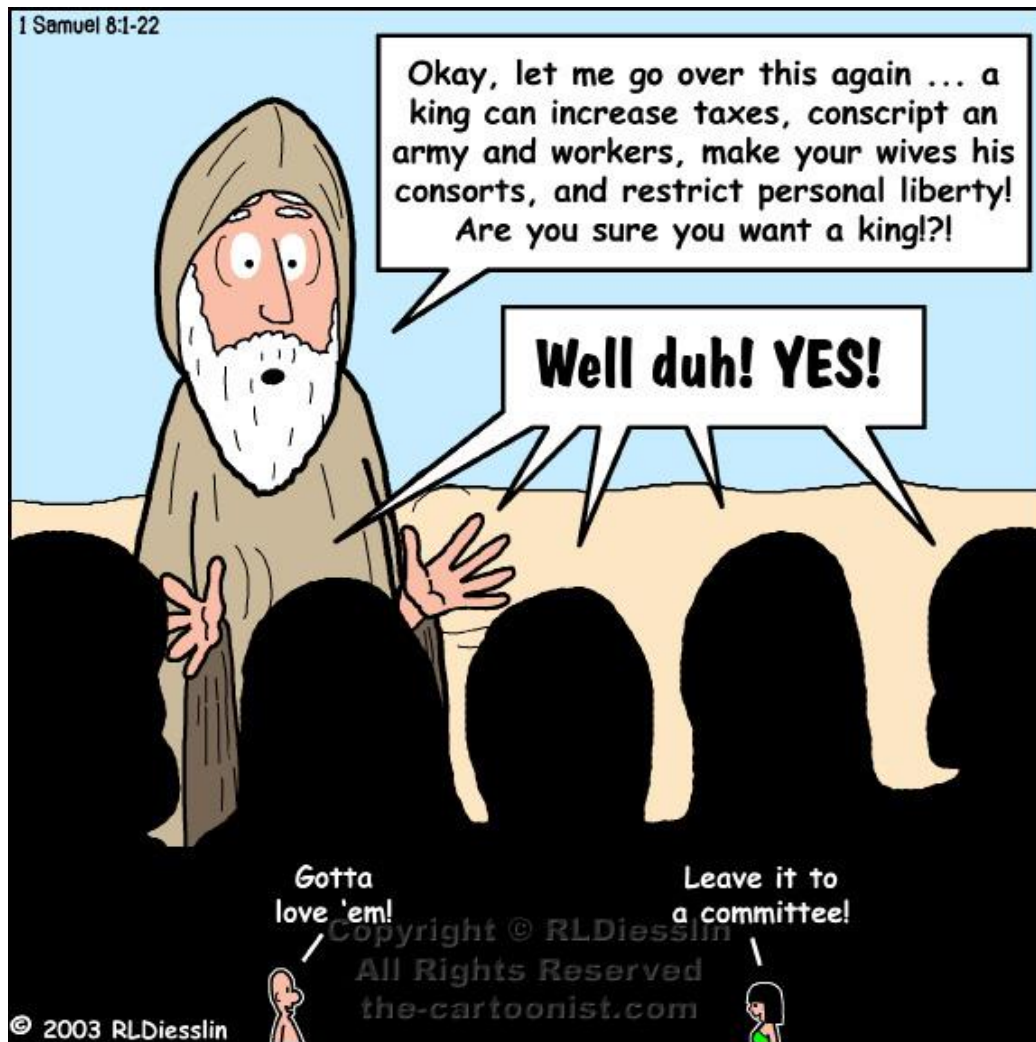


1st Samuel 8

Israel's Folly

1 When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel. 2 The name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. 3 Yet his sons did not follow in his ways, but turned aside after gain; they took bribes and perverted justice. 4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, 5 and said to him, "You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations." 6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." Samuel prayed to the LORD, 7 and the LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to 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. 8 Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. 9 Now then, listen to their voice; only--you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them." 10 So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king. 11 He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; 12 and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. 13 He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. 14 He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. 15 He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. 16 He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. 17 He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. 18 And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the LORD will not answer you in that day." 19 But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, "No! but we are determined to have a king over us, 20 so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles." 21 When Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the LORD. 22 The LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to their voice and set a king over them." Samuel then said to the people of Israel, "Each of you return home."

What Could Possibly Go Wrong?



Musings

The people turn to Samuel for a king. A judge had many roles - prophet, military leader, judge (law giver and decider) and as such was sort of a mini-king already. So the people may be thinking a king is a natural extension of a judge; Samuel warns them to the contrary. God seems almost ambivalent suggesting that the people will do what they want whether it's God's will or not. This doesn't seem like the God who was leading them through the dessert, but ultimately tells Samuel to give them what they want. The irony is that all the negative things Samuel tells them about a king come true. Under the category of "be careful what you ask for" - they desired to "be like other nations" and they will get their wish.

So... even when our choices contribute to an unjust and unfair world, we have the ability within us to respond in grace and kindness as the images below show.



Almost 5,000 people queued for hours in the rain at a swabbing event in Worcester, to get tested to see if they were a match to help save the life of a five-year-old boy fighting a rare cancer after parents asked for help.

LOWE'S EMPLOYEES COME TO THE RESCUE OF DISABLED VET WITH BROKEN WHEELCHAIR



THEY REPLACED THE BROKEN PARTS AND TOLD ME, "WE'RE GOING TO MAKE THIS CHAIR LIKE NEW." I KEPT THANKING THEM AND ALL THEY COULD SAY WAS, "IT WAS OUR HONOR."

Some months back in Nigeria one naked and dying 2-year abandoned child was seen being fed by a lady charity-worker from Denmark - Anja Ringgren Loven, that pic went viral in social media. She later adopted that child and named him Hope. Today, Hope looks like this:



The bride's father died and donated his heart. The man who received the transplant walked her down the aisle.



In 1969, when black Americans were still prevented from swimming alongside whites, Mr. Rogers decided to invite Officer Clemmons to join him and cool his feet in a pool, breaking a well-known color barrier.



This whole class shaved their
heads on graduation Day



VIA 9GAG.COM

For their classmate who
had cancer





This little girl with Down syndrome got up from her seat during a papal audience and went towards Pope Francis during ministration.

The security guards quickly moved in to take her back to her mother.

The Pope stopped everyone and said to the girl, "come sit next to me." The girl then sat down near him and the Holy Father continued to preach while holding hands with the little girl.



Her Boyfriend Is In The Army And
Couldn't Make It Back In Time For Prom.
So Her Boyfriends 2 Year Old Brother
Took Her In His Place 🥺💕





It was considered the best photo of this century. A lioness and her cub were crossing the savannah but the heat was excessive and the cub was in great difficulty walking. An elephant realized that the cub would die and carried him in his trunk to a pool of water walking beside his mother. And we call them wild animals.

15:17

This picture is from an article called "The Rescuing Hug". The article details the first week of life of a set of twins. Each were in their respective incubators and one was not expected to live. A hospital nurse fought against the hospital rules and placed the babies in one incubator. When they were placed together, the healthier of the two threw an arm over her sister in an endearing embrace. The smaller baby's heart stabilized and temperature rose to normal.



This retired firefighter showed up to the graduation of a girl he rescued 17 years ago from her crib during a house fire.



Have an absolutely terrific week!

**HAVE A
GOOD ONE!**



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www.saubleunitedchurch.ca and click: "Watch"