

6/5/09

**1Sam. 16-17**

Saul, the First King by the choice of the people has been rejected by God for his disobedience and self-will.

1. Saul had done foolishly and offered sacrifice, blaming Samuel for not showing up, that the people were scattered and the Philistines were ready to attack, attempting to justify himself, as sincere and spiritual. 1Sam. 13:13-14
  2. Saul disobeyed to destroy Amalek, blaming the people and sparing the king. 1Sam. 15:22-26
- \* God prefers obedience over sacrifice!

It is believed that at this point, Saul had reigned about 25 years, around 1025- 24 B.C. , leaving 15 years left of his reign of 40 years, according to Paul. Acts 13:21

Saul will be present for 16 more chapter, until his death, but he is no longer under God's hand as king.

1. This will bring about a growing tension between the north and the south, Israel and Judah.
2. Saul is self-willed, wicked and concerned with what the people think of him.
3. David is a man after God's own hear, concerned with what God thinks of him. 1Sam 13:14

In these two chapters we have the rise of David to replace Saul as king and the defeat of Goliath by David.

**16:1-13    The anointing of David as king.**

**16:1-5**    The prophet Samuel is commission to anoint David.

- 1) God spoke to the prophet Samuel. vs. 1-2
  - a) God rebuked Samuel for his sadness over Saul. vs. 1
    - 1)) Samuel had been grieving too long for Saul. vs. 1a-b
    - 2)) Samuel had lost perspective about the holiness of God, having rejected Saul. vs. 1c
      - a)) Samuel knew God had never chosen Saul.
      - b)) Samuel's mourning was in appropriate, in view that Yahweh had rejected Saul. 1Sam. 13:13-14, 15:23, 26
- 2) God ordered Samuel to anoint God's king. vs. 1d-g
  - a) The command was given to Samuel. vs. 1d-e

\* Samuel had been called to do the same for Saul. 1Sam. 9:16b
  - b) The authority was Yahweh's, "I am sending you." vs. 1f
    - 1)) Jesse's grandfather was Boaz, the husband of Ruth. Ruth 4:17-22

- 2)) Bethlehem was 10 miles from Ramah, 6 miles south-west of Jerusalem.
- 3)) Samuel had also been told of Saul's coming to him. 1Sam. 9:16a
- c) The purpose was to set up the monarchy, God's king. vs. 1g
  - 1)) The word for king "melek" is used for David from the beginning, but for Saul it was "a prince". 1Sam. 9:16
  - 2)) Samuel was told by God, the people asked for Saul. 1Sam. 9:16c
  - 3)) The emphasis is on God, not Samuel.
    - a)) I have rejected him. vs. 1c
    - b)) I am sending you to Jesse. vs. 1e
    - c)) I have provided Myself a king. vs. 1f
    - d)) I will show you what you shall do" vs. 3b
- 3) God's mission was objected to by Samuel. vs. 2
  - a) Samuel feared retaliation from Saul, that he might kill him. vs. 2a-d
    - 1)) The implication is that Saul had become more hostile, since his rejection by God.
    - 2)) Samuel was God's judge and prophet, his trip to Bethlehem

- would cross the home of Saul, Gibeah of Benjamin and noticed.
  - 3)) The fear of Samuel was real and factual, perhaps Saul already had spies throughout the land, as is revealed in the slaughter of the priest, at Nob. 1Sam. 22:11-19
  - b) Samuel was given instructions to say he was coming for sacrifice to the LORD, to be protected. vs. 2e-g
    - \* Remember when Samuel anointed Saul, he did it also by sacrifice. 1Sam. 9:19-24
  - c) Samuel was also to invite Jesse. vs. 3a
    - \* Samuel had invited thirty people to Saul's feast. 1Sam. 9:22
  - d) Samuel would then be told by Yahweh the man to anoint. vs. 3b-c
- 16:4-5** The voice of God was obeyed by the prophet Samuel.
- 1) The prophet Samuel arrived at Bethlehem. vs. 4a-b
    - a) He journey from Ramah to Bethlehem, about 10 miles.
    - b) Bethlehem, means house of bread and was about 6 miles south-west of Jerusalem.
  - 2) The welcome of Samuel was met with hesitation and was asked, "Do you come peaceably?" vs. 4c-e

- a) The elders were the representatives of the city, the heads of families.
  - b) The fear they were under is not specified but without doubt it had to do with the tension between Saul, Samuel and the monarchy.
    - 1)) The word for trembled “charad” means to quake and be anxiously careful.
    - 2)) How ironic, they did not know Samuel was just as fearful of Saul.
  - c) They probably did not want to be blamed of taking sides or aiding Samuel, angering Saul.
- 3) The response of Samuel eased their hearts. vs. 5
- a) He was coming in peace, “And he said, “Peaceably” to fellowship through sacrifice.” vs. 5a-c
  - b) He was inviting them to the sacrifice and the house of Jesse, calling them to sanctify themselves, as well as the house of Jesse. vs. 5d-b

**16:6-10** The Patriarch Jesse presents his first seven sons before Samuel. vs. 6-10

- 1) The personal impression of Samuel was wrong. vs. 6
  - a) The setting was as the sons of Jesse came to the sacrifice. vs. 6a

- b) The perception of Samuel was based on the physical, “That he looked at Eliab and said, “Surely the LORD’S anointed is before Him.” vs. 6b-c
    - 1)) The word looked “ra’ah” means to see as to inspect with attention to distinguish, the word appears four times in verse seven.
    - 2)) Eliab “ ‘Eliy’ab” means my God is father, he is the oldest.
- 2) The personal impression of God is always right. vs. 7
- a) The principle mistake of Samuel was declared by God. vs. 7a-c
    - 1)) The word “But” marks the sharp contrast between Samuel and God.
    - 2)) The authority came from the covenant God of Israel, Yahweh, “the LORD said to Samuel.” vs. 7a
    - 3)) The hindrance for proper judgment was stated by Yahweh, “Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have refused him.” vs. 7b-c
      - a)) The word look “nabat” means to regard or pay attention to.
      - b)) This was what the people admired about Saul, he was handsome and a head taller than everyone else. 1Sam. 9:2, 10:23

- b) The principle God uses to judge man is inner character. vs. 7d-f
- 1)) God is not like man, He looks at the heart of man.  
\* The word outward “ayin” means eyes and is translated like that in verse twelve.
  - 2)) All four words, see and look is the word “ra’ah” to inspect with attention to distinguish, as Samuel in verse six.
  - 3)) The difference is that God is inspecting the heart “lebab” of man, the moral and inner character of man.
- 3) The patriarch Jesse than called his other six sons, one by one. vs. 8-10
- a) The second son came forward and was rejected also. vs. 8  
\* Abinadab “‘Abiynadab”, means my father is noble or willing.
  - b) The third son came forward and was also rejected. vs. 9  
\* Shammah “Shamah” means astonishment.
  - c) The fourth to the seventh came forward, all were rejected. vs. 10  
\* This must have been very disappointing to Jesse!

**16:11-13** The Patriarch Jesse presented his eight son to Samuel.

- 1) The prophet Samuel was perplexed and asked Jesse, if these were all his sons. vs. 11
  - a) Jesse said, the youngest was, keeping the sheep.” vs. 11b-d  
\* The word youngest “na’ar” implies also the smallest and can be translated as such, a direct contrast to Saul who was very tall.
  - b) David is presented as a shepherd, anywhere from 14-16 years old.  
\* The shepherd metaphor is used in the Scriptures for spiritual leaders who care for the people.
  - c) Samuel ordered his presence and that they would not sit to eat till he came. vs. 11c-e
    - 1)) Sit down “cabab”, means literally, we will not surround the table.
    - 2)) Chronicles says Jesse had 7 sons, one must of died. 1Chron. 2:13-15
- 2) The prophet Samuel saw a young boy. vs. 12a-c
  - a) The word ruddy “admoniy” means red and used for Esau. Gen. 25:25
  - b) The phrase bright eyes “yapheh” “ayin” means beautiful eyes.
  - c) The word good-looking “towb” means pleasant and agreeable.

- \* This is one of two direct contacts with David recorded. 1Sam. 19:18
- 3) The prophet Samuel was told to anoint the boy. vs. 12-13
- a) The command came by Yahweh's authority, "Arise, anoint him." vs. 12a-b
- \* Samuel was totally surprised, he would of never chosen David!
- b) The choice was Yahweh's, "for this is the one!" vs. 12c
- \* Not the ones who looked as kingly material!
- c) The instrument of Yahweh was Samuel. vs. 13
- 1)) The anointing was private. vs. 13a
- a)) Like Saul had been anointed in private with oil! 1Sam. 9
- b)) Later David will be anointed by the men of Judah and Israel publicly. 2Sam. 2:4, 5:3
- c)) This must of shocked Jesse!
- 2)) The anointing was to remove any striving among his brothers, they were witnesses. vs. 13a
- \* This was to remove any strife or factions, against David, he was Yahweh's king, not man's, as Saul had been!
- 3)) The anointing to enable David to rule the nation followed, the Spirit

- of the LORD came upon David from that day forward." vs. 13b
- a)) This marks the emphatic transition from Saul to David.
- b)) The Spirit had been given to Saul also but he had not depended on it to lead the people and obey! 1Sam. 10:6, 10, 11:6
- c)) This is the first time David is named, it means, "beloved".
- 4)) The mission being over, Samuel returned to Ramah." vs. 13c

#### **16:14-23 The positioning of David to rule as king.**

- 16:14-17 God removed his hand from Saul. vs. 14-17**
- 1) God became Saul's enemy. vs. 14
- a) The contrast between David and Saul is indicated by the word "But".
- b) The enabling and empowering of the Spirit of God was withdrawn from Saul, "the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul." vs. 14a
- c) The opposing spirit was imparted to Saul, "and a distressing spirit from the LORD troubled him." vs. 14b
- 1)) The word distressing "ra", means and evil or bad spirit.

- a)) All, good and bad spirits, which are angels, fallen or not, are under the authority of God.
- b)) God sent a lying spirit in the of the false prophets, at the time of Micah. 1Kings 22:19-22
- 2)) The evil spirit was sent by Yahweh and with the purpose of troubling Saul.
  - a)) The word for troubled “ba’ath” means to terrify and be overtaken with sudden terror.
  - b)) This was the result of Saul’s ongoing disobedience to God, due to his self-will life!
  - c)) The evil conduct of Saul can not be blamed on the evil spirit but his own evil heart.
- 2) God used one of Saul’s servants or official advisors, to suggest a solution. vs. 15-17
  - a) The servant knew Yahweh had sent the evil spirit. vs. 15
    - 1)) The servant could have been a witness to the progressive rebellion of Saul from the beginning.
    - 2)) The servant could of received a word of knowledge from God and not even know it.

- b) The servant gave his council to Saul, to seek out a skillful player on the harp, to sooth his demonic episodes. vs. 16
    - \* The harp is called a lyre, having two arms rising from the sound box, with 8-10 strings all of equal length, attached to a cross-bar.
  - c) The servant was granted permission by Saul. vs. 17
- 16:18-21** God moved David in to serve Saul.
- 1) God guided one of Saul’s servants to David. vs. 18
    - a) He declared David’s family identity. vs. 18a-c
      - 1)) The servant gave his personal witness, “Look, I have seen”.
      - 2)) The hand of God was in control, without violating any person’s free-will.
    - b) He described the abilities of David. vs. 18d-i
      - 1)) His musical ability, “who is skillful in playing.” vs. 18d
      - 2)) His social family standing, “a mighty man of valor.” vs. 18e
      - 3)) His military abilities, “a man of war.” vs. 18f
      - 4)) His communication skills, “prudent in speech.” vs. 18g

