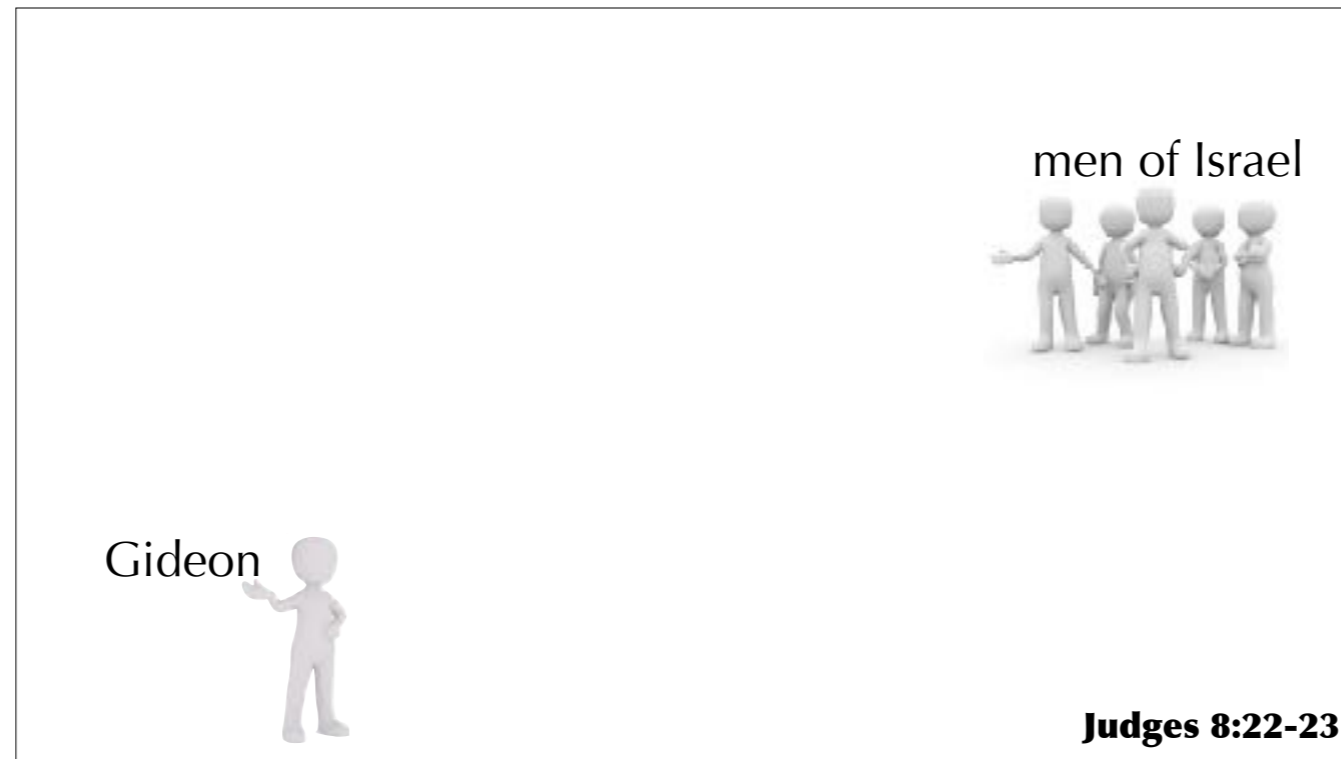




- Looking for Leaders in all the Wrong Places
- Judges 8



- Judges 8:22-23 (ESV) 22 Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, “Rule over us, you and your son and your grandson also, for you have saved us from the hand of Midian.” 23 Gideon said to them, “I will not rule over you, and my son will not rule over you; the Lord will rule over you.”

