

The Life and Times of Samuel

Part 5 - Samuel the Intercessor

What is an Intercessor?

Intercession is prayer on behalf of another and naturally arises from the instinct of the human heart by recognizing God's love and concern for men

The Old Testament word meant originally 'to strike upon or against' then in a good sense to assail anyone with petitions, to urge or intercede on behalf of another. The English word comes from the Latin "intercede" which means "to come between" which could mean "obstruct" but in a positive way "to interpose on behalf of a person"

Examples in the Old Testament would include Abraham, Moses, and Daniel

Who Does God consider the great intercessors?

Moses and Samuel

Jeremiah 15:1 -Then the LORD said to me: "Even if Moses and Samuel were to stand before me, my heart would not go out to this people. Send them away from my presence! Let them go!"

Samuel is also mentioned in **Psalms 99:6** as on who called upon the Lord
Samuel as Intercessor

I. His Entrance was natural

A. Born as a result of prayer

His mother asked for a child and was willing to give him to the service of the Lord **1 Samuel 1:11**

B. Named as an answer to prayer

Samuel sounds like "heard of God" and his mother said it was because I have asked him of the Lord.

C. His first personal encounter with God

His first response was "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening. **1 Samuel 3:10**

II. His Example was powerful

1 Samuel 7:3-10

He challenged them to return to the Lord - and he would pray

He cried out to the Lord on their behalf

The Lord answered him with thunder

1 Samuel 8:6, 19-22

Even when their request for a king displeased him

He took their words to the Lord

God spoke to him and he obeyed

1 Samuel 12:14-18

He reminded the people of all the Lord had done for them

He scolded them for forgetting their God

He prayed that God would send thunder and rain out of season

God answered causing the people to fear the Lord

III. His Emphases is insightful

1 Samuel 12:19-25

A. He prayed for them in response to God not their cries

Do not fear - but serve the Lord

B. He reminded them that God had chosen them

Warned - do not turn aside to futile things

God was pleased to make them His possession

C. He considered prayerlessness to be sin

His relationship was with the Lord

His words were from the Lord

D. He gave them the formula to success and disaster

Fear the Lord and serve Him

Remember all He has done for you

Wickedness will bring punishment

Who should we pray for?

Each other = believers in the body of Christ

Those who have wandered from the truth - James 5:19

Those who persecute us - Matthew 5:44

What are we to pray for each other?

What do the prayer of Paul teach?

Wisdom and power:

Ephesians 1:18-20

Spiritual understanding and knowing God's will: **Colossians 1:9**

Steadfastness:

2 Thessalonians 3:5

Boldness in sharing the faith:

Philemon 1:6

Who has God given to you for prayer?

Believer _____

Seeker _____

Enemy _____