- \* David is called “the sweet Psalmist of Israel.” 2Sam. 23:1e
- 5)) His physical appearance, “and a handsome person.” vs. 18h
  - \* The word is used for the beauty of Rachel. Gen. 29:17
- 6)) His spiritual qualities, “and the LORD is with him.” vs. 18i
  - \* This is the key characteristic of David mentioned repeatedly. 1Sam. 18:12, 14, 28, 2Sam. 5:10
- 2) Saul sent for David. vs. 19-21
  - a) The request was sent. vs. 19
    - 1)) Here again David is presented with the sheep, though he has been anointed king.
    - 2)) The character of David is being emphasized.
  - b) The request was obeyed with respect, sent with a gift of gratitude for choosing David. vs. 20
  - c) The request accomplished the plan of God for the transition of the monarchy. vs. 21
    - 1)) David would stand inside the royal court. vs. 21a
    - 2)) David would be admired by Saul “And he loved him greatly.” vs. 21b
    - 3)) David would be Saul’s body-guard. vs. 21c

- \* The age of David had to be significantly older than when he was anointed as a young shepherd boy, perhaps even his early 20’s, since, 20 was the age of military service. Num. 1:3
- 3) Saul sent a request to Jesse to allow David to reside on a permanent basis in his service. vs. 22-23
  - a) Saul grew fond of David and made him part of his royal court. vs. 22
    - 1)) How ironic, without realizing it, Saul was positioning David to replace him.
    - 2)) How admirable of David, though having been anointed king, he serves the rejected king, until God puts him on the throne.
  - b) Saul was helped by David by his music. vs. 23
    - \* There is a play on word between the word spirit “ruach” and the refreshed “ravach” in the Hebrew coming from the same root.

**17:1-11      The defying words of Goliath to the armies of Israel.**

**17:1-3**    The Philistines went to war with Israel. vs. 1-3

- 1) The Philistines made their encampment against Israel to battle. vs. 1
  - 1) Sochoh, was about 17 miles west-south-west of Jerusalem.
  - b) was about 2 1/2 miles southeast of Azekah.
- 2) The Israelites made their encampment against the Philistines. vs. 2
  - a) Saul and the men of Israel were gathered together, and they encamped in the Valley of Elah. vs. 2a-b
  - b) They drew up in battle array against the Philistines. vs. 2c
- 3) The armies faced each other. vs. 3
  - a) The Philistines stood on a mountain on one side and Israel on the other side vs. 3a-b
  - b) The valley was the only thing between them. vs. 3c

**17:4-7** The Philistines had a formidable champion.

- 1) He was a giant. vs. 4
  - a) He went out from the camp of the Philistines. vs. 4a
  - b) He was named Goliath, “Golyath”, which means splendor. vs. 4b
  - c) He was from Gath. vs. 4c
  - d) He was 9’6” feet tall, a cubit being 18 inches, a span 6-8 inches. vs. 4d

\* There were Egyptians 7 1/2 feet tall, King Og of Bashan’s bed measured 14 feet. 1Chron. 11:23  
Deut.. 3:11

- 2) He was fully armored. vs. 5-6
  - a) He had a bronze helmet on his head, symbolic of judgment. vs. 5a
  - b) He had a coat of mail, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze, about 200 pounds. vs. 5b-c
  - c) He had bronze armor on his legs below the knees and a bronze javelin between his shoulders. vs. 6
- 3) He was armed with a weapon. vs. 7
  - a) The staff of his spear was like a weaver’s beam. vs. 7a
  - b) The iron spearhead weighed six hundred shekels, about 24 pounds. vs. 7b
  - c) The had a shield-bearer that went before him. vs. 7c

**17:8-11** The Philistine Goliath made a direct challenge.

- 1) He belittled Israel’s army. vs. 8
  - a) He stood and cried out to the armies of Israel, and said to them, “Why have you come out to line up for battle?” vs. 8a-c



- b) He exalted himself, “Am I not a Philistine, and you the servants of Saul?” vs. 8d-e
- c) He asked that an Israelite fight him, “Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me.” vs. 8f-g
- 2) He stipulated the conditions. vs. 9
  - a) “If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants.” vs. 9a-b
  - b) “But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us.” vs. 9c-d
- 3) He provoked the soldiers. vs. 10
  - a) That very day, “And the Philistine said, “I defy the armies of Israel this day.” vs. 10a-b
  - b) That they respond, “Give me a man, that we may fight together.” vs. 10c
- 4) He succeeded in making them coward. vs. 11
  - a) Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine. vs. 11a
  - b) Saul and all Israel were dismayed and greatly afraid. vs. 11b
    - 1)) Their confidence was taken by the word dismayed “chathath” means shattered and broken.
    - 2)) Their courage was destroyed by the phrase Greatly afraid, meaning abundantly fearful.

