

Saying No To God

Text : **I Sam. 10: 19**

INTRODUCTION :

A. I Sam. 10: 19- But you have today rejected your God, who delivers you from all your calamities and your distresses; yet you have said, 'No, but set a king over us!' Now therefore, present yourselves before the Lord by your tribes and by your clans.

B. Recount context :

1. Samuel was old and His sons were corrupt Judges.
2. Main point : God's people were saying no to Him.
3. They were rejecting God and their King.

TRANSITION :

There is a lesson in this for us today.

I. Just who is this to whom Israel was saying no ?

A. They were rejecting the God of Heaven and earth.

1. Not a mere man
2. Not a coup d'état against an earthly king
3. God, the ruler of the universe

B. They were refusing their creator.

1. **Gen. 1: 27-** God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
2. **Acts 17: 24-** The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of Heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands;

C. They were rebelling against their provider.

1. **Psa. 55: 22-** Cast your burden upon the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never allow the righteous to be shaken.
2. **Heb. 1: 1-3a-** God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, ² in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. ³ And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power.

D. They were rejecting the One who loves them.

1. **Psalms 47: 1-4** O clap your hands, all peoples; Shout to God with the voice of joy.
² For the LORD Most High is to be feared, A great King over all the earth.
³ He subdues peoples under us And nations under our feet. ⁴ He chooses our inheritance for us, The glory of Jacob whom He loves.
2. He loves us to the extreme of giving His life to save us.
 - a. **John 3: 16**
 - b. **I John 4: 10** - In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (cf.- **Rom. 5**)
 - c. Unrequited love is sad beyond description.

E. How could anyone reject God for he is :

1. Holy
2. Just
3. Powerful , etc.

II. Why do men say no to God ?**A. Because they seek their own selfish aims.**

1. Man was created to rule, but oversteps his assigned boundaries.
 - a. **Gen. 1: 26-** Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."
 - b. Men still want their own way and often refuse to submit to God.
 " I know what the bible says, but in these modern times, I think ..."

B. Some men go against God because they are ignorant of His will.

1. **Acts 17: 23-** For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' Therefore what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you. (Compare : Vs. 30)
2. **John 4: 22** - You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.
3. Many don't know God or His will for their lives, but ALL are accountable to Him.
II Thes. 1: 7b-8 ... when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, ⁸ dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

* **Ignorance is no excuse ... Not even in man's system.**

C. For many, to say yes to God would demand to much of them.

1. Pride will not allow them to say, “*Lord, I was wrong and you were right.*”
2. Some think they are wiser than God. (**Too sophisticated to accept any God.**)

D. Others do not yield to God because they are dominated by sin and by Satan.

1. **Rom. 6: 16-** Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness?
2. Sin is addictive and deadly. **Rom. 6:23, James 1:13-15**
3. Satan is a deceitful and a deadly adversary. **II Cor. 11: 14 ; I Pet. 5: 8**

III. Who are some whom we know have said no to God ?**A. The nation of Israel often said no to God.**

1. When they demanded a King. (**Horrible results**)
2. They repeatedly turned to idols. (**Resulted in defest and captivity**)
3. The USA is saying no to God today. (**Prov. 14: 34 .. righteousness exalts, but sin..**)

B. Many churches are saying no to God. (Rev. 2-3)

1. They ignore God’s revealed pattern.
2. They have forgotten why they exist and become merely a worshipping club.
 - a. Have weekly assemblies, but do little else. (**Holding a form of godliness, but ..**)
 - b. Do not reach out to the spiritually lost or to the physically needy.
 - c. This problem is growing.
3. They no longer seek for truth, but are entrenched in their own traditions.

C. Christians often say not to God.

1. “I will NOT deny myself.”

Matt. 16: 24-25 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. ²⁵ For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.”
2. There are many ways Christians say no to God.
 - a. Refuse to be active in His service. (**Using our bodies as Jesus used His**)
 - b. Refusing to attend services, to study our bibles, to pray regularly, to tell others, etc.
 - c. Some object : “*I have never told God no !!!*” Reply, “*Do you do it?*”

D. Sinners say no to God every day.

1. They answer know when asked to obey God or His gospel.
Heb. 5:9- And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,
2. They say no to salvation.
Matt. 11: 28-29 Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
3. They would rather die in their sins than say yes.
 - a. **John 8: 24-** Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins.
 - b. **John 14: 6-** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me."

IV. What are the results of saying no to God ?**A. Nations who say not to God are destroyed.**

1. **Psalm 9:17-** The wicked will return to Sheol, Even all the nations who forget God.
2. Where is the Roman Empire ?
Acts 17: 26- He made from one *man* every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined *their* appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation,

B. God removes His spirit from churches who say NO to Him.

1. Remember the seven churches of Asia. **Where are they now ?**
2. **Rev. 2: 5-** Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place – unless you repent.
3. God knows and He cares what is being done (or not) in His churches.

C. Christians who say no to God are worse off than they were before being saved.

1. **II Pet. 2: 20-** For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.
2. The Christian can fall (**Gal. 5: 4**), but it is by choice, never by accident.

D. Sinner who say no to God will be cast into the eternal fire prepared for the devil.

1. **Matt. 25: 41-** Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;
2. Those that chose to walk with the devil on the earth, will walk with him in eternity.

CONCLUSION :

A. God does not want anyone to be lost.

1. He has given His son to save all who will say yes to Him. **John 3: 16**
2. He patiently calls for your repentance. **II Pet. 3: 9**
3. There will come a day when God's patience will end.
 - a. **Heb. 9: 27**
 - b. **I Thes 5: 2-3** For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. ³ While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then destruction will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape.

B. God's invitation is extended to you.

1. Remember : **You are not saying no to me. It is God's invitation.**
2. Jesus says : **"Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me."** **Rev. 3: 20**

INVITATION :

Will you say yes to God right now ?

This lesson was heavily influenced by notes taken during a sermon I heard preached years ago.

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