

United Kingdom Review Worksheet

Compare the warnings and instruction that God gave about kings in Deuteronomy 17:14-20 in addition to 1 Samuel 8 with the expectations that the Israelites had for a king. Consider how each of the three kings of the United Kingdom generally measured up with God's instructions and the people's desires.

Warnings and Instruction from God:

- The king should not do the following:
 - o Multiply horses (Deuteronomy 17:16)
 - o Multiply wives (Deuteronomy 17:17)
 - o Multiply gold and silver (Deuteronomy 17:17)
- The king should write a copy of the law in a book and keep it with him so that he will be careful to obey God and observe all the law (Deuteronomy 17:18-19)
- His heart should not be lifted up above his brethren, or become proud (Deuteronomy 17:20)
- He should not turn from the commandment at all (Deuteronomy 17:20)
- The king will do the following:
 - o Take from the people's families in order to have soldiers and servants (1 Samuel 8:11-13)
 - o Take from the people's farms in order to feed his own servants (1 Samuel 8:14-15)
 - o Take from the people's servants and livestock to perform his own work (1 Samuel 8:16-17)
- The people will be oppressed and ask God for deliverance from their own king, but He will not answer (1 Samuel 8:18)

Israel's Expectations:

- They wanted for the following reasons (1 Samuel 8:19-20):
 - o To be like all the other nations
 - o To have a judge over them
 - o To have someone to go out and fight their battles
- Note that God had been a much better king than any man could be (1 Samuel 12:6-12)

Saul:

- Although originally humble, he became proud and did not obey God's instructions (1 Samuel 13-15)
- When tested, he did not fight the battles that he ought to have fought (1 Samuel 17)

David:

- He was a man after God's own heart, and he was very righteous (1 Samuel 13:14; 2 Samuel 7)
- He failed when he allowed pride and lust to have control over his heart instead of God (2 Samuel 11)

Solomon:

- He was extremely wise, having been blessed by God in that manner (1 Kings 3)
- He multiplied wealth and women (1 Kings 10-11)
- He oppressed the people of Israel with forced labor and taxation (1 Kings 12:1-4)