- a) Count the number of times the Scriptures record, “stop being afraid” or “do not be afraid”, depending on your translation.
- b) This is a human trait, common to all men and women.

**17:12-30    The visit of David to the camp of Israel and his anger at the defying words of Goliath.**

**17:12-19** The identity of David.

- 1) David’s family. vs. 12
  - a) Jesse was the father of David, the Ephrathite of Bethlehem Judah. vs. 2a-b
  - b) Jesse had eight sons and was an old man in the days of Saul, vs. 2c-f
- 2) David’s brothers. vs. 13-14
  - a) The three oldest had gone to follow Saul to the battle. vs. 13a
  - b) Their names were Eliab the firstborn, next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. vs. 13b-d
  - c) David was the youngest. And the three oldest followed Saul. vs. 14
- 3) David had two responsibilities. vs. 15
  - a) David served Saul as a minstrel.
  - b) David was a shepherd and occasionally returned home from Saul

to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem.

- 4) David was sent by his father to the camp of Israel. vs. 16-19
  - a) The Philistine Goliath drew near and presented himself forty days, morning and evening. vs. 16
  - b) Jesse, the father of David, told him to take to his brothers an ephah of this dried grain and ten loaves at the camp. vs. 17
  - c) He was to also carry ten cheeses to the captain of their thousand. vs. 18a
  - d) He was to see how his brothers were doing and bring back news of them. vs. 18b-c
  - e) He was going into a war-zone, Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. vs. 19

**17:20-27** The arrival of David.

- 1) David obeyed his father Jesse. vs. 20-22
  - a) He rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, and took the things and went as Jesse had commanded him. vs. 20a-c
  - b) He came to the camp as the army was going out to the fight, shouting for the battle. vs. 20d

- c) Israel and the Philistines had drawn up in battle array, army against army. vs. 21
- d) David left his supplies in the hand of the supply keeper, ran to the army, and greeted his brothers. vs. 22
- 2) David observed the enemy Goliath and the Israelites. vs. 23-25
  - a) Then as he talked with them and the Philistine of Gath, Goliath was coming up from the armies of the Philistines; and he spoke the same words. So David heard them. vs. 23
  - b) And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were dreadfully afraid. vs. 24
- 3) David heard the men of Israel. vs. 25
  - a) He heard how impressed the men were, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel" vs. 25a-c
  - b) He heard about the three-fold prize to the one killing Goliath. vs. 25d-f
    - 1)) Enrich with great riches.
    - 2)) Give him his daughter.
    - 3)) Give his father's house exemption from taxes in Israel.
- 4) David spoke to the men of Israel. vs. 26-27
  - a) David recognized it was a shame to Israel. vs. 26a-c

- 1)) David responded in surprise to the men who stood by him, saying, “What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine,
- 2)) David knew this alone would remove their shame, “And takes away the reproach from Israel? vs. 26a-c
- b) David responded in anger. vs. 26d-e
  - 1)) David disdained Goliath, “For who is this uncircumcised Philistine.” vs. 26d
  - 2)) David did not intimidated by Goliath, “That he should defy the armies of the living God?” vs. 26e
- c) David re-heard the same answer from the men, saying, “So shall it be done for the man who kills him.” vs. 27

**17:28-30** The rebuke of David.

- 1) David got an ear-full from his older brother. vs. 28
  - a) Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab’s anger was aroused against David. vs. 28a-b
  - b) Eliab questioned his motive for coming, “Why did you come down here? vs. 28c-d
  - c) Eliab accused him of being irresponsible, “And with whom have

