

1 Samuel 16:1-13

David, God's Chosen Man

When we first meet David in 1 Samuel 16, he is a young man, probably just at teenager, who was all but forgotten by his family. God had a plan for David, and even though he may not have been man's first choice, he was God's chosen man.

I. The _____ of God (1 Samuel 16:1)

- God rejected Saul from being king because of Saul's _____. (1 Samuel 15:22-23)
- But God already had a solution in mind. He had already found a man who would be Saul's _____.
- The word translated "provided" comes from a root word that means "to look for" or "to see." To this day, God is searching for people who will love, serve and _____ Him. (2 Chronicles 16:9; Acts 13:22)

II. The _____ of Samuel (1 Samuel 16:2-5)

- The solution for our fear and doubts is to have _____ in God and His word and obey His commands. (Proverbs 29:11; 2 Timothy 1:7; Joshua 1:9)
- After this, Bethlehem would be known as the City of David, and many years later, the King of Kings would be born there Who would bring _____ from a wicked tyrant, not just to one city or one nation, but to all the world. (Luke 2:11)

III. The _____ Search (1 Samuel 16:6-10)

- Samuel made a judgment call based on _____ only, and, not surprisingly, made the wrong call. (Proverbs 18:13; John 7:24)
- The matters of the heart that cannot be seen determine the _____ of one's life. (Proverbs 4:23)
- We need to evaluate people and circumstances with a _____ perspective and see the invisible with the eye of faith because that is where we will find the things that matter for eternity. (2 Corinthians 4:18)

IV. The _____ of God (1 Samuel 16:11-13)

- Whatever the motive, it is evident that David's father didn't think his presence was _____ enough to include him.
- When David arrived, Samuel was no longer _____. David was a good looking guy, but more importantly, he was God's chosen man.
- Failing to wait on God and making decisions based on our limited understanding always results in _____ and disappointment. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Conclusion

From that day forward, David would see God do great and powerful things in his life. But none of that would have happened if David had not been the kind of man that God was looking for. If he hadn't been in his place when they came to find him, he might have missed out of God's best. God is looking for the same kind of people today, people's who are willing to obey God and walk by faith that God's _____ may be done through them. Are you that kind of person?

PBC PRAYER POINTS

Shut-ins

Elsie Banks

Jane Haynes

Ongoing Health Needs

Connie Bladine

Pat Hill

Eula Keener

Marvin Ragsdale

Brian Thompson

Ann Whitley

Sophia Rambo

Elaine Milam

Betsy Grenvitch

Unsaved

Corey B. B.

R.V. Chris

Church Ministries

Sunday School, Children's Church, Frontline Children's Program, Teen Ministry, Outreach Programs, Music Ministry, Regular Services

Church Staff

The Chambers

The Riffels

Deacons

David Almand

David Bachman

Dean McAvoy

Austin Jones

Drew McIntyre

National Officials

President Joe Biden

Vice President Kamala Harris

Senators Ossoff & Warnock

Representative Jody Hice

Supreme Court Justices:

Ketanji Jackson, Neil

Gorsuch, Clarence Thomas,

Sonia Sotomayer, Elena

Kagan, Amy Coney Barrett,

Brett Kavanaugh, Stephen

Breyer, John Roberts

State/Local Officials

Governor Brian Kemp

Lt. Governor Burt Jones

State House Rep. Tim

Fleming

State Senator Brian Strickland

Rutledge Mayor Bruce

Altznauer

Missionary Updates

Miyashitas - Japan

Praises

- They have five people scheduled to come for their spring Recon Tour.
- A family friend they have known for almost two years attended church for the first time recently.

Prayer Requests

- Pray for their kids' program, that they would see 3-4 more people sign up.

Kanon & Nancy Bloom - New York City

Praises:

- They had their highest attendance yet (79) at their Christmas Eve service at Truth Baptist Church and a first time visitor accepted Christ as her Savior after the service.
- At the new church plant, Fresh Meadows, they had two first time visitors at the Christmas Eve service.

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for lost parents of children attending the church to be saved.
- Pray they could train more of the church members to serve in the different ministries.

Matt & Katie Northcutt - Newfoundland

Praises:

- They were able to pass out over 3,000 gospel packets at the annual town Christmas parade with each person in the church being involved.
- Their Christmas Candlelight service had their highest attendance ever, with sixteen coming from their work with the Ukrainians.

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for a Russian-speaking lady who had questions after attending the Christmas service to be saved.
- Pray for the health needs of Elliott and Matt.
- Pray for their children, Elliott and Kara, as they struggle with loneliness at times, being the only kids in the ministry.

