Influence - First, Samuel called them to repentance (3-4); Second, Samuel challenged them to make their repentance a matter of public record (5-6).

**Repentance:** Intellectual — a recognition of sin that is an affront to a holy God. Emotional - this naturally leads to a sense of sorrow over our sin; (2 Corinthians 7:10). Volitional - Our will is changed to walk in the works and ways of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Concept:** My internal standing before God is more important than what threatens me from without.

Third, they were attacked by the Philistines and asked Samuel to pray (7-8). Fourth, Samuel offered a whole burnt offering and God removed the trouble (9-11).

1 Samuel 7:12-14 - Samuel's Remembrance - This began a season of Philistine retreat and Israel's advance as God restored the borders of Israel (13-14).

1 Samuel 7:15-17 - Samuel's Consistency - This was Samuel's pattern and he consistently practiced it for his whole ministry. He was predictable.

### - Spiritual Leadership -

Samuel's leadership points us to spiritual leadership and our chapter provides us with some of the basic things involved in spiritual leadership: influence and consistency.

Spiritual leadership is not a certain skill set, it's an unambiguous commitment to the most important things and the strength of will to keep those things in their proper place.

**Conclusion:** Repentance is a mark/theme in 1 & 2 Samuel. First, "We have sinned against the Lord." Second, (1 Samuel 15). Saul did not repent. He was more concerned with what people thought than what he had done to God. Third, 2 Samuel 12:13 - when David is confronted by Nathan the prophet (Psalm 51). Repentance is an important step in coming to God by faith and living for God in faith. Without repentance we are deceived.

Repentance moves God as well; 4:3b, 11; 5:6a, 19; 7:13a - God loves to bless those who repent and walk in His works and ways.

Faithful service to God is never about position; but, it is always about our attitude towards God and his right to define and inspect our actions and attitudes. To whom much is given much is required, but it is also true that it is required of servants that they be found faithful because that is what God rewards. Part of that faithfulness is carrying out my duties for the Lord and not for men.