

**SAMUEL PART IV**  
**I SAMUEL 7**  
**“REVERSING OUR FAILURES”**  
**MARCH 6-7, 2021**

**INTRODUCTION**

- Samuel was a prophet and leader.
- Israel was under constant attack and the people were desperate for a leader.
- Last week we talked about God’s presence leaving, God overpowering darkness and God reaching towards messed up people.
- How God reverses our failures.

**I. DEALING WITH OUR DEFEATS**

- How many of us have failed and wondered if we could ever get over it?
- I Samuel 7 - People who had failed decided to do the right thing. God begins to heal.
- Samuel did as he often did, he prayed and sought the Lord for healing of deep wounds.
- I Samuel 12:23, “...far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you.”
- I Samuel 7:7-11 - Israel wins the battle.
- I Samuel 4:1-3 - Israel had fought here in the same spot 20 years earlier and been defeated.
- They lived in and out of their flesh and it cost them.
- A failure marks our destiny and we never get through it.
- Now they have won not just a battle, but a beginning of leaning into the Lord as their helper.

**II. OUR ROCK**

- A place of shame and defeat became a place of victory.

- It looked on the victory that repentance brought.
- They had taken down their idols.
- I Samuel 2:1-2, “My heart rejoices in the Lord!...There is no one besides you; there is no rock like our God.”
- Matthew 7:24-29, <sup>24</sup>“Anyone...listens to my teaching... like a person who builds a house on solid rock...”
- Jesus is your stone of help.

**III. OUR HELP**

- Vs. 12 - “Thus far the Lord has helped us.”
- Looking back reminds us that He has always been there.
- “Thus far” also points forward.
- Psalm 46:1-3, “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble...”
- He is an ever present help in a time of need. He is always there. Always willing if we will come to Him.

**IV. OUR HEALER**

- How do you get through failure?
- Vs. 7:3b, “If you return to the Lord with all your heart.”
- By bowing down and humbling your heart, where you have been defeated.
- 3b - “Direct your hearts to the Lord.”
- Matthew 6:33, “Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and everything else will be added to you.”
- Commit to seeking Him and hunger to know God more.
- Invite the Holy Spirit into your journey.
- This will bring victory where you feel defeated.

**CLOSE**

- Jesus is ready to rescue you even if you feel you cannot win the battle.
- Claim all He has to give for you and your destiny and He will do the work and win the battle.