

“The Odds Are Overwhelming . . . Or, Are They?”

1 Samuel 8 - 15

BBC, November 27, 2005 AM Pastor Todd

Intro:

I.) Looking for a **Deliverer** for all the **Wrong** Reasons (1 Sam. 8:4-21)

A. Backstory:

Mirror Point1: Are we more concerned with discovering & being the church God wants us to be and that pleases Him, OR being the church that conforms to and impresses others?

B. Motives:

1. The corruption of ungodly spiritual leaders (vv. 3-5b)
2. To be like everyone else (v. 5c)
3. To be a fleshly conqueror (v. 20)

C. The Problem

II.) **Anointing** Precedes Authority (1 Sam. 9:15 - 10:19)

Two Things Are Necessary For Authority Exercised for God

1. Intimately know the Word of God.
2. Anointed & empowered by the LORD – not man.

Mirror Point2: When we lead, select leaders and pastors, are we careful to put devotion to God's Word and His anointing above worldly credentials, accomplishments or name recognition?

III.) Coronation Comes With **Conditions** (12:6-25)

- A. With Obedience and Reliance on the LORD comes Blessing.
- B. With Disobedience and reliance on the leader himself, or others, comes Destruction.

Mirror Point3: What will be our commitment?

IV.) Fear + Impatience + Pride = **Self-Sufficiency = Corruption** (13:5-14)

A. Power Play

Mirror Point4: At what times have you responded this way to a situation?

B. Price

1. Blessing removed, Kingdom will not survive.
2. LORD will transfer to another after His own heart.

V.) **Obedient Faith** Overcomes Overwhelming Odds (14:1-14)

This Requires Us To:

1. Refuse to be Overwhelmed by **Numbers**.
2. Refuse to be Overwhelmed by **Needs**.
3. Refuse to be Overwhelmed by the **Darkness**.
4. Return to *Let God's Power* Overwhelm Us.
5. **Relinquish** to God: His Strategy and His Way.

Mirror Point5: Are You Ready To Be An Overcomer For Jesus?!

Conclusion: