

Introduction to a Man Too Complicated for Cancel Culture

A challenge to modern anthropology

The truth: we're all a mixed bag

“If you can't love the sinner and hate the sin, how can you relate to yourself?” – Tim Keller

All Scripture points to Jesus

Luke 24:25-27 And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

The Search for a New King

The rejection of Saul, a king like any other (vss. 1-3)

Chapter 15:3 – “Now go and strike Amalek and devote to destruction all that they have. Do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.”

Chapter 15:9 – “But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep and of the oxen and of the fattened calves and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them. All that was despised and worthless they devoted to destruction.”

The other sons (vss. 4-10)

Vs. 11 “youngest” can mean smallest, or least, or the most insignificant

“It is painful to notice that David's father should have no idea of his excellence. David is not only the youngest, he is the least in the estimation of the ill-judging parent.” – Spurgeon

Finding David, a king after God's own heart (vss. 11-12)

“For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

The Marks of God’s King

A new heart (vs. 7)

“I have provided for myself a king” (vs. 1) and “The Lord looks at the heart” (vs. 7)

This is a New Covenant promise to us.

A new power (a new spirit) (vs. 13)

A new struggle (vs. 2, 11)

Questions for Study and Reflection

1. How is David the foreshadowing of Jesus?
2. Why does God reject Saul? What can we learn from Saul’s negative example?
3. What is the norm in our culture, to look at the outward appearance or to look at the heart? Why is it important to know that God looks at the heart?
4. Alistair Begg says, because we have a new heart “being a Christian doesn’t mean trying hard to be something you’re not, it means getting a new heart and becoming who you really are.” What do you think of this quote?