

***Against All Odds: How God's Kingdom Triumphs through Humble Heroes – Week 7***  
***The Predictable Path to Spiritual Compromise***  
***1 Samuel 8:1-22***

**Main Idea:** In this chapter, Samuel confronts Israel's desire to be like the surrounding nations. The lesson – Spiritual compromise is fueled by a combination of comparison and stubbornness, and we pay a heavy price: God gives us our wish, but it does not satisfy.

**1. *ITS COMMONNESS* – Compromise can happen to anyone. *1 Samuel 8:1-3***

- A. For twenty years Samuel enjoys a thriving ministry. 8:1 (See also 7:15-17)
- B. But then we discover something about Samuel's family. 8:2-3
- C. Hard reality – Samuel, the great leader, finds compromise taking place in his own family.

**2. *ITS CAUSE* – Compromise comes when we compare ourselves unfavorably to others around us. *1 Samuel 8:4-5, 20***

- A. The request – The people gather seeking a whole new institution, not judges but a kingdom. 8:4-5a
- B. The motive – "We want to be like all the other nations." 8:5b, 20
- C. What was the problem?

**3. *ITS CONSEQUENCES* – Compromise leads to multiplied pain. *1 Samuel 8:7-19***

- A. It produces pain among those we love. 8:7-8
- B. It produces consequences within us. 8:9-19
- C. Compromise always has consequences.

**4. *ITS CONTINUATION* – Compromise is driven and compounded by stubbornness. *1 Samuel 8:19, 21-22***

- A. The people refused to listen to God's word through Samuel. 8:19-20
- B. Samuel throws himself back on to God. 8:21-22
- C. God allows Israel to get their wish.