

1st Samuel Chapter 10

- Samuel tells Saul to stand still that he may show Saul the word of God, which is the literal fulfillment of God's word, or that he may perform God's word upon Saul.

V: 1 Samuel anoints Saul with oil and kisses him – because the Lord had already anointed Saul.

- All that Samuel is doing is confirming that which God had already done. It is the same thing in ministry – we don't ordain men to ministry, God has already called them and ordained them, then we come along side and confirm what God has already done.
- In a way just saying "amen" God your right again!
- God had spoken to Samuel about anointing Saul to be king, but didn't say to kiss him, why did he do that?
- Samuel was loving those that God loved, and he hated those that God hated; essentially your friends are my friends, your enemies are my enemies.
- One of the surest ways to express love to someone is to love those that they love.

John 13:34 "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another."

- Anointed to be "captain" = chief, governor, leader, noble, prince, (chief) ruler.

His inheritance: the children of Israel are still God's inheritance – He claims them, just as He claims us. This is also a reminder to Saul; who's people? Saul is not to be all powerful, he will be a steward who will be held accountable.

Acts 20:27-28 ²⁷For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. ²⁸Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood."

V: 2-5 Samuel speaks a prophetic word over Saul: Go towards Rachel's tomb which is in Bethlehem or Ephrath (Genesis 35:19)

- 1st you'll encounter two men that will tell you that the lost donkeys are found, and that your father is worried about you.
- 2nd head towards Tabor & Bethel and you'll encounter 3 guys. One carrying 3 loaves of bread, another carrying wine, and a third carrying 3 kids or young goats.

- They are headed to Bethel, “house of God” with the elements of communion and a sin offering.
- They will give you two loaves of bread, then you’ll be met by a company of prophets praising the Lord and prophesying.

V: 6 The Spirit of the Lord came upon Saul, empowering him to prophesy, making him into a changed man.

- Saul is being led & guided by the Spirit of God; as he’s prophesying he’s speaking the Word of God, he’s declaring the glory of God, praising God.

V: 2 “Thy father – sorroweth for thee, “what shall I do for my son?” – the Love of the Father.

V: 3 3 men, 3 kids, 3 loaves, vessel of wine: sin offering, a broken body, a life poured out – the elements of communion – the love of the Son.

V: 6 The Spirit of the Lord being poured out, the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

V: 7 When these things be fulfilled – do what is in your heart to do.

- NKJV: “... *do as the occasion demands; for God is with thee.*”

Thus far we’ve been impressed with Samuel’s gift of hearing God’s voice:

Isaiah 30:21 “And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, this is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.”

Psalms 32:9 “Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.”

- We’re called to trust in the Lord with all our hearts – whether we hear Him or not.

2 Corinthians 5:7 “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

Understanding:

Philippians 2:13 “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.”

- Not 100% sure exactly what God wants us to do in a given situation, with a heart to please God we simply move forward and do what we think is right given the situation.

St. Augustine: "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and all your strength – then do whatever you want.*"

V: 8 Continue on from there to Gilgal, wait 7 days, and I will meet you there to offer burnt offerings, and I'll tell what to do from there.

- Kings don't wait for people, people wait for them.
- Samuel commanded Saul to wait for him, because he actually had more real authority than Saul.
- Saul needed to learn and to show that even though he was the king that he was submitted to the Lord and to the Lord's prophet.
- Later on, failing to wait for Samuel would later get Saul into trouble.

V: 9-13 All the things which Samuel described took place.

- The Spirit of God comes upon Saul, and those that see him and have known him see that he is a changed man.

V: 9 "... **God** gave him another heart..." should not be misconstrued to mean that Saul had a salvation experience. Saul received a different attitude or outlook, a different perspective.

- Later Saul through pride and disobedience would lose his kingdom and his life, God would remove the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

When David wrote and sang:

Psalms 51:10-11 "10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. 11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me."

- He may well have been thinking about what had happened to Saul through his disobedience.
- In the OT era, God gave His Holy Spirit to chosen people to enable them to perform certain tasks, and God could take the Holy Spirit away as well.
- Believers today are under the New Covenant and have the Holy Spirit abiding in them forever.

John 14:16-17 "16 And I (Jesus) will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; 17 even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you."

- God has given us a down payment, a surety of His return for us.

Ephesians 1:13-14 “¹³In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”

- This proverb indicates that Saul was an un-likely candidate to be a prophet; kind of like “when pigs fly...”
- Saul ends up at the high place, the place of worship.

