



## No King but Jesus By Pastor Jason Triplett

**1 Samuel 8:6-9 (ESV)** *“But the thing displeased Samuel when (the Israelites) said, ‘Give us a king to judge us.’ And Samuel prayed to the Lord. 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. According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you. Now then, obey their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.’”*

This passage in 1 Samuel came at a time when the Lord and His people had a history. What we see here is the Israelites demand upon Samuel, a priest of the Lord, to anoint a king to rule over them and judge them. They asked for a king because they perceived the need for one. They didn't trust in the priests that would succeed Samuel. Samuel then rejects this notion because he knows the history. The Lord God is their ruler. He's always shown Himself to be faithful, loving and just. He's the perfect king. Why would they need any other?

So Samuel prayed and the Lord God said something to him which bears a warning for us today. God said to Samuel that he should obey the wishes of the Israelites. He says this and reassures him that by this request the people have not rejected Samuel as their priest, but the Lord God as their king. We don't see it specifically said here, but this consent by God is the beginning of 1200 years of correction and punishment for God's people.

Samuel is instructed by God to warn them of what human kingship will do to the people. The royal line of Israel, which begins at Samuel's anointing of King Saul and ends at the Ascension of Jesus Christ, was a time of great chastisement for the people of God. It came upon them, because they rejected the one true God as their king.

Our God forces His Lordship on no one. In the life He's given to us, we can choose to love and follow Him or not. Without the people's rejection of God and demand for a king, we would have no need for redemption in Jesus Christ. So it can be accurately said that the people's rejection of God was part of His sovereign plan. Even so, the principle remains today. When our faith lies only in the governance of other people over our lives, we will be led in a cycle of mistrust, rejection and suffering. We will see the poor condition of the people, mistrust the current leadership, and make the same demand as the Israelites for another human ruler to lead us. We will do this without understanding that it is all a rejection of the Lordship of God in our lives.

As Christians, Jesus is our King, we need no other. The Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution attempt to form a union, under God, which recognizes no king but the Lord God of the Bible. This was part of our rejection of England and King George the III. This is why our president is not intended to be an elected king, but a chief executive, part of a system of checks and balances which take into account the certainty of human failings. It's a great system of government; unprecedented in the history of the world.

In this election season, it's very important that we understand the warning of Samuel and the rule of the Lord God in all lives. No human governor or president can replace the Lordship of Jesus Christ. No governor or president will be able to eradicate the suffering, disadvantages and constant need we find in the world. This is the message and ministry of the cross and resurrection. Jesus suffered on the cross for all sinners to pay the debt for our shortfalls. Jesus rose so we can know that abundant life which conquers suffering, sin and death, can only be found in Him. May we, as we venture forward in this time of great uncertainty, hold no king but Jesus and trust in no other sovereignty for our lives. In this way we will heed the warning of Samuel and rightly follow the God of the Bible.

# CHRISTMAS AT RCC

## Schedule

**Sunday 11/29**

**Angel Tree Giving Project Begins**

**Sundays 11/29-12/20**

**Sermon Series "God with Us"**

**Christmas Eve Services**

**5:00pm & 6:30pm**

RCC Christmas 2020 Message Series

## I M M A N U E L GOD WITH US

Begins November 29th

## RCC CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE

"FAMILIES SERVING FAMILIES"

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LOVE & SERVE  
SCHUYLER COUNTY FAMILIES

BEGINS NOVEMBER 29TH

A banner for the Youth Group with an orange background and white text. The text reads: "Youth Group", "SUNDAYS -", "5:00 - 6:00 Middle School meets", "6:00 - 6:30 Combined Food & Fellowship", and "6:30 - 7:30 High School meets".

**Youth Group**

**SUNDAYS -**

**5:00 - 6:00 Middle School meets**

**6:00 - 6:30 Combined Food & Fellowship**

**6:30 - 7:30 High School meets**



*Thank  
You!*

**Tim  
& Shiela  
Ward**

**For your Faithful Service on  
the RCC Financial Team!**

**TO CONTACT PASTOR JASON**

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# Prayers & Praises

Updated: 11/4/2020

Prayers that RCC can fully Regather soon!

God to end Covid!

Blessings on Nic & Alisha Wright as they relocate to Wyoming this week

Jane Wright is in St. John's Hospital

Rick Ashcraft - to receive test results in November

All those quarantined

Ron King (Cheri's father) - health

The families of Jennie Hendricks, Dakota, Archer & Ransom Corrick

The family of Clause Miller

The family of Paul's niece, Jessica Bledsoe

Kailey Orwig - deployed to South Korea

Abigail Norton - deployed to Africa

Ryan Combest - deployed to Afghanistan

Teresa Boyd - Is now on the list for a liver transplant at Barnes Hospital

Lamoine Christian Service Camp

Still need: Nursery Point Person

Donovan Anderson - continued prayers for health

Shannon Hughes - cancer

Associate Pastor search

Church Building Need

Liz Wood - cancer

Charles Slaughter - cancer

Dan Norton - stroke recovery

Tom Dunaway

## CHURCH OFFERINGS:

Oct 4 - \$ 1456.55

Oct 11 - \$ 1534.06

Oct 18 - \$ 3557.30

Oct 25 - \$ 2493.30

Prayer Requests can be submitted and updated through the online Prayer card. Find it at [rushvillechurchofchrist.com](http://rushvillechurchofchrist.com)

