SAUL, DAVID, & SOLOMON Lessons In Faith





"¹And 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.

²And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me . . ."

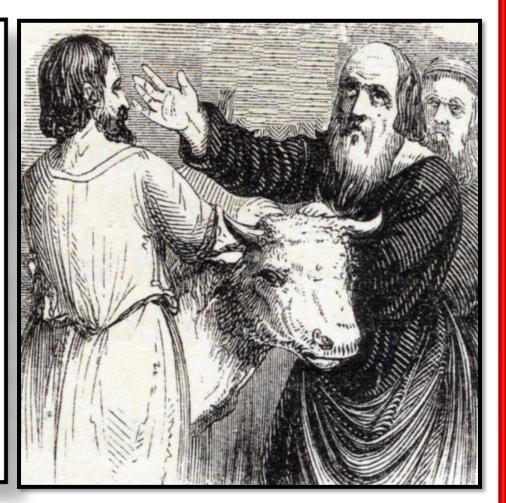


Samuel objected to the peril of such an errand.

It appears Saul had grown very wicked and outrageous since his rejection, or Samuel would not have said this.

"². . . And the LORD said, Take an heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD.

³And 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."



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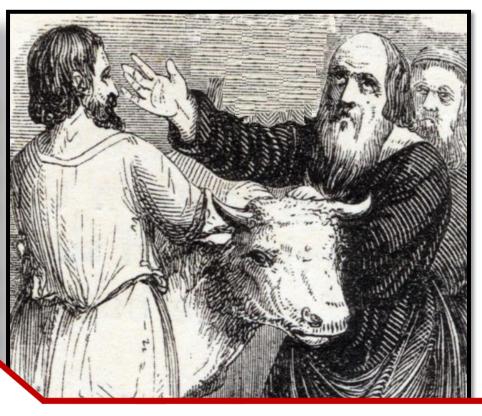
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God ordered Samuel to cover his errand with a sacrifice.

But it was true, Samuel did come to sacrifice, and it was proper, for he had come to anoint a king.

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³And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will shew thee what thou shalt do: an ¹ thou shalt anoint un



"I will shew thee what thou shalt do." Those that go about God's work in God's way will be directed step by step.

"⁴And 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?

⁵And 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."



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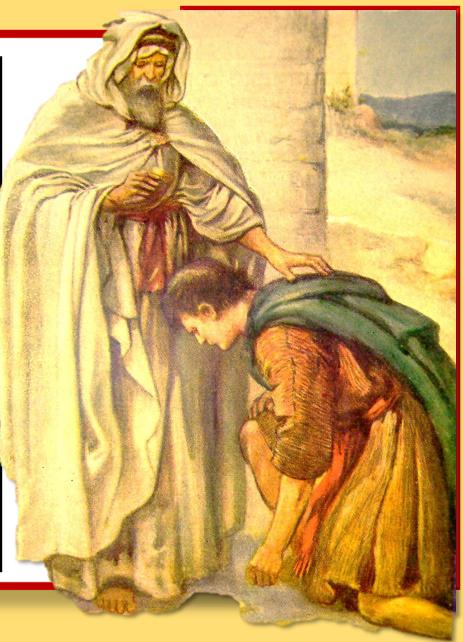
to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify

and his sons, and Samuel went to Bethlehem without ceremony or attendants. He was just a servant leading a heifer to sacrifice.

> Yet the elders trembled thinking God was displeased with them in some way and that Samuel was there to pronounce judgment.

> (Samuel had evidently made his point about obedience when he hewed King Agag in pieces.)

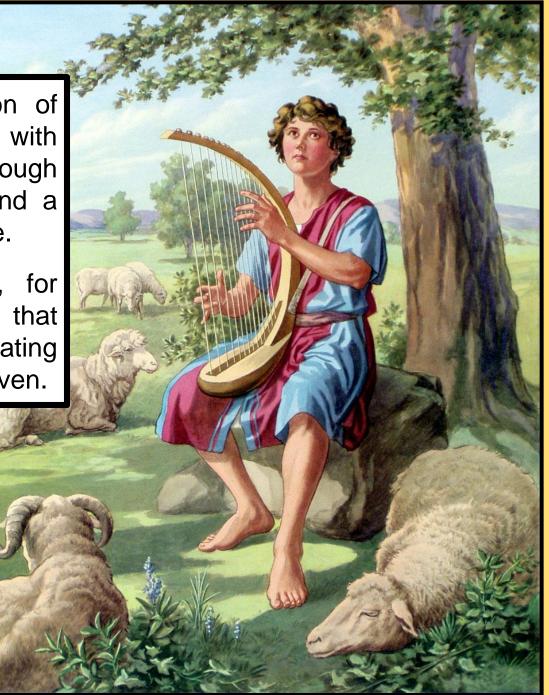
"⁶And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. ⁷But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance. or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the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

