

- I) V1 INTRO: Then Samuel took a *flask of oil* and poured it on his head, and *kissed* him and said
 - a) REVIEW: Samuel, the last judge over Israel, has now grown old: he is around 60 years of age
 - 1) He time of leading the nation is coming to an end, and the logical choice would be his sons

- II) HE HAD TWO SONS: Joel and Abijah, who *did not walk in his ways* and did not honor God
 - a) They turned aside after dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice
 - 1) This provoked the elders of Israel to approach Samuel: they rejected them and demand a king

- III) SAMUEL: Was greatly *displeased* with their request and was *hurt by their rejection*
 - a) As he took their request to God, God had to tell him they are not rejecting you, *but Me!* (8:7)
 - 1) THEIR MOTIVES: We want a king that we might be *like all the nations* (8:20)
 - 2) The Lord told Samuel to listen to the people, so Samuel sent them home

- IV) GOD SAID: Heed their voice but solemnly forewarn them of what the king will do
 - a) SAMUEL DID SO: And in Chapter 8 let them know that the king would dominate them
 - 1) 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

- V) ENTER SAUL: The son of a man by the name of Kish, who was of the tribe of Benjamin
 - a) He was the winner of the People's Choice Award, having everything going for him
 - 1) His father was wealthy and influential, he was relatively young, and was handsome and tall

- VI) KEY: Not a single of these qualities were the result of anything *he had done (no character)*
 - a) Yet the combination of these qualities are exactly what people use to determine whom they like

- VII) IMPORTANT: God never uses the same standards of judgment as found in the world
 - a) 1 Sa 16:7 Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance but the LORD looks at the heart

- VIII) THE FACT IS: Outside standards were observed in the Pharisees, known for what they *did not* do
 - a) They were so good outwardly that the common people used them as a standard of goodness
 - 1) Mt 5:20 Unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven
 - 2) Jesus used them as examples of hypocrisy: Gave, prayed, and fasted to be seen by men

- IX) HOLINESS: Is not outward appearance, but an attitude of the heart
 - a) Godliness is the manner in which a person lives, holiness is what motivates that behavior
 - 1) God calls us to seek Him first, with all of our hearts, and that produces a godly life
 - 2) 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.

- X) AS WE HAVE SEEN: When some donkeys became lost, Saul and a servant went looking for them
 - a) Ultimately they encountered Samuel, who had been commanded by God to anoint him as king
 - 1) 9:16 I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin and *you shall anoint him* commander

- I) **AT FIRST:** Saul is overwhelmed and does not know what to say
 - a) Samuel takes him aside, and begins to instruct him concerning what the Lord had told him
 - 1) Which brings us to Ch 10

- II) **V1 THEN:** Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and said Is it not
 - a) In the OT, kings, priests, and prophets are anointed with oil as a symbol of the Holy Spirit
 - 1) It is a picture of God bestowing His gifts and power on the person being anointed

- III) **THEY ANOINTED PROPHETS:** Because no man could foretell events unless inspired by the Spirit
 - a) The prophet was anointed, to signify the communication of the Spirit of wisdom and knowledge.
 - b) The priest was anointed to offer acceptable sacrifice to God, and to minister in power and grace
 - c) The king was anointed because he was to rule righteously, and could not without God's power
 - 1) 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 tomb in the territory
 - a) Saul does not really believe this is all happening to him, so Samuel confirms it through signs
 - 1) V2 FIRST: Just NW of Bethlehem, you will find the donkeys (which shows Samuel is accurate)
 - 2) V3-4 SECOND: Probably near Rachel's tomb he will encounter men going to worship
 - a) They are bringing offerings to the Lord: in giving him the gifts, they show him respect

- V) **V5-6 AFTER THAT:** You shall come to *the hill of God* where the Philistine garrison is
 - a) About 5 miles N of Jerusalem, you will encounter a group of prophets (trained by Samuel)
 - 1) They were praising God, singing, and instructing the people as they walked
 - 2) Hill of God is literally Gibeath ha Elohim, the name of a city whose *inhabitants know Saul*

