


The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation





Somalia 2011 ...

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

¹ As Samuel grew old, he appointed his sons to be judges over Israel. ² Joel and Abijah, his oldest sons, held court in Beersheba. ³ But they were not like their father, for they were greedy for money. They accepted bribes and perverted justice.

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

Irony:

Eli and his sons
Samuel and his sons

← **The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture** →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

⁴ Finally, all the elders of Israel met at Ramah to discuss the matter with Samuel. ⁵ “Look,” they told him, “you are now old, and your sons are not like you. Give us a king to judge us like all the other nations have.”

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

“like all the other nations”

← **The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture** →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

Christian and Culture

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

Christian and Culture

Christian = follower of Jesus

Culture = world we live in

How do the two relate?

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

Christian and Culture

Christian has a message

Message is for an intended audience

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation



**No Message
No Audience**

← **The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture** →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

**Message
No Audience**

**No Message
No Audience**

← **The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture** →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

**Message
No Audience**

**No Message
No Audience**

**No Message
Audience**

← **The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture** →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

**Message
No Audience**

**Message
Audience**

**No Message
No Audience**

**No Message
Audience**

← **The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture** →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

Christian and Culture

Christian has a message

Message is for an intended audience

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

Christian and Culture

Christian has a message

Message is for an intended audience

How did “they” do?

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

⁶ Samuel was displeased with their request and went to the LORD for guidance. ⁷ “Do everything they say to you,” the LORD replied, “for it is me they are rejecting, not you. They don’t want me to be their king any longer. ⁸ Ever since I brought them from Egypt they have continually abandoned me and followed other gods. And now they are giving you the same treatment. ⁹ Do as they ask, but solemnly warn them about the way a king will reign over them.”

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

God's Message to His people:

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

God's Message to His people: faithful?

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

**God's Message to His people:
faithful?
true?**

← **The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture** →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

God's Message to His people:
faithful?
true?
clear?

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

God's Message to His people:
faithful?
true?
clear?
relevant?

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

God's Message through His people:

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

God's Message through His people:
faithful?
true?
clear?
relevant?

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

**God's Message through His people:
not faithful to the whole message, but
selective?**

← **The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture** →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

God's Message through His people:
not faithful to the whole message, but
selective?
not true, but "true for you"?

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

God's Message through His people:
not faithful to the whole message, but
selective?

not true, but "true for you"?

not clear, but fuzzy, distorted?

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

God's Message through His people:
not faithful to the whole message, but
selective?

not true, but "true for you"?

not clear, but fuzzy, distorted?

not relevant, but meaningless?

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

¹⁰ So Samuel passed on the LORD's warning to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹ "This is how a king will reign over you," Samuel said. "The king will draft your sons and assign them to his chariots and his charioteers, making them run before his chariots. ¹² Some will be generals and captains in his army, some will be forced to plow in his fields and harvest his crops, and some will make his weapons and chariot equipment.

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

¹³ The king will take your daughters from you and force them to cook and bake and make perfumes for him. ¹⁴ He will take away the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his own officials. ¹⁵ He will take a tenth of your grain and your grape harvest and distribute it among his officers and attendants. ¹⁶ He will take your male and female slaves and demand the finest of your cattle and donkeys for his own use.

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

¹⁷ He will demand a tenth of your flocks, and you will be his slaves. ¹⁸ When that day comes, you will beg for relief from this king you are demanding, but then the LORD will not help you.”

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

“Tax me if you can!”

← **The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture** →
1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

¹⁹ But the people refused to listen to Samuel's warning. "Even so, we still want a king," they said.
²⁰ "We want to be like the nations around us. Our king will judge us and lead us into battle."