"¹¹And 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." David, the youngest son of Jesse, was in the field with the sheep, left there though there was a sacrifice and a feast at his father's house.

He was God's choice, for David was a shepherd that spent his days contemplating and communing with heaven.



"¹²And 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."

"¹³Then 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."

After anointing David Samuel went to his home in Ramah, and we don't read of him again until his death which is recorded in chapter 29 verse 18.

He could die in peace since he had seen the sceptre brought into the tribe of Judah.

After his anointing the Spirit of the Lord came upon David.

The anointing was not an empty ceremony, but a divine power went along with it. He found himself inwardly advanced in wisdom, courage, and concern though not at all advanced in his outward circumstances.

"¹⁴But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him."

SAUL FALLING AND DAVID RISING

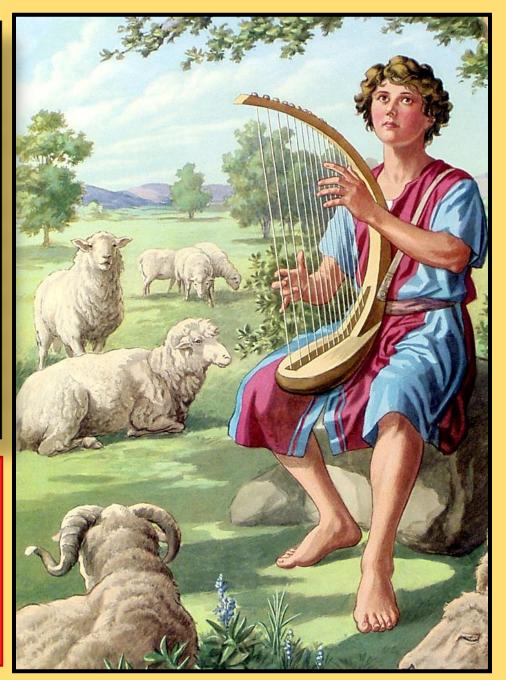
^{••15}And Saul's servants said unto him, Behold now, an evil spirit from God troubleth thee.

¹⁶Let our lord now command thy servants, which are before thee, to seek out a man, who is a cunning player on an harp: and it shall come to pass, when the evil spirit from God is upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well."

Saul was made a terror to himself. He lost all his good qualities. This was the effect of his rejecting God and being rejected by him. He drove the good Spirit away and became a prey to an evil spirit.

"¹⁷And Saul said unto his servants, Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me. ¹⁸Then answered one of the servants, and said, Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant man, and a man of war, and prudent in matters, and a comely person, and the LORD is with him."

Already David was described as mighty, valiant, and a man of war who was prudent in matters. He had been anointed but had not proven himself by killing Goliath.



After David was anointed and returned to his father's flock the working of the Spirit signified by the oil could not be hidden. It made him shine in obscurity so that people observed with wonder the great improvements of his mind.

Even in his shepherd's garb, he had become an oracle, a champion, and everything that is great.

The effect of his anointing makes us think of the power of the laying on of hands in the Christian age.

Question: When do you think he killed the lion and the bear? Was it before or after he was anointed?

Notice that it is not mentioned until after he was anointed.



The fame of David soon reached King Saul's court, for he was sent for to play his harp for the King.

1 Samuel 16

⁽¹⁹Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said, Send me David thy son, which is with the sheep.

²⁰And Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid, and sent them by David his son unto Saul."



"²¹And David came to Saul, and stood before him: and he loved him greatly; and he became his armourbearer.

²²And Saul sent to Jesse, saying, Let David, I pray thee, stand before me; for he hath found favour in my sight."

King Saul was kind to David and "loved him greatly." David's music was an art of healing for Saul. It had a natural tendency to calm Saul's disturbed mind.



"²³And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him."



