**1 Samuel 7-9 – Learning our lessons**

**When we get right with God, it’s important that we learn our lessons.**

 **1.** **We often suffer unnecessarily because of our failure to understand God,**

 **believe God, or simply due to an unwillingness to get right with Him – 7-2**

 **2. Life should not be interpreted based on what “we think”, but on God’s Word –**

 **7:3-4**

**3. Israel learned from their mistakes in battle before (ch. 5) – 7:1-10**

* **Our battles often have more to do with spiritual issues than anything else (Eph. 6:10f.)**
* **Are we learning from our mistakes?**

 **4. The result of looking to Samuel, God’s Judge, was complete victory,**

 **supernatural deliverance, and a regaining of previous losses. The added**

 **bonus was peace with the Amorites – 7:5-14**

**The issue wasn’t the system of the Judges or the location of the Ark. When we do things God’s way, faith brings genuine victories!**

 **5. Genuine repentance is the vehicle for removing God’s wrath – 7:5-14**

**Again, when we do things God’s way, faith brings genuine victories!**

 **6. The reality of Israel’s history was that God would provide human leaders who**

 **act in His name without the baggage a king would bring – 7:15-8:6**

**A major reason for the record of Samuel’s birth was to show this was unnecessary.**

 **7. Israel faced a genuine problem (8:1-3) with a poor solution.**

**The problem provoked them, but the world around them provided the answer rather than God.**

**Why not consult Samuel and the Lord?**

**8. When we neglect going to God for our answers, it can happen that**

 **“trying to fix it” may end up being more of a problem than the initial problem –**

 **8:7-22**

**(Abraham with Hagar)**

 **9. There was no need for a King like the nations around them. While God**

 **graciously made provision for when they would ask (Dt. 17:14-15), it caused all**

 **kinds of trouble (vv. 10-18) – 8:7-22**

**The text is clear. It was the people’s demand, not God’s will (8:6-9, 19). They simply were not looking at things from a spiritual point of view**

**10. When we do what is right in our eyes, in spite of God’s warnings, we must**

 **realize the consequences that often come – 12:17-18 (and the remainder of the**

 **book); Pr. 14:12**