

THE CREATION CHRONICLES

Created by Ted & Lee

Scene: Samuel

Character: Samuel

Scripture text: 1 Samuel 8

Props: cane, judge's robe

Length: 5 minutes

SAMUEL: *(Walks in, using a cane)* I apologize for being late. I just don't move quite as rapidly as I used to. Some mornings I feel like a turtle treadin' oatmeal. What paper did you say you write for? Ah. That's all right. I have to tell you I'm surprised somebody wants to do a feature on me. Somebody wants to know what the old judge thinks. I'll be happy to answer any questions you have, anything we didn't cover yesterday. Well, where did we leave off? Oh yes, Jericho. Well, you know, those walls did come a' tumblin' down. Oh, yes, the Lord was with Joshua in those days as he was with Gideon and Sampson as well. Sampson was a big fella, what we call husky. Did a lot of architectural damage that boy did.

Well now. I believe it was in my 75th year that the people came to me and said "We want a king." Can you imagine? A king?! I reminded them that as judge, I and the Lord had seen to their needs, both real and imagined, in all the years that had brought us right up to this very place: the promised land. And they said: "We want a king." And so I asked them, "Why? Give me one good reason." And they say: "Uh ... well ... all the other nations have one." They really did say that. You could look it up. Chapter 8 verse 5. Well, these chicken necks had no idea what they were asking for, so I told them. I gave them the straight unvarnished truth of what would happen if they got this wish of a king. I said ... and here I am quoting again from the history ... this is Chapter 8 verse 10 in the book of First Me:

"A king," I told them, "will take your sons and make them run before his chariots. He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. He will take the best of what you have. And in that day, you will cry out because of your king, who you have chosen for yourselves; but the Lord will not answer."

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And they said, “We want a king.” The Lord said, “Go ahead, give them a king ... it would serve those chicken necks right.” The Lord did not actually call them chicken necks, but you can tell he wanted to. Let them know that things were going to change. Tell them: I will no longer fight your battles for you. You’re on your own.

Saul was the first one. Nice enough fella, not particularly bright. Tall, good lookin’. I’m not sure why they wanted him, except that he was tall and good lookin’. Things haven’t changed all that much, have they? His fatal flaw was what we call hubris ... this kingship went right to his head. Being king sucked all the sense right outta the boy. He was making a right royal mess of things, taking bribes, making corrupt decisions, and engaging in all manner of wickedness, which near as I can tell is the modus operandi of kings. In short, he disobeyed God. So the Lord instructed me to appoint David as king ... yes that David. Now David had a lot of promise. He had what they call “charisma”. Had a lot of high hope for David. *(Pause)* High hopes ... “He will take your sons and make them run before his chariots.”

(Contemplates) You are familiar with that passage which says, “If your right eye offends you gouge it out?” Well, if David literally gouged out HIS offensive parts, he would have been singin’ the psalms mezzo-sa’prano, if you catch my meanin’. He was what we call a randy rover. Got him in all sorts of trouble, the culmination of which was Bathsheba. Saw this woman, had to have her. Had her husband killed and he took her. Coveting. I believe they call that. *(Pause)* “He will take the best of what you have.” David had a son with that woman, Bathsheba. Now he’s king. He’s kind of a fancy lad. He’s got a real way with words, this boy ... I believe he got it from his daddy. He’s a smart boy, but he seems to be spendin’ money like it was water. But what do I know? I’m just an old judge.

(SAMUEL walks off)

END

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