- you left those few sheep in the wilderness?” vs. 28e
- d) Eliab said he was self-willed, “I know your pride and the insolence of your heart.” vs. 28f
- e) Eliab said he was merely curios, “For you have come down to see the battle.” vs. 28g
- 2) David gave a mouth-full to his older brother and the men. vs. 29-30
  - a) He did not see himself as having done anything wrong, “And David said, “What have I done now?” vs. 29a-b
  - b) He exposed the complacent attitude of his brother, “Is there not a cause?” vs. 29c
    - \* This is a key verse!
  - c) He repeated this to others, “Then he turned from him toward another and said the same thing.” vs. 30a
  - d) He only heard the men respond in telling him about the reward, “And these people answered him as the first ones did.” vs. 30b

**17:31-56** **The courageous heart of David to destroy Goliath.**

**17:31-39** David was confident in his God.

- 1) The hope of Saul was David. vs. 31-33

- a) The words of David had been reported to Saul and he sent for him. vs. 31
- b) The words of David were reported to Saul vs. 32
- c) The words of Saul to David. vs. 33
- 2) The hope of David was God. vs. 34-37
  - a) As it had been while being a shepherd, “But David said to Saul. vs. 34-35
    - \* The land of Israel had many forest with lions and bears at one time.
  - b) So it would be against Goliath. vs. 36-37d
    - \* The living God, apposed to dead idols of the Philistines!
- 3) The hope Saul was in mere victory. vs. 37e-39
  - a) Saul thinking he was in command said to David, “Go, and the LORD be with you!” vs. 37e-g
  - b) Saul attempting to prepare David for battle clothed David with his armor, and he put a bronze helmet on his head; he also clothed him with a coat of mail. vs. 38
  - c) Saul observing David as he fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul, “I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested them.” So David took them off.

- 17:40-51** David was dependent on his God.
- 1) David trusted the weapons God had trained him with. vs. 40
  - 2) Goliath came forth. vs. 41
  - 3) Goliath was insulted by the presence of a boy, rather than a soldier. vs. 42-44
    - a) He despised him in heart. vs. 42
    - b) He cursed him in word. vs. 43
    - c) He mocked David, “And the Philistine said to David, “Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and the beasts of the field!” vs. 44
  - 3) David responded to Goliath. vs. 45-47
    - a) He announce his coming as the representative of God. vs. 45
      - \* The phrase LORD of hosts means the Captain of the armies of heaven, who Goliath had defied!
    - b) He announced his victory beforehand. vs. 46
    - c) He announced doing and glory would be God’s. vs. 47
  - 4) David ran out to slay the giant Goliath. vs. 48-51
    - a) He faced his enemy. vs. 48
    - b) He defeated his enemy. vs. 49
    - d) He killed his enemy. vs. 50
    - e) He struck fear in the enemy. vs. 51
      - \* Like his god Dagon, face down with his head detached. 1Sam. 5:4

**17:52-56** David was the instrument of God.

- 1) One man who trusted God made a big difference to the nation. vs. 52-53
  - a) The men took courage. vs. 52a-b
  - b) The men defeated the enemy. ” vs. 52c-d
- 2) The nation was enriched due to David, “Then the children of Israel returned from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their tents.: vs. 53
- 3) The man David took his trophy with him . vs. 54
  - a) The mind that challenged God, “And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem,” vs. 54a
  - b) The armor that was insufficient to defeat God, “But he put his armor in his tent.” vs. 54b
- 4) The man of God is not recognized by the people in power. vs. 55
  - a) Saul was impressed, “When Saul saw David going out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the commander of the army, “Abner, whose son is this youth?” vs. 53a-c
    - 1) The problem of Saul not recognizing David is not stated.
    - 2) Saul’s mental condition could be part of it.
    - 3) I think Saul, like many individuals who are so self absorbed, just used

people without ever recognizing who they are or even take notice of them, being very shallow people in their relation with others.

- b) Abner was oblivious, “And Abner said, “As your soul lives, O king, I do not know.” vs. 55d-g
- c) Saul was interested in David, “So the king said, “Inquire whose son this young man is.” vs. 56
  - 1)) The believer is acknowledge by those in power, only when they appear to do great things.
  - 2)) It is self-serving, gather the best men to themselves, for self-glory!