



1

Saul's leadership in the deliverance of the people of Jabesh-gilead secured his acceptance as king.

- The last reference to Jabesh-gilead is in the book of Judges. It was the town that was attacked by Israelites because no one came from there to help with the punitive campaign against the tribe of Benjamin. The Israelites attacked the city and captured 400 virgins to give the men of the tribe of Benjamin who had not been killed in the campaign.
- Jabesh-gilead was in the tribe of Manasseh on the east side of the Jordan River. This is adjacent to the land of the Ammonites.

2

Saul's leadership in the deliverance of the people of Jabesh-gilead secured his acceptance as king.

- No reason is given for the aggression against the city. Possibly trying to reclaim territory lost to Og the king of Bashan and then possessed by Israel at his defeat. (see Numbers 21)
- After a siege of unknown duration the people of Jabesh-gilead offered to subject themselves to Nahash.
- Nahash came back with harsh terms in order to humiliate both the city and the Israelites as a whole.
- Nahash's agreement to give seven days for an appeal for help from Israel reveals both his arrogance and observation that Israel was in such disarray that they posed no threat.

3

Saul's leadership in the deliverance of the people of Jabesh-gilead secured his acceptance as king.

- Remember what Samuel said to Saul when he anointed him to be king: *"Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head and kissed him and said, "Has not the LORD anointed you to be prince over his people Israel? **And you shall reign over the people of the LORD and you will save them from the hand of their surrounding enemies.** And this shall be the sign to you that the Lord has anointed you to be prince over his heritage."* (1 Samuel 10:1, ESV)
- Nahash did not know that Israel now had someone who had been appointed to overcome the enemies of God's people.
- When Saul heard of the situation "the Spirit of God rushed upon him".

4

Saul's leadership in the deliverance of the people of Jabesh-gilead secured his acceptance as king.

- Saul summoned the Israelites by cutting up a yoke of oxen and sending to the tribes with the message that this would be done to those who would not come and help.
- Note we already begin to see the division into the tribes of Israel and the tribe of Judah. David will unite the kingdom but it will fall back into a sharp divide after the death of Solomon. 330,000 people responded.

5

Saul's leadership in the deliverance of the people of Jabesh-gilead secured his acceptance as king.

- Having mustered the fighting forced Saul to send word to the people of Jabesh-gilead that they would be saved from the Nahash and the Ammonites.
- The people of Jabesh-gilead gave Nahash a false sense of security by indicating that they would surrender on the day the Israelite force would strike.
- Saul led the people to attack early in the morning and the rout of the Ammonites continued to afternoon.

6

Saul's leadership in the deliverance of the people of Jabesh-gilead secured his acceptance as king.

- After the victory the people wanted to execute those who had initially opposed Saul as king but he would not allow it.
- The result of the battle was not only the deliverance of the people of Jabesh-gilead but now the uncontested acceptance of Saul as king.

7

Samuel relinquishes his place as judge over Israel and ushers in the monarchy.

- The occasion is that the king has been chosen, publicly identified, and established and Samuel is old.
- Samuel challenges Israel to identify any abuse of his position and power as a judge and he will make amends.
- They reply that there has been no abuse of his position or power.
- Samuel calls on God and the king to witness their reply.

8

Samuel relinquishes his place as judge over Israel and ushers in the monarchy.

- Samuel reminded the people of God's righteous deeds toward His people Israel.
 - The Egyptian oppression and God's deliverance
 - God brought them into the Promised Land but the people forgot God and turned to idolatry.
 - The LORD raised up judges to deliver them from the oppression they brought on themselves through their disobedience.

9

Samuel relinquishes his place as judge over Israel and ushers in the monarchy.

- Samuel reminded the people that they had reacted to the most recent threat by asking for a king when Yahweh their God was their King.
 - Now God has set a human king over them.
 - It will go well with them if both the people and the king obey Yahweh their God.
 - It will not go well with them if the people and/or the king disobey God.

10

Samuel relinquishes his place as judge over Israel and ushers in the monarchy.

- Samuel reminded the people that they had reacted to the most recent threat by asking for a king when Yahweh their God was their King.
 - Samuel prayed to God for a thunderstorm to come upon the fields of wheat ready to be harvested.
 - The people responded in fear of the LORD and his servant Samuel.



11

Samuel relinquishes his place as judge over Israel and ushers in the monarchy.

- Samuel reminded the people that they had reacted to the most recent threat by asking for a king when Yahweh their God was their King.
 - The people responded to this judgement by asking Samuel to pray for them that they would not be consumed in this judgment.
 - Samuel encouraged the people to begin to act in obedience to God.
 - He warned them against idolatry.

12

Samuel relinquishes his place as judge over Israel and ushers in the monarchy.

- Samuel reminded the people that they had reacted to the most recent threat by asking for a king when Yahweh their God was their King.
- The people responded to this judgement by asking Samuel to pray for them that they would not be consumed in this judgment.
 - He reminds them of God’s covenant relationship with His people.
 - Samuel assures them of his prayers for them.
 - Samuel commitments to continue to instruct them in how to walk in obedience.

13

Samuel relinquishes his place as judge over Israel and ushers in the monarchy.

- Samuel reminded the people that they had reacted to the most recent threat by asking for a king when Yahweh their God was their King.
- Samuel ended with these brief and powerful admonitions:
 - Fear the LORD.
 - Serve Him faithfully with all your heart.
 - Remember the great things God has done for you.
- He follows with another warning that God’s judgment will come upon them if they act wickedly.

14