**“Rule over us,
you and your son and your
grandson also, for you have saved
us from the hand of
Midian.”**

men of Israel



Gideon

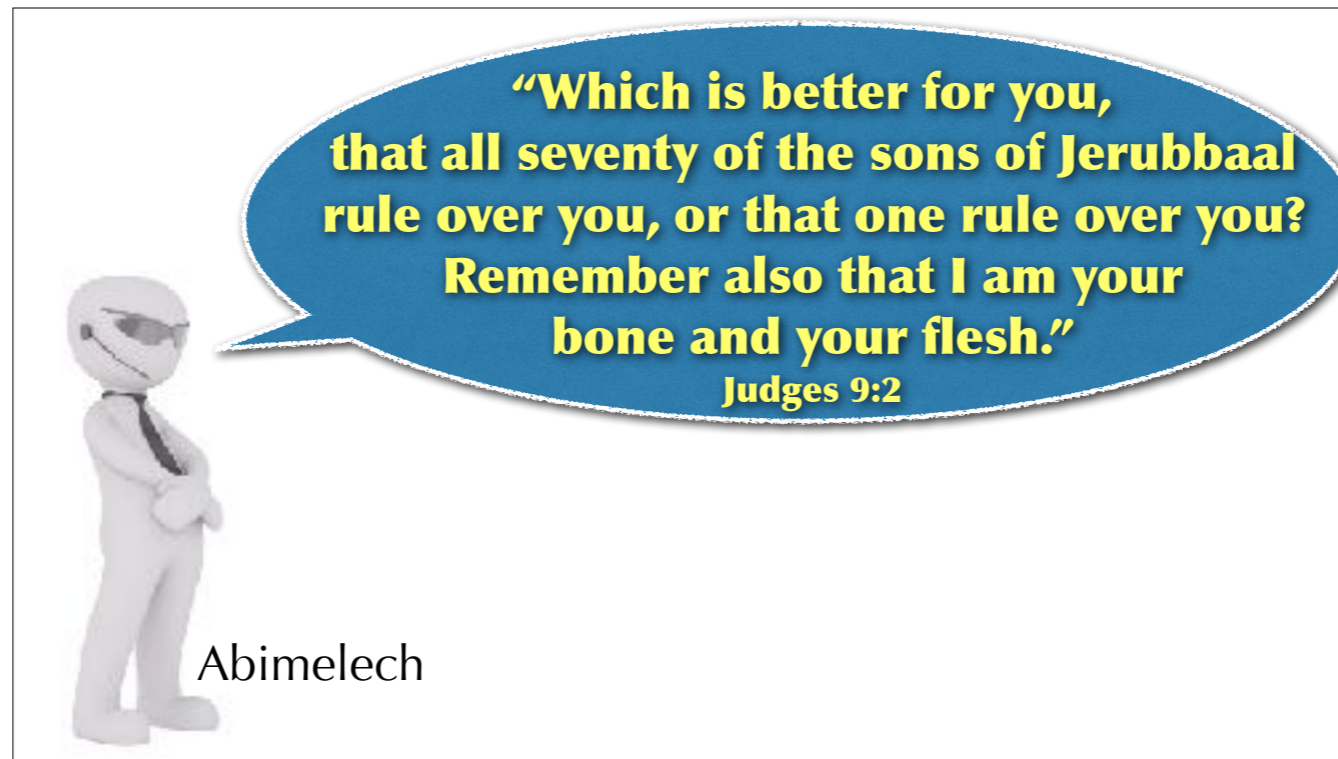


Judges 8:22-23

- Judges 8:22-23 (ESV) 22 Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, “Rule over us, you and your son and your grandson also, for you have saved us from the hand of Midian.” 23 Gideon said to them, “I will not rule over you, and my son will not rule over you; the Lord will rule over you.”



- Judges 8:22-23 (ESV) 22 Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, “Rule over us, you and your son and your grandson also, for you have saved us from the hand of Midian.” 23 Gideon said to them, “I will not rule over you, and my son will not rule over you; the Lord will rule over you.”



- Judges 9:1-2 (ESV) 1 Now Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem to his mother's relatives and said to them and to the whole clan of his mother's family, 2 “Say in the ears of all the leaders of Shechem, ‘Which is better for you, that all seventy of the sons of Jerubbaal rule over you, or that one rule over you?’ Remember also that I am your bone and your flesh.”

Judges 9:7-15

- Parable by Jotham, Gideon's only surviving son aside from Abimelech, to men of Shechem
- Judges 9: 7-15
- Judges 9:7: When it was told to Jotham, he went and stood on top of Mount Gerizim and cried aloud and said to them, "Listen to me, you leaders of Shechem, that God may listen to you.



