

Fear the LORD and Serve Him Faithfully

1 Samuel 12

A. Context: The LORD delivers His people...again

1. When Samuel grew old, his sons did not rule with his _____ and Israel used that as an excuse to stubbornly demand a king. (1 Samuel 8)
2. After the LORD sovereignly _____ Saul as king, Nahash the Ammonite attempted to disgrace Israel through Jabesh Gilead. Thankfully, the LORD _____ His people through the joint leadership of Samuel and Saul. (1 Samuel 9-11)

B. The LORD is a faithful _____ of those who are faithful to Him. v.1-5

1. Samuel, a faithful and true leader, could _____ before Israel, Saul, and the LORD with a clear conscience; he had ruled blamelessly and with true devotion to the LORD.
2. The Bible is filled with the accounts of people who have lived blameless lives before God and man by the power of the Spirit: Moses (Numbers 16), Daniel (Daniel 6), and Paul (2 Corinthians 10-12) are just three of many. We may live in a different _____ and _____, but we have the same responsibility and the same faithful God. (Philippians 2:12-15)

C. The LORD is _____ in mercy and in judgment. v.6-15

1. Samuel _____ the nation of Israel of the LORD's righteous acts towards them, acts of _____ when they foolishly followed their sinful desires and forsook Him, and acts of _____ when they cried out in their punishment.
2. We have been _____ great mercy in the judgment poured out on Christ. (Matthew 27:45-46, Romans 8:32)
3. Just as the Israelites of long ago were charged to walk in obedience, so we too, being equipped with His grace, have been charged with being _____ to our Master. (Hebrews 4:11-16, 1 John 5:2-5)

D. The LORD is God! We must worship Him _____. v.16-25

1. In an impressive and awesome display of _____, the LORD answers Samuel's call with an out-of-season thunderstorm. Israel is _____ of their sin and later commanded to fear and obey the only true God with all of their heart.
2. It is important to remind _____ of the great things that the Lord has done and is doing; this _____ perspective will enable us to avoid idolatry and walk in obedience to Him (John 14:15, Ephesians 5, 1 Timothy 6:11-16, 1 John 5:19-21)

#429 All That Thrills My Soul Is Jesus

- A. 1-integrity, 2-appointed, rescued, B.-defender, 1-stand, 2-time, culture, C.-righteous, 1-reminds, judgment, mercy, 2-shown, 3-obedient, D.-alone, 1-authority, convicted, 2-ourselves, God-focused