Recent Requests

- Pray for Aaron McIntyre's continued healing and recovery.
- Marvin Ragsdale fell and was admitted to the hospital for observation. Praise the Lord, he had no broken bones.
- Praise the Lord that Holden Lee Jones was born healthy last week!
- Pray for Bill R. who had heart surgery last Thursday.
- Pray for the results from Betsy's recent MRI's and wisdom as the doctors treat her Moyamoya disease.
- Please be in prayer for a friend of Gwendolyn whose husband passed away last week. He was a pastor of a small church in Montana.

1 Samuel 16:1-13

David, God's Chosen Man

No Old Testament character had more of an impact on history than king David. He was a shepherd, a psalmist, a soldier and the sovereign of a nation. Through the fulfillment of the promises God made to him, a Savior would come to deliver the world from sin. That same Savior, the Son of David, will one day rule the world because He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

David's story is a testament to what God's power can accomplish in the life of the most unlikely person. David slew a giant, led armies to victory, and took the nation to its highest point. At the same time his story is a painful reminder that even the best of us are prone to failure. The same one who was called "a man after God's own heart" would also commit adultery and murder, fail to lead his family in the ways of the Lord and leave behind a kingdom roiled with strife and turmoil. Overall, David's story is positive and encouraging, but we can learn much from both his victories and his defeats. From his humble beginning, David had to learn to trust God through all the ups and downs of life. Whether he was running toward a giant who had defied God's armies or running from his son who in consequence of David's sin had risen up in rebellion, David had to learn to trust in the Lord his Shepherd as he went through the valley of the shadow of death. David found that when he trusted God and obeyed God's commands, God blessed him in extraordinary ways.

When we first meet David in 1 Samuel 16, he is a young man, probably just a teenager, who was all but forgotten by his family. God had a plan for David, and even though he may not have been man's first choice, he was God's chosen man.

I. The Direction of God

1 Samuel 16:1 And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.

Samuel was the last of the judges of Israel. You may remember him better as the son of Hannah who was dedicated to the Lord before he was born, taken to live at the temple when he was a little boy and raised under the teaching of Eli the high priest, and became a great prophet and successful leader of Israel. But toward the end of his life, the people of Israel came to him and demanded a king to rule over them instead. They did not like the way that Samuel's sons behaved and were not keen on them taking his place. Also, they wanted to be like the other nations around them. They were not content being a theocracy ruled by God's appointed men. They wanted a king.

God led Samuel to anoint Saul to be the first king of Israel, and for a time, Saul ruled well. But it wasn't long before he began to drift from the Lord. He became increasingly selfish and tyrannical. The final straw came in 1 Samuel 15 when Saul disobeyed God's command to destroy all of the Amalekites. He saved the best of the livestock and spared king Agag. **God rejected Saul from being king because of Saul's rebellion.**

1 Samuel 15:22-23 And Samuel said, Hath 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 hearken than the fat of rams. [23] For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from being king.

That was a sad day for Israel and for Samuel. Samuel had high hopes for Saul, but he was disappointed. He genuinely wanted the best for the nation, so it grieved him to see them floundering and suffering because of the poor leadership of King Saul. Perhaps he took it a little

personally since the people had previously rejected him and now God has rejected the king that Samuel anointed. So in 1 Samuel 16:1, we find Samuel mourning because of the rebellion and rejection of Saul.

But God already had a solution in mind. He had already found a man who would be Saul's replacement. God spoke to Samuel and told him that it was time to stop mourning and to move on. God's instructions were specific. He told Samuel to go to Bethlehem and anoint one of the sons of a man named Jesse to be the next king of Israel.

Note how God said, "I have provided me a king among his sons." The word translated "provided" comes from a root word that means "to look for" or "to see." The same word is used three times in 1 Samuel 16:7.

1 Samuel 16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

God had been looking for and had found the right man for the job of being the next king of Israel. Even though he was a young man, David had already distinguished himself as a godly man of character. To this day, God is searching for people who will love, serve and obey Him. God is looking for people that will He can work through in powerful ways.

2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.

When God looks at your life, what does He see? Is your heart perfect toward Him? Are you a person after God's own heart through Him God can work His will? That is what God saw in David.

Acts 13:22 And when he had removed him, he raised up unto them David to be their king; to whom also he gave testimony, and said, I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will.

II. The Doubt of Samuel

1 Samuel 16:2-5 And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take an heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD. [3] And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will shew thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me him whom I name unto thee. [4] And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably? [5] And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

Samuel had his doubts, however. Mainly, he was afraid that if Saul got word of what he was doing, Saul would kill him. That was a real danger. Saul had become murderously prideful and would have interpreted Samuel's actions as treason. But again we see that God had a solution already in mind.