Trees
“Reign over us”



~~**Olive tree**~~

Judges 9:7-15

- Judges 9:8-9 (ESV) 8 The trees once went out to anoint a king over them, and they said to the olive tree, 'Reign over us.' 9 But the olive tree said to them, 'Shall I leave my abundance, by which gods and men are honored, and go hold sway over the trees?'
- (15: trees = cedars of Lebanon: Great, big, beautiful, useful trees).

Trees
"Reign over us"



~~Olive tree~~
~~Fig tree~~



Judges 9:7-15

- Judges 9:10-11 (ESV) 10 And the trees said to the fig tree, 'You come and reign over us.' 11 But the fig tree said to them, 'Shall I leave my sweetness and my good fruit and go hold sway over the trees?'

Trees
"Reign over us"



~~Olive tree~~
~~Fig tree~~
~~Vine~~



Judges 9:7-15

- Judges 9:12-13 (ESV) 12 And the trees said to the vine, 'You come and reign over us.' 13 But the vine said to them, 'Shall I leave my wine that cheers God and men and go hold sway over the trees?'

Trees
"Reign over us"



~~Olive tree~~
~~Fig tree~~
~~Vine~~
Bramble



Judges 9:7-15

- Judges 9:14-15 (ESV) 14 Then all the trees said to the bramble, 'You come and reign over us.' 15 And the bramble said to the trees, 'If in good faith you are anointing me king over you, then come and **take refuge in my shade**, but if not, let fire come out of the bramble and **devour** the cedars of Lebanon.'

Trees
"Reign over us"



~~Olive tree~~
~~Fig tree~~
~~Vine~~
Bramble



Judges 9:7-15

- Judges 9:16-21 (ESV) 16 “Now therefore, if you acted in good faith and integrity when you made Abimelech king, and if you have dealt well with Jerubbaal and his house and have done to him as his deeds deserved— 17 for my father fought for you and risked his life and delivered you from the hand of Midian, 18 and you have risen up against my father's house this day and have killed his sons, seventy men on one stone, and have made Abimelech, the son of his female servant, king over the leaders of Shechem, because he is your relative— 19 if you then have acted in good faith and integrity with Jerubbaal and with his house this day, then rejoice in Abimelech, and let him also rejoice in you. 20 But if not, let fire come out from Abimelech and devour the leaders of Shechem and Beth-millo; and let fire come out from the leaders of Shechem and from Beth-millo and devour Abimelech.” 21 And Jotham ran away and fled and went to Beer and lived there, because of Abimelech his brother.

Trees
"Reign over us"



~~Olive tree~~
~~Fig tree~~
~~Vine~~
Bramble



Judges 9:7-15

- 3 bad years (22) of Abimelech's rule over Israel
- Israel got what they asked for...

**In those days there was no king in Israel.
Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.**

**Judges 17:6
Judges 21:25**

- Judges 17:5-6 (ESV) 5 And the man Micah had a shrine, and he made an ephod and household gods, and ordained one of his sons, who became his priest. 6 In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.
- Judges 21:25 (ESV) In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

**“Behold, you are old and
your sons do not walk in your ways.
Now appoint for us a king
to judge us like all the nations.”**

1 Samuel 8:5

- 1 Samuel 8:4-6 (ESV) 4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah 5 and said to him, “Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.” 6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” And Samuel prayed to the Lord.

**“Behold, you are old and
your sons do not walk in your ways.
Now appoint for us a king
to judge us like all the nations.”**

1 Samuel 8:5

And Samuel prayed to Jehovah

1 Samuel 8:6

- 1 Samuel 8:4-6 (ESV) 4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah 5 and said to him, “Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.” 6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” And Samuel **prayed** to the Lord.

Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them.

1 Samuel 8:7

- 1 Samuel 8:7 (ESV) 7 And the Lord said to Samuel, “Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them.
- When we seek leadership that is not God given, we are rejecting God himself!

Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them.

1 Samuel 8:7

- Consequences: 1 Samuel 8:10-18
 - Take Sons: chariots, horsemen, run before chariots, commanders, plowers and reapers, make war equipment
 - Take daughters: perfumers, cooks, bakers
 - Best of fields, vineyards, olives: give to servants
 - Tenth of grain, vineyards: give to officers, servants

Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them.

1 Samuel 8:7

- Take male & female servants
- Best of young men & donkeys: put to work
- Tenth of flock
- You will be his slaves

And he had a son whose name was Saul, a handsome young man. There was not a man among the people of Israel more handsome than he. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people.

