

DAVID ANOINTED KING

¹³ “You acted foolishly,” Samuel said. “You have not kept the command the LORD your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time. ¹⁴ But now your kingdom will not endure; the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him leader of his people, because you have not kept the LORD's command.” (1 Samuel 13:13-14)

Introduction:

Such a description as ‘a man after God’s own heart’ can only refer to one man in Scripture: David.

We see him so many different ways in the Bible:

as the youngest son of Jesse,
the youthful shepherd of Bethlehem,
the giant killer,
composer of psalms,
Saul’s personal musician
Jonathan’s closest friend,
a hunted fugitive,
a king of Israel,
father of Solomon.

Unlike characters, such as Enoch or Melchizedek,
who, although important,
we know very little about,
we see David’s life in such vast detail
that we seem to almost know him personally.

This was God’s choice servant,
but we must observe, some contrasts in his life.

He was a man of glorious triumph,
yet great tragedy found its way into his life.

He was uniquely gifted,
but there can be no doubt to the fact
that he was human
inasmuch as
he was strong in battle, but weak at home.

To begin our study of David
we must go back in time
to when David was a nobody that nobody noticed.

I. Man panics ... God provides.

¹ *The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”*

² *But Samuel said, “How can I go? Saul will hear about it and kill me.”*

The LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’”³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate.” (1 Sam 16:1-3)

A. Failure of Saul

1. This king with so much potential failed both God and his people.
2. His true character had surfaced, and the nation was in worse shape than before he assumed the throne.

3. Samuel had to announce to Saul that God had rejected him and that the kingdom had been torn from him to be given unto a neighbor.
4. National panic set in; they thought “without a king” meant “without protection.”
5. They were sure that defeat was inevitable.

Look at their thinking,

¹⁹ But the people refused to listen to Samuel. “No!” they said. “We want a king over us. ²⁰ Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to lead us and to go out before us and fight our battles.”

²¹ When Samuel heard all that the people said, he repeated it before the LORD. ²² The LORD answered, “Listen to them and give them a king.” Then Samuel said to the men of Israel, “Everyone go back to his town.” (1 Sam 8:19-22)

B.They forgot some important facts.

1. When a man of God fails, nothing of God fails.
2. When a man of God changes, nothing of God changes.

C.Samuel was afraid.

1. God said, ‘How long will you mourn over Saul’
2. Just as the people panicked so did the prophet.

3. As God informed Samuel of the task of anointing a new king, Samuel feared Saul.
4. *Look:* No one had reason to fear, because God was still at work.
 - a. While Saul was failing, God was searching for *a man after His own heart*.
 - b. God had provided for the need;
 - c. Indeed when man panics, God provides! He was still in control.

II. