

"God Makes The Difference"

Text: **1 Samuel 10:17-27**

Intro:

- ➔ The children of Israel had rejected God's reign over them.
 - They wanted a king like all the other nations.
 - They wanted to be like the world.
 - **See 1 Samuel 8:5-7.**
- ➔ In our passage this morning we see the appointment of Saul as king over the Nation of Israel.
- ➔ In **1 Samuel 10:18-19**, God reminds the children of Israel all that He has done for them.
 - Despite what God has done for them, they reject God.
- ➔ God will tell His people what is best for them.
 - However, after so many rejections to God's counsel, God will leave His people to their own devices.
 - And that is what is happening here in our passage.
 - God leaves Israel to her own devices.
 - He gives them exactly what they want.
 - He gives them a king, so they can be like all the other nations.
- ➔ Today, this pictures the Christian who God tells what is best for them.
 - He lays it out clearly in His Word.
 - Yet, time and time again, the Christian rejects God's advice.
 - Instead, the Christian takes the advice of the world.

- After all it would be to old fashion to listen to God.
- This can only spell trouble for the child of God.
- Just as having a king rule over Israel instead of God was only trouble and ruin for Israel.

➔ The Bible tells us in the center verse of the Bible, **Psalm 118:8**,

- **"It is better to trust in the LORD than put confidence in man."**
- **Psalm 118:9, "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes."**

➔ In our passage this morning we want to focus in on **1 Samuel 10:19**.

- "And ye have this day rejected your God, who himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, **but set** a king over us. Now therefore present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes, and by your thousands."
- **"but set"**
 - God wanted to continue to rule over and guide Israel.
 - **"But"** Israel wanted a king.
 - The **"but"** shows intervention.
 - In this case man intervening for man against God.
 - Man trying to make the difference.
 - This can only spell disaster.

- ➔ This morning, I am going to preach a message entitled, "**God Makes The difference.**"
- ➔ Together, we will examine some places in the word of God, where God intervening makes the difference.
- ➔ We will see God's intervention is often expressed in the scriptures by the phrase "**But God**".
- ➔ We will discover that God's intervention unlike man's intervention benefits - **The Saint, The Son, & The Sinner.**

I. How God Makes A Difference In The Saint's Or Saved's Life

➔ Acts 7:9-16 – Read

- ❑ **Acts 6:8**, tells us about Stephen that he was, "**full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.**"
- ❑ In Acts 7, Stephen is giving his defense the council that the scribes and elders had brought him before.
- ❑ Stephen recounts Israel's history and in recounting Israel's history, Stephen tells about Joseph's experience in Egypt.
- ❑ We want to notice in particular **v. 9** of **Acts 7**.
 - "And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: **but God** was with him."
- ❑ God made the difference in Joseph's life.
 - Notice with **v. 10**

- “And delivered him out of **all** his afflictions, and gave him favour and wisdom in the sight of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and he made him governor over Egypt.”

➔ Despite all that Joseph went through –

- Being cast into a pit by his brothers.
- Being sold into slavery into Egypt by his brothers.
- Being tempted day by day by Potiphar’s wife to lie with her.
- Being falsely accused by her when he reused her advances and as a result cast into prison.
- We told – “**but God** was with him”

➔ God made the difference in Joseph’s life.

- God intervene in Joseph’s life.
- Despite all the circumstances Joseph found himself in and no fault of his own, God made the difference in Joseph’s life.
- God got Joseph through each circumstance he faced.

➔ The Lesson for the Christian is that the Lord makes the difference in your life.

- The unsaved do not have God in the formula.
- The Christian has the supernatural element in his formula, the Lord.
- We need to remember no matter what circumstance we face,
“But God was with him.”
- And God will be with you also.

→ **Isaiah 43:2 – reminds us –**

II. God Made The Difference In The Son's Life

→ **Please turn to Acts 13**

- The Apostle Paul is at Antioch preaching in the synagogue at Antioch.
 - **See vs. 14-16.**
- Paul rehearses the history of Israel.
 - **See vs. 17-22**
- Next Paul talks about Jesus, the Promised Messiah from the seed of King David.
 - **See vs. 23-25**
- Let us continue reading **vs. 26-30.**
- **Notice what the Bible says in v. 30**
 - **“But God raised him from the dead:”**
 - God the Father made the difference in God the Son's Life.
- Despite Jesus being falsely accused.
- Despite Jesus being rejected by the Nation of Israel.
- Despite all the suffering and shame that Jesus went through.
- Despite there being no cause for Jesus to be put to death.
- Despite Jesus being totally forsaken by the Father.
 - So, Jesus could be made sin for us who knew no sin.
 - And God's wrath could be poured out on sin as Jesus hung from that cruel cross.

- Despite all of these things – God, the Father made the difference in the Son’s life.
 - No matter what man tried to do to Jesus
 - We are told – “**But God** raise him from the dead.”
 - Right, now He is seated at the right hand of the Father where he ever liveth to make intercession for us until time to come and get us!
- ➔ So, far we have seen God make a difference in the Saint’s Life and the Son’s Life.
- Now, lastly we want to see how God makes the difference in the **Sinner’s Life.**

III. God Makes The Difference In The Sinner's Life

➔ Please Turn to Romans 5

- **Read Romans 5:6-11**
- **Read - v. 6** - Tells us the sinner could not save himself he was "**without strength**"
- **v.6 - " in due time"** - According to God's plan and his timetable, Christ died for the sinner, "**the ungodly**", for you and I.
- **Read - v. 7** - Tells us under what conditions one man may die for another.
 - This verse says if it is difficult to find a man to die for another man who is righteous and good.

- Then certainly you could not find a man to give his life for the sinner, for the ungodly.
- **Read - v. 8** - Despite the desperate situation.
 - The sinner condemned to hell for his sins and no way way to save himself.
- God intervenes, makes the difference in the sinner's life.
- **Read - v. 8 - "But God"**
 - "**But God**" - Again shows God making the difference, intervening.
- The results of God intervening for the sinner, making the difference, despite the sinner being ungodly are found in **verses 9-11.**
- **Read - v. 9** - The sinner is justified by the blood of Christ.
 - The sinner is made just in the sight of a holy, righteous God.
 - The sinner is saved from God's wrath (lake of fire for eternity) through the shed blood of Jesus Christ.
- **Read - v. 10** - The sinner is no longer an enemy of God.
 - The sinner has been reconciled to God, made peace with God by the death of Christ.
 - The sinner now possess is saved eternally.
- **Read - v. 11** - The sinner can now experience the joy of the Lord.

- A joy that is unspeakable and full of glory.
- All because God intervened, makes the difference in the sinner's life.
- If you want to have God "**But in**" and save you then the Bible says that you must call upon His name.
 - **"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Rom. 10:13**
 - If you are not saved and want God to make a difference in your life, then accept God's intervention.
 - Accept Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour believing, **"that Christ died for your sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:" 1 Cor. 15:3-4.**

Conclusion:

➔ We have seen this morning how God makes the difference in -

- The Life of the Saint
- The Life of His Son
- The Life of the Sinner