

# How To Get The Glory Back



1 Samuel 7:1-12

# 1 Samuel 7:1-3

- 1 Then the men of Kirjath Jearim came and took the ark of the Lord, and brought it into the house of Abinadab on the hill, and consecrated Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the Lord.
- 2 So it was that the ark remained in Kirjath Jearim a long time; it was there twenty years. And all the house of Israel lamented after the Lord.
- 3 Then Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, "If you return to the Lord with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths from among you, and prepare your hearts for the Lord, and serve Him only; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines."

# Historical Background

- The Ark of the Covenant was taken (stolen)
- It had been gone for 20 years
- Now the Ark was back.
- But the glory of God had not returned.
- We wander away from God
- We return, but it is not the same.
- There are some requirements to get the glory back

# Real Return (Desire)

- If you return to the Lord with all your hearts (v. 3)
- More than words are needed
- This promise is conditional
- Many claim to want revival – but not from their heart

# Real Repentance

- then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths from among you (v. 3)
- **Baal** – all foreign gods, agriculture, harvest, prosperity, occupation, success, wealth
- **Ashtoreth** – Female – fertility, sexual pleasure
- Sound familiar? - Jobs, money, material gain, sexual pleasure, success, prosperity
- Repentance is more than saying “Sorry”
- **PUT AWAY!**

# Real Commitment

- prepare your hearts for the Lord (v. 3)
- NIV (commit yourselves to the Lord)
- We live in a non-committal society
  - Marriage, love, home, family
  - Local congregation
  - Job, loyalty, extra effort
  - Friends, relationships
- **“If it does not work out, move on to greener pastures.”**

# Real Service (work)

- And serve Him only (v. 3)
- Get involved – find a place to work.
- Listen to announcements, read the bulletin
- There is much to do – little time to do it
- Not just include God in your activity
- **SERVE HIM ONLY!**

# Real Deliverance

- And he will deliver you (v. 3)
- You must look honestly inside yourself
- Let go – Allow God to set you free



# Their Response

- **The put away idols (4)**  
So the children of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtoreths, and served the Lord only.

# Their Response

- **They confessed their sin (6)**
- So they gathered together at Mizpah, drew water, and poured it out before the Lord. And they fasted that day, and said there, "We have sinned against the Lord." And Samuel judged the children of Israel at Mizpah.

# Their Response

- **The Lord delivered them (10)**
- Now as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel. But the Lord thundered with a loud thunder upon the Philistines that day, and so confused them that they were overcome before Israel.

# Their Response

- **Ebenezer – The Lord helped them (12)**

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far the Lord has helped us."

# How to get the glory back

- IT TAKES - - -
- REAL RETURNING
- REAL REPENTANCE
- REAL COMMITMENT
  - REAL SERVICE
- REAL DELIVERANCE