

- I) V1 INTRO: Samuel took a *flask of oil* and poured it on his head, and *kissed* him
REVIEW
- II) Samuel, the last judge over Israel, has now grown old: he is around 60-70
His time of leading the nation is ending, and the logical choice would be his sons
- III) **The problem:** Joel and Abijah **did not walk in his ways** and did not honor God
They were greedy materialists, took bribes, and perverted justice
This provoked the elders to approach Samuel, reject them and demand a king
- IV) Samuel was greatly *displeased* with their request and *hurt by their rejection*
As he took their request to God, God said they are not rejecting you, *but Me!* (8:7)
- V) They said: We want a king that we might be **like all the nations** (8:20)
They rejected God's rule and wanted to be like pagan nations
- VI) By design, Israel was intended to be a nation under God's protective rule
This made them unique among all nations of the earth
Dt 4:7 What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him?
Dt 20:4 The Lord your God is the one who goes with you **to fight for you** against your enemies to give you victory
- VII) God had recently given them victory over the Philistines
They should have been grateful and it should have made them faithful to Him
- VIII) Instead, they desired to become like the nations around them
The people wanted a king: God told Samuel to listen to them and send them home
- IX) God said: Heed their voice but solemnly forewarn them of what the king will do
In Ch 8 Samuel let them know that the king would dominate them
- X) In spite of this solemn warning, the people would not listen
1 Sa 8:19 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said No but we will have a king over us
ENTER SAUL
- XI) He son of a man by the name of Kish, who was of the tribe of Benjamin
He had everything going for him: pedigree, wealth, looks, height and youth

- I) Not a single of these qualities resulted from of anything *he had done*
There was one thing that would be exposed as lacking: *He had no character*
- II) The combination of these qualities is what people use to determine whom they like
IMPORTANT
- III) God never uses the same standards of judgment as found in the world
Man uses outer appearance, but God judges what cannot be seen
Heb 4:13 Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.
- IV) God sees what is under the surface and judges **the heart**
Jer 17:10 I the Lord search the heart; I examine the mind to reward a man according to his way, by what his deeds deserve
- V) Holiness is not simply outward appearance but is an attitude of the heart
Godliness is how a person **lives**, and **holiness** motivates that behavior
- VI) God calls us to seek Him first, with all of our hearts, and this produces a godly life
Jer 9:23-24 The LORD says, "*Wise* people should not boast that they are wise. *Powerful* people should not boast that they are powerful. *Rich* people should not boast that they are rich. If people want to boast, they should boast about this: They should boast that they understand and *know Me*. They should boast that they know and understand that I, the LORD, act out of faithfulness, fairness, and justice in the earth and that I desire people to do these things," says the LORD.
- VII) Saul had everything going for him by outside standards
The problem was that he had no character
AS WE HAVE SEEN
- VIII) When some donkeys became lost, Saul and a servant went looking for them
They encountered Samuel who had been commanded by God to anoint him as king
1 Sa 9:16 I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin and *you shall anoint him* commander
- IX) At first Saul was overwhelmed and did not know what to say
Samuel took him aside, instructing him concerning what the Lord had told him
WHICH BRINGS US TO CH 10

- I) V1 Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him
In the OT, kings, priests, and prophets are anointed as a symbol of the Holy Spirit
It is a picture of God bestowing His gifts and power on the person being anointed
- II) Prophets were anointed because no one prophesied unless inspired by the Spirit
Prophets were anointed, to signify the communication of the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge.
Priests were anointed to offer acceptable sacrifice to God, and to minister in power and grace
The king was anointed because he was to rule righteously, and could not do so without God's power
- III) This is why Samuel anointed Saul, to indicate his need for God as he ruled
- IV) V2-4 When you have departed from me today you will find two men by Rachel's
Saul does not believe this is all happening, so Samuel confirms it through signs
GEOGRAPHY
- V) V2 **First**: NW of Bethlehem, you will find the donkeys (showing Samuel is accurate)
- VI) V3-4 **Second**: Near Rachel's tomb you will encounter men going to worship
Rachel's tomb is near the west bank, a mile S of Jerusalem
- VII) They are going to Bethel (12 mi. N of Jerus), a sacred spot people went to worship
Bethel is where Jacob dreamed of a ladder to heaven (Gen 28)
- VIII) It symbolizes God bringing heaven to earth
Jn 1:51 Jesus used this symbol when telling Nathanael You will see heaven open and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man
- IX) V4 They are bringing offerings: in giving him the gifts, they show him respect
This would have been unusual because they didn't know him, but honored him
This revealed that the people of Israel would honor him as their king
- X) V5-6 After that you shall come to **the hill of God** where the Philistine garrison is
About 5 miles N of Jeru you will encounter prophets (trained by Samuel)
They were praising God, singing, and instructing the people as they walked
Hill of God is Gibeath, the name of a city whose **inhabitants know Saul**