God instructed Samuel to take a heifer with him and announce that he was going to be conducting a sacrifice in Bethlehem. This would give him legitimate cover for the other job that he was going there to do. Some might consider this deception, but in Samuel did not lie about anything nor to he lead people to believe anything that was untrue. Yes, there were somethings that were kept secret, but often it is unwise to divulge too much information. Proverbs 29:11 says, "A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards." Ultimately it comes down to this: the solution for our fear and doubts is to have faith in God and His word and obey His commands.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Joshua 1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

After receiving these further instruction from the Lord, Samuel made his way down to Bethlehem and his arrival caused quite a stir. The leaders of the town were afraid at his coming and asked, “Comest thou peaceably?” They were aware of the recent split between Samuel and Saul. They knew how vengeful the king could be, and they did not want to get caught up in the middle of any scandal that could cause them their lives.

Samuel responds as God instructed, telling them that he was come peaceably and calling them to the ceremony where they would sacrifice to the Lord. Among those called were Jesse and his sons whom Samuel specially sanctified for this event.

This would have been quite the occasion for this little town of Bethlehem. Previously, their only claim to fame was being the place where Rachel, Jacob’s wife, was buried. They were not a large metropolis. Bethlehem was not even included in the list of cities of Judah in Joshua 15. **But after this, Bethlehem would be known as the City of David, and many years later, the King of Kings would be born there Who would bring deliverance from a wicked tyrant, not just to one city or one nation, but to all the world.**

Luke 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

III. The Disappointing Search

1 Samuel 16:6-10 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. [7] But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart. [8] Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. [9] Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. [10] Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these.

When Jesse and his sons arrived, Samuel immediately thought that he had found his man in Eliab, the oldest son of Jesse. **Samuel made a judgment call based on appearances only, and, not surprisingly, made the wrong call.** Samuel is not alone in judging people and circumstances by appearances. It is a habit of human nature. We all tend to jump to conclusions based on superficial and insufficient evidence. We often answer a matter before we have fully heard it and that is a folly and a shame to us when we do. (Proverbs 18:13) We should “judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.” (John 7:24)

God’s admonition to Samuel in verse seven is a jewel of scripture that we would do well to add to the collection of those Words of God hidden in our hearts. “For the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.” This is not an excuse to ignore our appearance, as some have made it out to be. **Rather, it is an instruction to prioritize the internal things, the matters of the heart that cannot be seen but determine the outcome of one’s life.**

Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Either God saw something in Eliab that made Him unsuitable to be the next king or God did not see something that He was looking for. Either way, what God was looking for was something not visible on the outside. Eliab may have been tall and good looking, but was so was Saul and that

certainly did not work out well in the end. Samuel was disappointed because he was looking at only the physical, and we will always be disappointed when we focus on the physical. We need to learn to look at the world the way God looks at the world and look beyond the physical which is temporary and can be deceiving. **We need to evaluate people and circumstances with a spiritual perspective and see the invisible with the eye of faith because that is where we will find the things that matter for eternity.**

2 Corinthians 4:18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

One by one, Samuel went through all of Jesse's sons that were present and to every one God said, "No." Finally, Samuel turned to Jesse and asked, "Are these all your children?"

IV. The Declaration of God

1 Samuel 16:11-13 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither. [12] And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he. [13] Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

It is curious that David had not already been summoned to join the family for this sacrifice. You would think with such a big occasion as this, and with Jesse being singled out for a special purpose, they could have found someone else to watch the sheep for a couple of hours while they joined Samuel for this ceremony. It is a strong indication of the opinion his family had of him. He was the youngest, which often had been a place of low regard, especially in Bible times. He was given a the lowly task of tending the sheep while the rest of the family went to the sacrifice. **Whatever the motive, it is evident that David's father didn't think his presence was important enough to include him.**

Samuel had David sent for with some urgency, and **when David arrived, Samuel was no longer disappointed. David was a good looking guy, but more importantly, he was God's chosen man.** When Samuel saw David, God declared, "Arise, anoint him: for this is he." Samuel wasted no more time but took the horn filled with anointing oil and anointed David right in the middle of all his brothers. His brother may not have like it. His father may even have been bothered by it. But that didn't matter, because God had found His man in David.

As we go through life, we must wait on God to guide us into the right decisions. **Failing to wait on God and making decisions based on our limited understanding always results in frustration and disappointment.**

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. [6] In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Conclusion

1 Samuel 16:13 states that "the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward." From that day forward, David would see God do great and powerful things in his life. But none of that would have happened if David had not been the kind of man that God was looking for. If he hadn't been in his place when they came to find him, he might have missed out of God's best. **God is looking for the same kind of people today, people's who are willing to obey God and walk by faith that God's will may be done through them.** Are you that kind of person?