

**BIBLE READING LIST FOR APRIL 10-16**

<p><u>April 10</u> Judges 15-16 I Samuel 1</p>	<p>Samson's time as judge ended tragically after twenty years (Judges 16:21). The next five chapters describe the time when "there was no king in Israel" and Phinehas, Moses' grandson waited at the Ark of the Covenant (20:27-28), probably during the rest described in Judges 3:11.</p>
<p><u>April 11</u> I Samuel 2-3</p>	<p>Eli is then the judge for forty years (I Samuel 4:18). It was during this time that the birth and growing up of Samuel in I Samuel 1-3 took place. At Eli's death, Samuel became the judge (7:15) until he was old and grayheaded (12:2). He was probably about seventy-five years old.</p>
<p><u>April 12</u> I Samuel 4-7</p>	<p>Samuel was the last judge, since the sons he tried to have replace him (8:1) were not godly (8:3). Our Declaration of Independence says that when government becomes destructive of the rights of the people, it is the right of the citizens to alter or abolish it. This is what Israel did at this time.</p>
<p><u>April 13</u> I Samuel 8-10</p>	<p>The last five chapters of Judges stress what it was like before the judges when Israel had no king, so they would not want to go back to having no such civil authority. Therefore, they asked for a king to replace the theocracy God had established.</p>
<p><u>April 14</u> I Samuel 11-13</p>	<p>God tells Samuel that Israel had not rejected him, but rather God Himself (8:7). This did not take God by surprise; He had told Moses it would happen hundreds of years earlier and had given some instruction in the matter (Deuteronomy 17:14-15). They were warned to set over them the person God chose, but instead they wanted Saul because he was handsome and very tall. This stress on appearance led to spiritual disaster, but modern democracies repeatedly make the same mistake.</p>
<p><u>April 15</u> I Samuel 14-15</p>	<p>God rejected Saul and chose a king "after his own heart" (I Samuel 13:14; see Acts 13:2). This does not imply that David would always want what God wanted—that certainly was not the case. He was simply the king that God wanted. He was from the royal tribe (Judah—Genesis 49:10); Saul was from Benjamin. David was to picture the coming King—Christ Himself. But first man got his king to try out—just as men will choose the Antichrist before Jesus comes.</p>
<p><u>April 16</u> I Samuel 16-17</p>	