

## THE ANOINTING OF DAVID AS KING

### Introduction:

1. Chapters 1 – 8 took place during the time of the Judges and focused on the life of Samuel.
  2. Chapters 9 – 12 deal with the transition of the nation into a kingdom.
  3. Chapters 13 – 15 present the decline and rejection of Saul as King of Israel.
  4. Chapters 16 – 20 shift the focus to David, God's chosen King of Israel
- I. An Evil Spirit from the Lord Troubled Saul (16:14)
    - A. Before discussing the anointing of David as the new King of Israel, it is important to see the continuing spiritual decline of Saul.
    - B. When Saul became King, the Spirit of the Lord came upon him (10:6, 9-10; 11:6).
    - C. When David became King, the Spirit of the Lord came upon him (16:13).
    - D. At the same time, we are told that "an evil spirit from the Lord troubled" Saul.
      1. The word "troubled" literally means, "terrified; to be overtaken by a sudden terror; to be made afraid."
      2. Thus, when Saul learned that the kingdom would be taken from him, he began to live in fear (cf. Proverbs 28:1).
    - E. What does this mean?
      1. Whatever it means, it must harmonize with the character of God.
      2. God is not the author or source of evil (cf. James 1:13).
      3. Therefore, God could not have directly sent or forced evil upon Saul.
    - F. Consider these passages...
      1. Judges 9:23 – *not a literal evil spirit (demon), nor directly sent by God*
      2. Job 1:12; 2:6 – *what God allows is sometimes said to come from God*
      3. 1 Kings 22:6-8, 13-23 – *allowed, but not directly caused by God*
      4. Isaiah 19:11-14
      5. Jeremiah 4:10; 5:12; 6:14; 8:11; 14:13-14
      6. Ezekiel 14:9 – *not directly, but He allows men to be deceived*
      7. Romans 1:24, 26, 28 – *God gave men over to their wicked desires*
        - a. Saul did exactly as they (the Gentiles) did.
        - b. He knew God, but did not glorify Him by obedience.
        - c. Thus, his "foolish heart was darkened."
      8. 2 Corinthians 2:15-16 – *God's Word attracts and repels*
      9. 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12
        - a. God will allow men to teach and practice error.
        - b. God will allow those who reject the truth to hear and believe a lie.
        - c. God will allow souls to be condemned if they so choose.
    - G. Important facts...
      1. Saul's "evil spirit" could be soothed by David's playing the harp.
      2. Saul's "evil spirit" was a heart overcome by fear and jealousy (18:12).
      3. Saul's "evil spirit" was his own prideful desire to keep the kingdom for himself – no matter what must be done (19:9-10).
    - H. When one rebels against the Lord, he severs fellowship with Jehovah.
    - I. As he persists in his sin, he will move farther away from God and will be influenced by evil – from without and from within.

1 Samuel 16

- II. The Anointing of David as King (16:1-13)
- A. Samuel continued mourning for Saul.
    - 1. For his spiritual condition
    - 2. For the damage he had done and could do to the nation
    - 3. For the break in fellowship
    - 4. This statement reveals much about the heart of Samuel.
  - B. However, God had determined that it was time to move forward and instructed Samuel to anoint a new king.
  - C. He commanded Samuel to go to the house of Jesse in Bethlehem, for the king would be selected from among his sons.
  - D. Samuel understood the suspicious character of Saul and knew that his life would be in danger by going to Bethlehem.
    - 1. The road from Ramah (Samuel's home) to Bethlehem (David's home) passed by Gibeah (Saul's home).
    - 2. If Saul knew that a new king was being chosen, he would have reacted violently.
  - E. Thus, God commanded Samuel to make a sacrifice at Bethlehem and invite Jesse's family to the event.
    - 1. This was not a deception by God or by Samuel.
    - 2. Samuel actually offered a sacrifice in the town of Bethlehem.
    - 3. However, his ultimate purpose was kept a secret.
    - 4. By his rebellion, Saul had forfeited his right to know the plans of Samuel or God (cf. Matthew 10:16).
  - F. Upon arriving at Bethlehem, the elders of the city were afraid.
  - G. Samuel assured them that his visit was a peaceful one and called them and the house of Jesse to the sacrifice.
  - H. When he saw the sons of Jesse, Samuel thought that Eliab, the firstborn, would be chosen as the new king.
  - I. However, God warned him against judging a man by his outward appearance
    - 1. This was had been done with Saul (9:2; 10:23-24).
    - 2. He had the outward stature of a king, but lacked the inward strength of character.
  - J. God judges a man by looking at his heart.
    - 1. Literally, God said, "Man looks at the eyes, but God looks on the heart," or "Man looks for the eyes, but God looks for the heart."
    - 2. In fact, God had already sought out a man "after his own heart" (13:14; 15:28; Acts 13:22). *{He was already preparing David for the throne, possibly by his life among the sheep (cf. 17:34-37).}*
    - 3. What does it mean to be a man after God's own heart?
    - 4. Literally, in the Greek, it means, "A man who is, throughout, one with God's own heart."
    - 5. David fits this description (especially at this point in time) because in his life and as king, he wanted what God wanted.
    - 6. Even when David stumbled and committed sins (which certainly were not "after God's own heart") he always found his way back to God – by godly sorrow, repentance and prayer (cf. 2 Sam. 24:17).
    - 7. Furthermore, David lived as though God were King of Israel and he was merely the Lord's servant.
    - 8. He labored to make sure that God's will for the nation was carried out – even desiring to build a Temple for the Lord.
  - K. As Jesse's other sons appeared before Samuel, none was chosen as king.

1 Samuel 16

- L. Finally, Samuel was informed of the youngest son who was out tending the sheep.
    - 1. David was the youngest son (the 8<sup>th</sup>) of Jesse.
    - 2. He is described as being “ruddy,” meaning “reddish” – a reference to his hair color or his complexion.
    - 3. He is said to have had a beautiful appearance – he was goodly to look at, a handsome young man.
  - M. David was sent for, and when he appeared before Samuel God spoke: “Arise, anoint him: for this is he.”
  - N. Thus, David was anointed with oil by Samuel in the presence of his family in Bethlehem.
  - O. This secret anointing was the first of three that David would experience.
- III. David, the Servant of King Saul (16:14-23)
- A. The evil spirit that troubled Saul could be soothed by music.
  - B. Thus, his servants sought for someone who could play the harp (or, lyre) and calm Saul’s troubled emotions.
  - C. David was the man chosen for this job.
    - 1. He is described as a skillful player. *{He was also a poet/song writer.}*
    - 2. He is called a mighty, valiant man – a warrior.
    - 3. He is known as a man of battle, a courageous fighter.
    - 4. He is said to be prudent in matters – a man of good judgment.
    - 5. He is described as an attractive young man.
    - 6. Most importantly, it was obvious to all that the Lord was with David.
  - D. Saul instructed Jesse to send David to his service; and, Jesse obeyed.
  - E. Saul instantly recognized the good qualities of David and “loved him greatly.”
  - F. In fact, he appointed David as his armor bearer.
  - G. Thus, by David’s service to the king, Saul’s evil spirit was soothed and he was refreshed.