

1. 神兴起僕人 God Raises up Leaders

「…我已年老发白，我的儿子都在你们这里。我从幼年直到今日都在你们前面行。」
“...As for me, I am old and gray, and my sons are here with you. I have been your leader from my youth until this day.” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 12:2)

「我在这里，你们要在耶和华和他的受膏者面前给我作见证。我夺过谁的牛，抢过谁的驴，欺负过谁，虐待过谁，从谁手里受过贿赂因而眼瞎呢？若有，我必偿还。」
“Here I stand. Testify against me in the presence of the LORD and his anointed. Whose ox have I taken? Whose donkey have I taken? Whom have I cheated? Whom have I oppressed? From whose hand have I accepted a bribe to make me shut my eyes? If I have done any of these, I will make it right.” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 12:3)

从前雅各到了埃及，后来你们列祖呼求耶和华，耶和华就差遣摩西、亚伦领你们列祖出埃及，使他们在这地方居住。“After Jacob entered Egypt, they cried to the LORD for help, and the LORD sent Moses and Aaron, who brought your forefathers out of Egypt and settled them in this place.” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 12:8)

23 ...以色列人因做苦工，就叹息哀求，他们的哀声达於神。24 神听见他们的哀声，就记念他与亚伯拉罕、以撒、雅各所立的约。

23 ...The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God. 24 God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. (出埃及记 Exodus 2:23-24)

「我的仆人摩西不是这样；他是在我全家尽忠的。」
“...my servant Moses; he is faithful in all my house.” (民数记 Numbers 12:7)

2. 神管教罪人 God Reproaches Sinners

9 「他们却忘记耶和华他们的神，他就把他们付与夏琐将军西西拉的手里，和非利士人并摩押王的手里。於是这些人常来攻击他们。10 他们就呼求耶和华说：『我们离弃耶和华，事奉巴力和亚斯他录，是有罪了。现在求你救我们脱离仇敌的手，我们必事奉你。』」

9 “But they forgot the LORD their God; so he sold them into the hand of Sisera, the commander of the army of Hazor, and into the hands of the Philistines and the king of Moab, who fought against them. 10 They cried out to the LORD and said, ‘We have sinned; we have forsaken the LORD and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths. But now deliver us from the hands of our enemies, and we will serve you.’” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 12:9-10)

「你们见亚扪人的王拿辖来攻击你们，就对我说：『我们定要一个王治理我们。』其实耶和华你们的神是你们的王。」“But when you saw that Nahash king of the Ammonites was moving against you, you said to me, ‘No, we want a king to rule over us’ - even though the LORD your God was your king.” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 12:12)

对他说：「你年纪老迈了，你儿子不行你的道。现在求你为我们立一个王治理我们，像列国一样。」

They said to him, “You are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways; now appoint a king to lead us, such as all the other nations have.” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 8:5)

7 耶和华对撒母耳说：「百姓向你所说的一切话，你只管依从；因为他们不是厌弃你，乃是厌弃我，不要我作他们的王。8 自从我领他们出埃及到如今，他们常常离弃我，事奉别神。现在他们向你所行的，是照他们素来所行的。」

7 And the LORD told him: “Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. 8 As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you.” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 8:7-8)

「这不是割麦子的时候吗？我求告耶和华，他必打雷降雨，使你们又知道又看出，你们求立王的事是在耶和华面前犯大罪了。」“Is it not wheat harvest now? I will call upon the LORD to send thunder and rain. And you will realize what an evil thing you did in the eyes of the LORD when you asked for a king.” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 12:17)

3. 神賜福義人 God Rewards Followers

14 「你们若敬畏耶和华，事奉他，听从他的话，不违背他的命令，你们和治理你们的王也都顺从耶和华你们的神就好了。15 倘若不听从耶和华的话，违背他的命令，耶和华的手必攻击你们，像从前攻击你们列祖一样。」

14 “If you fear the LORD and serve and obey him and do not rebel against his commands, and if both you and the king who reigns over you follow the LORD your God - good! 15 But if you do not obey the LORD, and if you rebel against his commands, his hand will be against you, as it was against your fathers.” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 12:14-15)

「耶和华既喜悦选你们作他的子民，就必因他的大名不撇弃你们。」

“For the sake of his great name the LORD will not reject his people, because the LORD was pleased to make you his own.” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 12:22)

我们纵然失信，他仍是可信的，因为他不能背乎自己。If we are faithless, he will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself. (提摩太後书 2 Timothy 2:13)

「至於我，断不停止为你们祷告，以致得罪耶和华。我必以善道正路指教你们。」

“As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by failing to pray for you. And I will teach you the way that is good and right.” (撒母耳记上 1 Samuel 12:23)