- I) What was significant about this?
At the place where **oppressors live**, God will move on you and will empower you
- II) V6 The Spirit of the Lord will come upon you and you will prophesy with them
The Spirit will enable you to speak, as the prophets are speaking
- III) V6 You will be turned into **another** (not a new) man
Some wonder at this point if Saul was converted into a servant of God
NO
- IV) Though he speaks like a prophet and doesn't mean he was regenerated
It means that he was given the ability to exercise kingly duties
Kings needed authority to rule properly, and he received ability to do so
- V) He was saved but was given kingly abilities
- VI) Judas walked with Jesus, gave His message, did miracles but was unsaved
- VII) V7 Let it be when these signs come to you that you **do as the occasion demands**
These signs are intended to confirm that you are to be the king of Israel
As Israel's king, govern in the power wisdom the is worthy of God
- VIII) V8 Go down before me to Gilgal and surely I will come down to you to offer
Gilgal is NW of Jerusalem, above Jericho, around 20 miles north of Bethlehem
IMPORTANT
- IX) Samuel had just told him that he should do as the occasion demands
He then says **Go to Gilgal**, and I will surely come **in seven days** to offer sacrifices
AS WE WILL SEE
- X) The simple command for Saul to **wait seven days** will reveal something
Saul will do as **the occasion demands**, and it will reveal what is truly **in his heart**
IMPORTANT
- XI) God does not tempt you to do evil
Jas 1:13-14 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.
- XII) God does not tempt you to do evil, but He does allow you to tested: Why?
Because it reveals what is hidden underneath the surface

- I) V9 When he had turned his back to go from Samuel that **God gave him another heart**
This fulfilled V6
What is taking place here?
- II) God is anointing him with the Spirit to make him qualified for the office
He later would remove the Spirit because of his sins (Ps 51:11)
1 Sa 16:14 the Spirit of the LORD had departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him.
- III) This is not conversion, but is the Lord preparing him to govern as the king
It is saying that Saul would be convinced that the office of king was to be his
- IV) He was initially resistant to holding such an office
The way he was convinced was all the signs came to pass that day
- V) V10 When they came there to the hill there was a **group of prophets** to meet him
They came to Saul's village, Gibeah and God's Spirit came upon him
- VI) The Spirit, in the OT, would be given and also removed
Here the Spirit comes upon Saul and he prophesied among them
He was so gifted that it appeared that he had been trained among them
APPLICATION
- VII) V11 And it happened when all who knew him formerly saw that he indeed
By His Spirit, God gave Saul and incredible **opportunity** to be used by Him
All these men knew Saul well, and were amazed at what they were seeing
THIS SHOWS THE POWER OF A TESTIMONY
- VIII) This outward change made quite an impact, though it was only temporary
- IX) It reminds us of what was said of another Saul, who later became Paul
When he came to faith in Jesus, people wondered about what had happened
Gal 1:23 They only heard the report: "The man **who formerly persecuted us** is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy."
- X) V12 Then a man from there answered and said But who is their father
The change was so obvious that people who knew him wondered what happened
Who is their father is a way of asking: who has instructed and inspired them?
Is Saul now one of those who is inspired to be a prophet?

- I) V13 And when he had finished prophesying, he went to the high place
He went to where offerings were made, perhaps to spend time in prayer
- II) V14-16 Then Saul's uncle said to him and. His servant Where did you go?
Saul's uncle wonders where he had been for such a long time
Saul did not tell his uncle what happened, perhaps because it was unbelievable
- III) V17 Then Samuel called the people together to the LORD at Mizpah
This was where Samuel had earlier called them to gather, to be delivered
- IV) Earlier the Philistines were oppressing them so Samuel called them to repent
1 Sa 7:3 Samuel said to the whole house of Israel, "If you are returning to the LORD with all your hearts, then rid yourselves of the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths and commit yourselves to the LORD and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines."
1 Sa 7:5 Samuel said Gather all Israel to Mizpah and I will pray to the Lord for you
- V) Once again they gathered at Mizpah and Samuel openly declares Saul king
He does not do this with joy, but instead brings a rebuke to them as a nation
- VI) V18-19 and said to the children of Israel Thus says the Lord God of Israel
You do not want to be led by God, you want to be led **by a political official instead**
1 Sa 8:5 (you said) make us a king to judge us like all the nations!
- VII) Your reception of Saul is your rejection of Me
Ps 81:11-12 My people would not listen to me; Israel would not submit to me. So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts to follow their own devices.
- VIII) V20-21 When Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near the tribe
The tribes assemble and the tribe of Benjamin appears before Samuel
This helped to develop the anticipation of seeing who would lead the nation
- IX) V21 When it was determined that Saul was to be crowned, he could not be found
- X) V22-23 They inquired of the LORD further Has the man come here yet? And the
They could not find Saul, so they asked the Lord where he was
This may have been through inquiring of Samuel, who asked God

- I) This reveals Saul's character: some think it humility, but it was incompetence
The task was not only bigger than him, but he had no desire for such a position
- II) **Imagine:** They find this huge man hiding among the equipment
He may have been afraid because Samuel was so angry at the people
- III) V24-25 Samuel said to all the people Do you see him **whom the LORD has chosen**
Even though they were told they were rejecting God, they still just do not see it
Long live the king, even after his tyranny is again explained to them (Dt 17:14-20)
- IV) V26-27 Saul also went home to Gibeah and valiant men went with him
The choice of Saul produced two responses
Valiant men formed an escort, demonstrating they were with him
- V) Others rebelled against him, and rejected him as king
Rebels: sons of Belial; worthless men
They did not see him as worthy of leading the nation, being unqualified
- VI) He was from a small tribe, and he was not battle proven as a warrior
They refused to honor him, bringing no gifts representing honor and submission
- VII) Though Saul said nothing, he noted who they were pretending not to hear
They were not noble; they just didn't want him as their king