Pastor Doug Kilchenman November 22, 2026

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Scriptures for Today: 1 Samuel 16:1-23 – God moves forward; Saul is in distress

The Weekly Bulletin

Today's Message:
"A New King"



INTRODUCTION

Last week, Saul made a fatal compromise. Underneath his religious appearance was a heart that had decided to do things his own way. And his kingdom was rejected by God. This week, we will see how God's purposes continue despite man's failures and disappointments. Saul's kingdom is declining, and he will be in spiritual distress. However, God is preparing a new king. The selection of David will prove that God does not see things and people like we do. Man looks on the outside, but God looks on the heart. David's rise to kingship begins in his home in *Bethlehem* – the birthplace of the Lord Jesus Christ!

This is God's message to you…

LEARNING TOGETHER

THE CONTEXT
Remember the context from the end of Ch 15 – Saul openly disobeyed God's command concerning Amalek and was deceived by sin.

❖ The Text 1 Samuel 16:1-23

A. The Mission Directed 16:1-5

1. God directs His servants even when they are still grieving over the **PAST**.

1Samuel 16:1 *– … the LORD said unto Samuel,* ***How long wilt thou mourn for Saul****…*
1Samuel 16:2 *– … Samuel said,* ***How can I go?*** *if Saul hear it, he will kill me…*
1Samuel 16:3 *– … call Jesse to the sacrifice… I will shew thee what thou shalt do…*
1Samuel 16:4-5 *– … Samuel did that which the LORD spake…* ***came to Bethlehem****…*

"How long wilt thou **mourn for Saul**" – he was invested; God had a new assignment!
"How can I go… **he will kill me**" – practical danger for assignment; God provides a way!
"And came to **Bethlehem**" – this chapter begins the royal line that leads to Jesus Christ!

History Lesson

Genesis 35:19	The city associated with Rachel's burial (Joseph's mother)
Ruth 1:19; 4:11	The home of Ruth and Boaz (lineage of David and Jesus Christ)
1 Samuel 17:12	The birthplace of David the youngest son of Jesse
Micah 5:2	The birthplace of the prophesied ruler of Israel, the Christ
Matthew 2:1-6	The birthplace of Jesus Christ

Saul's back-story
Israel requested a king in 1st Samuel 8. *God permitted their request and gave them Saul.*
Outward qualifications:
He came from a respected family (9:1).
He was physically impressive (9:2).
He was initially humble at his calling (9:21).
He was publicly recognized and accepted (10:24).

By 1 Samuel 15, God had rejected Saul as king.

"For thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel."

Practical Lessons **Deuteronomy**

- We cannot allow yesterday's disappointment to prevent today's **OBEDIENCE**.
- God's direction is greater than our disappointment; we *must* move forward.
- God's direction does not mean that every assignment will be without difficulty.
- God's direction may require courage – ***Moses, Joshua, Jeremiah, Apostles!***
- God's direction requires submission to God – go and wait for God's instructions.

Personal Application – What about your life?
Is there a disappointment from the past that is preventing you from moving forward in obedience?
Are you waiting for every detail before taking a step of faith that God has already made clear?
When God gives the opportunity to serve, do you focus more on the difficulty or obedience to God?
Are you willing to be used by God even when the assignment is out of your comfort zone?

B. The Man Discovered 16:6-13

2. God does not see things as man does – God looks on the **HEART**.

"Countenance"
The face or outward appearance.

"Stature"
The physical size or height of the man.

1Samuel 16:6 *– … he* ***looked on*** *Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD's anointed…*
1Samuel 16:7 *– … But the LORD said unto Samuel,* ***Look not*** *on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth;* ***for man looketh on the outward appearance****, but the LORD looketh on the heart.*
1Samuel 16:8-10 *– … Jesse called… Abinadab… Shammah… seven of his sons…*
1Samuel 16:11 *– …Samuel said…* ***Are here all thy children?*** *…he keepeth the sheep…*
1Samuel 16:12 *– … ruddy… beautiful countenance… goodly…* ***LORD said… this is he****.*
1Samuel 16:13 *– … the horn of oil…* ***anointed him****… the Spirit of the LORD came…*

"Looked on… **Surely**" – first impressions! Even a prophet needs help from God on this!
"Man looketh… **outward appearance**" – some value; no substitute for inner character!
"The LORD looketh on **the heart**" – inner person; eventually outward reflects the inner!
"This is he…**anointed him**… the Spirit" – God's choice + empowerment – *not* birth order, *not* family expectations, *not* dad's preference, *not* physical appearance, etc.

The Difference
We notice:
Appearance
Personality
Education
Financial position
Public reputation
Talents / abilities
Accomplishments
God knows:
Our motives
Our private life
Our real intentions
Our secret desires
Our willingness to obey
Our life when nobody else is watching.

COMPARING SCRIPTURES ***Hebrews 4:13*** *(all things are naked and opened unto the eyes)*

- **God searches *the* heart** ***Jerem 17:10*** "I the LORD search the heart…"
- **God searches *all* hearts** ***1 Chron 28:9*** "… the LORD searcheth all hearts…"
- **Protect *your* heart** ***Proverbs 4:23*** "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it…"
- **After *God's own* heart** ***1 Sam 13:14; Acts 13:22*** "…a man after his own heart…"

Acts 13:22
… a man after mine own heart, ***which shall fulfill all my will.***

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

- Do *not* judge people by outward appearance. ***John 7:24; 2 Corinth 10:7***
- Do *not* underestimate the importance of the inner man. ***Mt 12:34-37; Rom 13:14***
- Do *not* despise small responsibilities; be faithful in all. ***Luke 16:10; Colossians 3:23***
- Do *not* make human approval your priority; please God. ***Gal 1:10; 1 Thess 2:15***
- Do *not* confuse God's calling with immediate recognition. ***Php 1:10; 2 Pet 1:10***

C. The Ministry Developed 16:14-23

3. God is always preparing His servants; He often gives opportunities to learn **HUMILITY**!

David's Visible Testimony
Cunning in playing
A mighty valiant man
A man of war
Prudent in matters
A comely person
The LORD is with him

1Samuel 16:14 *– … But the Spirit of the LORD* ***departed from Saul****… an evil spirit…*
1Samuel 16:15-18 *– …* ***I have seen*** *a son of Jesse… cunning in playing… the LORD...*
1Samuel 16:19-20 *–… Saul sent …* ***Send me David thy son****, which is with the sheep…*
1Samuel 16:21 *–… David came…* ***he loved him greatly****… became his armourbearer…*
1Samuel 16:22 *–… Saul sent to Jesse…* ***Let David, I pray thee****, stand before me…*
1Samuel 16:23 *–… the evil spirit… upon Saul… David… played… refreshed… well…*

"I have **seen**" – the power of a testimony! Is there anything too hard for the LORD? **NO**!

FINAL THOUGHTS ***Psalm 150*** *(music to praise);* ***2Kings 3:15*** *(music for spiritual encouragement)*

- **Music and the Word** Music can do many things; it cannot replace the word of God!

Conclusion – Faithful service to the Lord of glory

David's first assignment was to serve the very king whose throne he will eventually occupy! Wow! David's years as a shepherd were not wasted years. Are you faithful with what God has given you? Are you willing to wait for God's timing and obey Him now or are you living life on your terms?