1 Samuel 9:2

- 1 Samuel 9:2 (ESV) 2 And he had a son whose name was Saul, a handsome young man. There was not a man among the people of Israel more handsome than he. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people.
-

And he had a son whose name was Saul, a handsome young man. There was not a man among the people of Israel more handsome than he. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people.

1 Samuel 9:2

**Here is the man of whom I spoke to you!
He it is who shall restrain my people.**

1 Samuel 9:17

- 1 Samuel 9:17 (ESV) 17 When Samuel saw Saul, the Lord told him, “Here is the man of whom I spoke to you! He it is who shall restrain my people.”

**Jehovah has sought out a
man after his own heart**

1 Samuel 13:14

- 1 Samuel 13:13-14: And Samuel said to Saul, “You have done foolishly. You have not kept the command of Jehovah your God, with which he commanded you. For then Jehovah would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. But now your kingdom shall not continue. **Jehovah has sought out a man after his own heart**, and Jehovah has commanded him to be prince over his people, because **you have not kept what Jehovah commanded you.**”

**Jehovah has sought out a
man after his own heart**

1 Samuel 13:14

Who is better than you

1 Samuel 15:28

- 1 Samuel 15:28: And Samuel said to him, “Jehovah has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, **who is better than you.**
-

**And you shall anoint for me
him whom I declare to you.**
1 Samuel 16:3

- 1 Samuel 16:3: And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me him **whom I declare to you.**”
- The man who God chooses is the man whom we should choose!

**And you shall anoint for me
him whom I declare to you.**

1 Samuel 16:3

Jehovah looks on the heart

1 Samuel 16:7

- 1 Samuel 16:7: But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For Jehovah sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but **Jehovah looks on the heart.**”



- Biggest question / most frequent after last lesson
 - "set In order the things that are lacking"
- -- But WHO?
 - It's the question we've been asking for many years.
- Last lesson ...
 - "There's the hole!" (We all see the problem)
 - How do we fill the hole? (Are there any real solutions?)

the Holy Spirit has made you overseers

Acts 20:28

- Acts 20:28: Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.

the Holy Spirit has made you overseers

Acts 20:28



HOW?

- How?
 - Does the Holy Spirit act directly... pointing out specific men?
 - I doubt this, not how he works in at this time.

the Holy Spirit has made you overseers

Acts 20:28



HOW?

- Does the Holy Spirit just give us the Word? Act only through Word?
 - The two common extremes...
- What examples do we see in Scripture?

the Holy Spirit has made you overseers

Acts 20:28



HOW?

**Therefore, brothers,
pick out from
among you...**

Acts 6:3

- Acts 6:2-6: And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, **pick out from among you** seven **men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom**, whom **we will appoint** to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

the Holy Spirit has made you overseers

Acts 20:28



HOW?

**Therefore, brothers,
pick out from
among you...**

Acts 6:3

- And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and **they chose** Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they **set before the apostles**, and they **prayed** and **laid their hands on them**.

the Holy Spirit has made you overseers

Acts 20:28



HOW?

**Therefore, brothers,
pick out from
among you...**

Acts 6:3

- Group decision (whole group!)
 - Even with the Apostles present, Holy Spirit did not point to specific men.
- Character specified
- Set before apostles
- Prayed
- Laid hands

the Holy Spirit has made you overseers

Acts 20:28



HOW?

**you might put what
remained into order, and
appoint elders in every
town as I directed you**

Titus 1:5

- Titus 1:5: This is why I left you in Crete,
 - so that you might put what remained into order,
 - and appoint elders in every town
 - as I directed you—