V: 14-16 Back in Gibeah / map: Saul’s uncle asks him where have you been? Then he asks what Samuel said to him – Saul doesn’t tell him about being anointed to be king over Israel.

V: 17-21 Samuel gives them a run down of the situation – that they’ve rejected God who has taken care of them and saved them through their tribulations – and want instead an earthly king to rule over them.

- Therefore assemble yourselves at Mizpeh and God will choose who will be king.
- They work their way through the tribes, clans, and families; and Saul is chosen to be king, but can’t be found, he’s disappeared.

V: 22-24 Basically you can’t hide from God:

Psalm 139:7-10 “⁷Whither shall I go from thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence? ⁸If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. ⁹If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; ¹⁰even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.”

- God points out, reveals where Saul has tried to hide himself, so they went and got him.
- Samuel announces to all that Saul is the one whom God has chosen to be king over them.
- The people seemingly agree and shout “God save the king”.

V: 25 Samuel records the manner of the kingdom in a book, then dismisses the people back to their homes.

Samuel probably instructed them from:

Deuteronomy 17:14-20

- The king was to be submitted to the Lord, even if the people weren’t.

V: 26-27 So goes to his home in Gibeah with a band of men of whose hearts God had touched.

- Some were happy that Saul was king, others – wicked men despised him – not wanting to be ruled by anybody, neither God nor men.
- These men were rude to Saul, but he ignored their ill manners.

1 Samuel Chapter 11

V: 1-3 Nahash the Ammonite comes up against Jabesh Gilead – and their first response is to negotiate a surrender.

Map

- Nahash means “Serpent” he is pretty confident of victory, we’ll let you live if we can poke your eyes out.
- Archers and swordsmen are of little value without their right eye, we need two eyes for any depth perception, not to mention the humiliation.
- That is the tactic of the enemy, that old serpent the devil who seeks to intimidate, deceive and blind us all.

Revelation 12:9 “And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world:...”

- They negotiate for a 7 day respite to see if any will come to help them.
- Getting help is not necessarily a sure thing. **Judges 21:8-12** the children of Israel wiped out the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead because they didn’t respond to help when they were going to war against Benjamin, due to their un-willingness to deal with the men of Gibeah and the situation with the Levite’s concubine.
- A low point in the nation’s history.

V: 4-7 The messengers arrive in Gibeah and the people begin to mourn – not what I’d call a vote of confidence.

- Saul hears of it – and the Spirit of the Lord comes upon him – and we see him act boldly and decisively.
- Notice that when the Spirit of the Lord came upon him he didn’t start to laugh uncontrollably, or to roll around on the floor, or act drunken – he acted boldly and decisively in defense of God’s people – serving others, glorifying God.
- *Some of us might be comforted to see that anger and righteous indignation could be considered gifts of the Spirit based on this passage.*

- Saul cuts up an ox and sends the pieces out as a warning to those who might not heed the call to arms.
- Oxen were valuable, they were strong – the tractors of the day: the message was that if we don't deal with this immediately – their strength and wealth will be taken away.

V: 8-11 330,000 men respond to the call to arms, with one consent – unity.

- Send messengers to Jabesh-Gilead, help is on the way.
- The men of Jabesh-Gilead tell Nahash the king of Ammon that they'll come out to him tomorrow – and you can do to us what seems good to you.
- The next day Saul and the army of Israel show up and defeat the Amorites soundly.

V: 12-15 This battle solidifies the monarchy of Saul – some sought to avenge those who had insulted Saul – but Saul stops them.

- Saul acknowledges that it is God who gave them the victory, giving God the glory.
- Samuel directs the people to Gilgal to renew the kingdom – re-dedicate Saul, a coronation ceremony.
- They worshipped God by making sacrifices to the Lord, peace offerings to the Lord – and the people rejoiced.
- Because the Spirit of God was upon him, Saul won the outward battle – and the same anointing carried him through the internal battle and temptations. He didn't take revenge upon those who didn't like him, and he didn't take the glory to himself, he gave it to God.

Galatians 5:16 "... walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

- When the people saw that Saul cared enough to gather the men and march all night to battle in defense of the men of Jabesh-Gilead – when they saw his compassion and love for his fellow countrymen – that is when they rallied behind him.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 "1Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. 2And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing. 3And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not love, it profiteth me nothing."

John 13:34 “A new commandment I give unto you that you love one another, as I have loved you.”

- Just like Saul, we can only do that by the power of the Holy Spirit working in us.
- That will only happen when we invite Jesus to be our Lord and Savior.