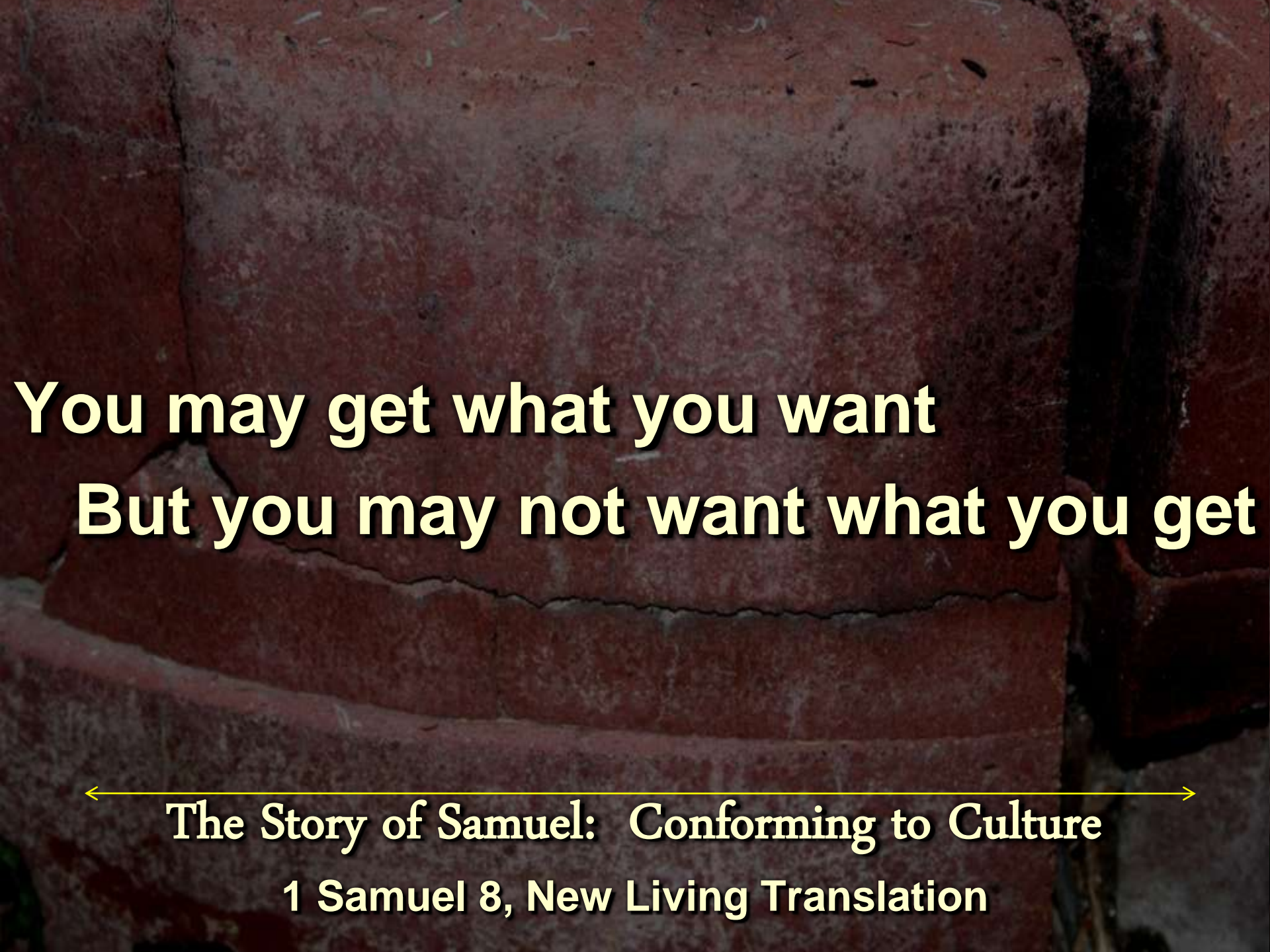
← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

²¹ So Samuel repeated to the LORD what the people had said, ²² and the LORD replied, “Do as they say, and give them a king.” Then Samuel agreed and sent the people home.

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation



**You may get what you want
But you may not want what you get**

← **The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture** →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation

You may get what you want

But you may not want what you get

← The Story of Samuel: Conforming to Culture →

1 Samuel 8, New Living Translation