

## 1. David Anointed by Samuel

- Where the LORD looks to measure the quality of a person:

*<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart."*

- What happens when a person is anointed:

*And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him, for this is he."<sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward.*

- Will David be sinless? No, he will sin gravely and/but he will abhor his actions and repent in a way we can emulate.

*Psalm 51:10-11*

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.*

*Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.*

*Psalm 51:16-17*

*For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;  
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.*

*The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart,  
O God, you will not despise.*

## 2. Saul Rejected by the LORD.

- Why isn't Saul's confession for sin (24-26) and request for pardon enough to alter the LORD's rejection?

*1 Samuel 15:22-23 And Samuel said,*

*"Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices,  
as in obeying the voice of the Lord?"*

*Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.*

*<sup>23</sup> For rebellion is as the sin of divination,  
and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry.*

*Because you have rejected the word of the Lord,  
he has also rejected you from being king."*



### 1 Samuel 15:16-31 Saul Rejected

*Then Samuel said to Saul, "Stop! I will tell you what the Lord said to me this night." And he said to him, "Speak."*

*<sup>17</sup> And Samuel said, "Though you are little in your own eyes, are you not the head of the tribes of Israel? The Lord anointed you king over Israel.*

*<sup>18</sup> And the Lord sent you on a mission and said, 'Go, devote to destruction the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until they are consumed.' <sup>19</sup> Why then did you not obey the voice of the Lord? Why did you pounce on the spoil and do what was evil in the sight of the Lord?"*

*<sup>20</sup> And Saul said to Samuel, "I have obeyed the voice of the Lord. I have gone on the mission on which the Lord sent me. I have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and I have devoted the Amalekites to destruction. <sup>21</sup> But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the best of the things*

**Stop! I will tell you what the Lord said to me:** Samuel gets very strong with Saul, because Saul is denying that he did not obey the voice of the Lord. The message he receives from the Prophet is a nightmare.

**Though you are little in your own eyes:** The Lord knew that Saul had a confidence, self-worth problem. Before his elevation to the royal dignity Saul had deemed himself altogether unequal to so heavy a task (1 Samuel 9:21); now, after great military successes, he is filled with arrogance, even setting up a monument to himself (15:12). The prophet desires to remind him that his elevation came solely from God and his obedience was due to God..

**Why then did you not obey the voice of the Lord?:** Samuel asks: Why did you not obey and why did you pounce on the spoil? We see his quick defensiveness as he attempts to justify himself and shift blame to others.

**I have obeyed:** But he has not obeyed; he seems unaware that by telling Samuel that he has preserved King Agag, he is admitting his guilt. Saul wanted to justify himself, and to throw the blame of sparing the cattle upon the people. Saul blames the soldiers for keeping the best of the animals. He says we kept the best animals to sacrifice to the LORD in Gilgal.

devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal.”<sup>22</sup> And Samuel said,

**“Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.  
<sup>23</sup> For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry.**

*Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, he has also rejected you from being king.”*

<sup>24</sup> *Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned, for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord and your words, because I feared the people and obeyed their voice.”<sup>25</sup> Now therefore, please pardon my sin and return with me that I may bow before the Lord.”*

<sup>26</sup> *And Samuel said to Saul, “I will not return with you. For you have rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you from being king over Israel.”<sup>27</sup> As Samuel turned to go away, Saul seized the skirt of his robe, and it tore.<sup>28</sup> And Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you.”<sup>29</sup> And also the Glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man, that he should have regret.”*

<sup>30</sup> *Then he said, “I have sinned; yet honor me now before the elders of my people and before Israel, and return with me, that I may bow before the Lord your God.”<sup>31</sup> So Samuel turned back after Saul, and Saul bowed before the Lord.*

**Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings:** This is a seminal message of great wisdom that will be referred to by future prophets, David and Jesus Christ. It's a question of motivation and a way to evaluate your choices and behaviors when it comes to your worship (sacrifices).

**to obey is better than sacrifice:** In this immediate case Saul has already disobeyed God but plans to have a celebratory religious event using animals that God has already "devoted" to himself, animals that should have already been sacrificed. Saul has rebelled and presumptively and obstinately thinks he has done well with the mission he was sent on.

**he has rejected you from being king:** How has Saul rejected the word of the Lord? He did not heed the commands for this mission. He instead rebelled (which is as bad as "divination", consulting a spirit of the dead or witchcraft). He was "presumptive" (which is empty and an idolatry of self), obstinately defiant.

**I have sinned... I have transgressed the commandment... now please pardon my sin:** (Taken from the Pulpit Commentary) "The words of Samuel struck Saul with terror. The same authority which had first given him the kingdom now withdraws it from him, and pronounces his offence as equal in God's sight to crimes which Saul himself held in great abhorrence. He humbles himself, therefore, before Samuel, acknowledges his sin, and frankly confesses that the cause of it had been his unwillingness to act in a manner contrary to the wishes of the people; and we must fairly conclude that the sparing of the spoil had been the people's doing. But was it not the king's duty to make the people obedient to Jehovah's voice? As the theocratic king, he was Jehovah's minister, and in preferring popularity to duty he showed himself unworthy of his position. Nor can we

suppose that his confession of sin arose from penitence. It was the result simply of vexation at having his victory crossed by reproaches and disapproval from the only power capable of holding him in check. It seems, too, as if it were Samuel whom he feared more than Jehovah; for he speaks of thy words, and asks Samuel to pardon his sin, and to grant him the favor of his public presence with him at the sacrifice which was about to be celebrated in honor of their triumph. .

#### 1 Samuel 16:1-13 David Anointed

*The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.”<sup>2</sup> And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’<sup>3</sup> And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me him whom I declare to you.”<sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?”<sup>5</sup> And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.*

<sup>6</sup> *When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD's anointed is before him.”<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”<sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>10</sup> And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen these.”<sup>11</sup> Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.”<sup>12</sup> And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.”<sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.*