

“Lessons from the Life of David” – Pastor Jim Ruddy

Study # 3 – The LORD has sought out a man! – Selected Scripture

I. THE PROGRESSION OF GOD’S REVELATION

A. The General Revelation of God

- Nature provides every man with an adequate witness of the existence of God. cf. Ps. 8:1-9; 19:1; Isa. 40:12-14; Rom. 1:20

B. The Special Revelation of God

- The Scriptures are required to discover who God is!
cf. Acts 17:22-31; John 5:39; Matt. 22:29; Mark 12:29-34

C. The Personal Revelation of God

- The full revelation of God has been made known in Jesus.
cf. John 1:1,14; 5:19; 8:26; 12:49; 14:9-10; Heb. 1:1,2

II. THE PRINCIPLES OF PROPER INTERPRETATION

A. The Limitations of Old Testament Light

- We cannot expect the OT characters to walk in the fullness of the of the revelation we enjoy as NT believers; that is, the completed Scriptures, the incarnation of Christ, and the indwelling presence and illumination of the Holy Spirit.
- Man is accountable for and will be judged according to the revelation he has received. cf. 1 Sam. 15:23,26; Rom. 1:20; Rom. 2:11-16; Matt. 11:22; John 9:41; 15:22

B. The Expectations of New Testament Light

- “For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.* Luke 12:48; cf. Luke 8:18; 16:10-12; 19:17

III. THE PICTURE OF SAUL’S REBELLION

A. His Lack of Dependence

- Blinded by pride, Saul began trusting his own strength and wisdom, instead of relying upon the Lord. 1 Sam. 15:12,17

B. His Lack of Obedience

- Saul refused to walk in the light he was given, therefore, even the light he had was taken away. 1 Sam 12:14,15, 25
cf. 1 Sam. 14:37; 15:35; 16:14; 28:6,15
- Concerning our understanding of *“a distressing spirit from the LORD”* (16:14), it would be improper to interpret these verses in a vacuum. What may have been perceived to be in that day has been made clearer through the progressive revelation of God in Scripture. cf. 1 Jn. 1:5; Jam. 1:13

IV. THE PROBLEM WITH SAMUEL'S HESITATION

A. His Mourning Was Too Prolonged 1 Sam. 16:1

- It was right for the Prophet to mourn over Saul's rebellion and the consequences which were sure to come upon him because of his departure from God. 1 Sam 15:10,11
- It was wrong to mourn for Saul because God had rejected him from being King. To mourn over God's judgment is to critique and criticize His judgment. cf. Ps. 19:9; Rev. 16:7

B. His Arguing Was Too Pronounced 1 Sam. 16:1,2

- As soon as Samuel took his eyes off God and placed them upon Saul, his heart was filled with fear. cf. Num. 13:33
- Don't ask, "*How can I go?*" when God has already said, "*I am sending you!*" cf. Acts 9:10-18; Ex. 3:10; 4:1,10; 6:12,30

V. THE PROCESS OF DAVID'S SELECTION

A. David Sought

- "*The LORD has sought for Himself a man...*" 1 Sam. 13:14
- "*...a neighbor of yours, who is better than you.*" 1 Sam. 15:28
- "*I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.*" Acts 13:22; cf. Ps. 89:20

B. David Bought

- In the natural, David had no recommendation before God.
- He may have been an illegitimate son. cf. Ps. 51:5; 27:10; 69:8
- He was the youngest of eight sons and wasn't even invited to Samuel's feast. cf. 1 Sam. 16:11; Note: 17:28-29
- He had a very humble view of himself. cf. 1 Sam. 18:18
- His family had Moabite roots. cf. Ruth 4:21-22; Ps. 60:8
 - He had to be "redeemed" from his past in order to step into his future! Deut. 23:3-6; Neh. 13:23-25
 - Through the redemption of grace (Ruth 2), David was grafted into a new root system! cf. Rev. 5:5; Rom. 15:12; 1 Pet. 1:18,19; 2:9,10; Eph. 2:11-19; 1 Cor. 1:26-29; 6:9-11

C. David Taught

- "*Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward.*" 1 Sam. 16:13
- "*I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, who is skillful in playing, a mighty man of valor, a man of war, prudent in speech, and a handsome person; and the LORD is with him.*" 1 Sam. 16:18
- David lived under a rich anointing of the Holy Spirit!
 - "*And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.*" Ps. 51:11