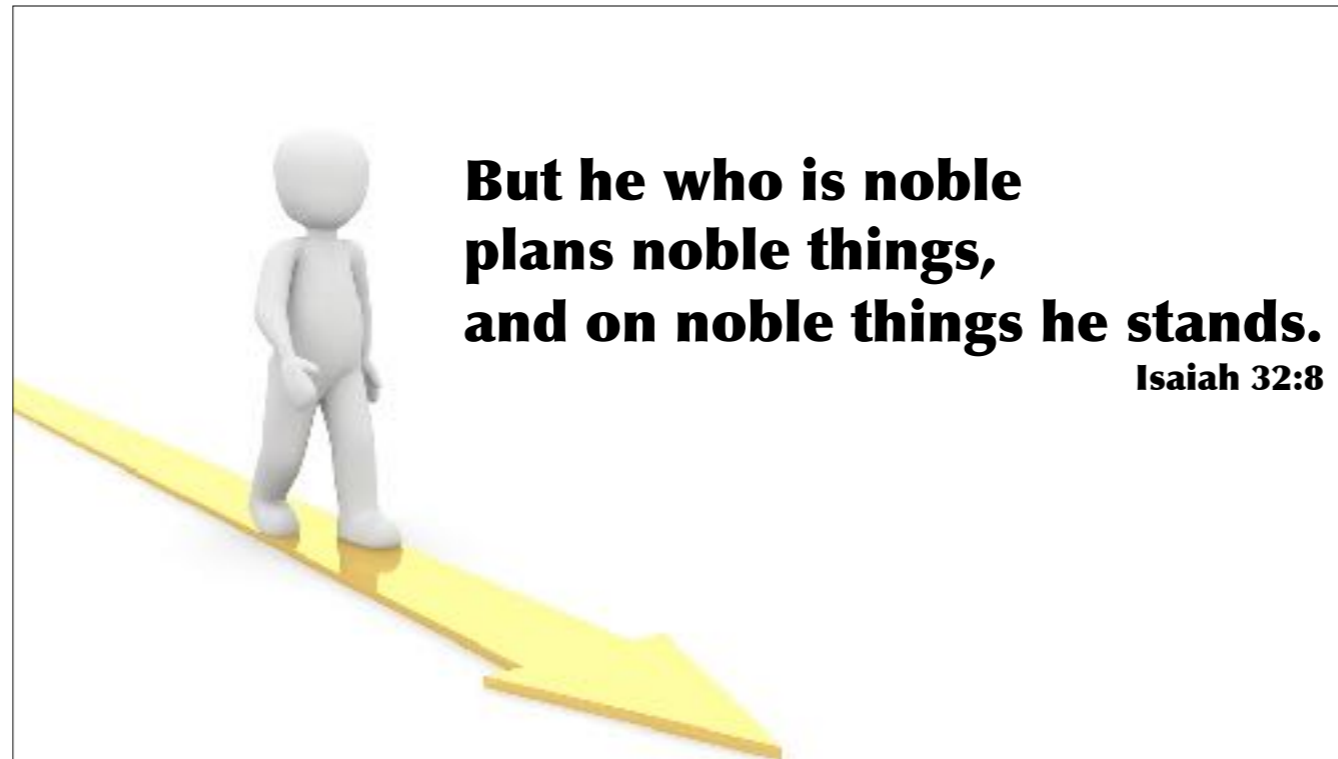
the Holy Spirit has made you overseers
Acts 20:28



HOW?

you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you
Titus 1:5

- Titus (as an apostolic representative, or as an evangelist?)
 - Apostolic Rep
 - "I (Paul) left you"
 - "I (Paul) directed you"
 - Where is evangelist specifically given this type authority?
- Instruction with regard to proven character of man



- Isaiah 32:8: But he who is noble plans noble things, and on noble things he stands.
- Darrel Yontz: April 7 - 9
 - Meetings with men: Friday and Saturday
 - Lesson on Saturday afternoon, 5 pm
 - Rhenea with ladies?
 - Lessons for congregation: Saturday night, Sunday (Class, AM, PM)
- Help us and Challenge us

Prayer



- Like Samuel
 - Having the wrong leaders is worse than no leaders.
- Pray:
 - Church to be what God expects us
 - Love for God and One another
 - Not to fall into Satan's traps
 - Like the World
 - Appearance
 - Settling

Prayer



- Wisdom to appoint men who God desires
 - Understand God's will
- Men with God's own heart
- Humility to accept God's choice
- Patience without complacency
- Obedience without compromise
- Joy in trusting God, doing His will, accept our responsibility

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



123rf.com: 9673438

Shepherds

#09

Compiled and Presented by:

Dave Stewart

26 February 2017

www.1corinthians1614.com

Looking For Leaders in All the Wrong Places

1 Samuel 8:6

Synopsis: The history of Israel demonstrates the folly of choosing leaders that differ from Jehovah's wisdom and word teach us. Samuel points us in the right direction... we must pray.

"Let all that you do be done with love."