- VI) **V6 POINT:** At the place where *oppressors live*, God will move on you and will empower you
 - a) The Spirit will enable you to speak, as the prophets are speaking

- VII) **V6 YOU WILL BE:** Turned into another (not a new) man
 - a) Just because he speaks like a prophet and acts differently does not mean he was regenerated
 - 1) Judas walked with Jesus, taught His message, performed miracles but was unsaved

- VIII) **V7 AND:** Let it be when these signs come to you that you do as the occasion demands for God is
 - a) These signs are intended to confirm that you are to be the king of Israel
 - 1) As Israel's king, govern in the power and anointing of God

- IX) **V8 YOU SHALL:** Go down before me to Gilgal and surely I will come down to you to offer
 - a) Gilgal is north west of Jerusalem, above the city of Jericho around 20 miles north of Bethlehem
 - 1) IMPORTANT: Samuel had just told him that he should do as the occasion demands
 - 2) He then says *Go to Gilgal*, and I will surely come in *seven days* to offer sacrifices

- X) **AS WE WILL LATER SEE:** The simple command for Saul to *wait seven days* will reveal something
 - a) Saul will ultimately do as *the occasion demands*, and it will reveal what is truly *in his heart*
 - 1) IMPORTANT: God does not tempt you with evil, but does allow you to be tested: Why?
 - 2) Because it reveals what is hidden underneath the surface

- I) **V9 SO IT WAS:** When he had turned his back to go from Samuel that God gave him another heart

- a) This is not conversion, but is the Lord preparing him to govern as the king
 - 1) It is a way of saying that Saul would be convinced that the office of king was to be his
 - 2) The way he was convinced was all the signs came to pass that day

- II) V10-16 WHEN: They came there to the hill there was a *group of prophets* to meet him then *the Spirit*
 - a) By His Spirit, God was giving Saul and incredible *opportunity* to be used by Him
 - 1) All of these men knew Saul well, and were absolutely amazed at what they were seeing
 - 2) Saul did not tell his uncle what had happened, perhaps because it was unbelievable

- III) V17-21 THEN: Samuel called the people together to the LORD at Mizpah
 - a) This was the site that Samuel had earlier called them to gather together, to be delivered
 - 1) The Philistines were oppressing them and Samuel called them to repent, and meet at Mizpah
 - 2) 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."

- IV) THEY GATHER ONCE AGAIN AT MIZPAH: And Samuel openly declares Saul king
 - a) He does not do this with joy, but actually brings a rebuke to them as a nation

- V) HE WAS SAYING: You do not want to be led by God, you want to be led by a political official instead
 - a) Your reception of Saul is actually your rejection of God
 - 1) 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.

- VI) THE TRIBES ARE ASSEMBLED: And the families of the tribe of Benjamin appear before Samuel
 - a) This helped to develop the anticipation of seeing who would lead the nation
 - 1) When it was determined that Saul was to be crowned, he was nowhere to be found

- VII) V22-23 THEREFORE: They inquired of the LORD further Has the man come here yet? And the Lord
 - a) This reveals the character of Saul: some might think it humility, but it was incompetence
 - 1) The task was not only bigger than him, but he had no desire for such a position
 - 2) IMAGINE: They find this huge man hiding among the equipment

- VIII) V24-25 AND: Samuel said to all the people Do you see him whom the LORD has chosen
 - a) Even though they have been told that they were rejecting God, they still just do not see it
 - 1) Long live the king, even after his tyranny is once again explained to them (Dt 17:14-20)

- IX) V26-27 AND: Saul also went home to Gibeah and valiant men went with him, whose hearts God
 - a) The choice of Saul produced two responses
 - 1) Valiant men formed an escort, demonstrating that they were with him and honored him

- X) OTHERS: Rebelled against him, and rejected him as king
 - a) Though Saul said nothing, he noted who they were pretending not to hear
 - 1) They were not noble; they just didn't want him as their king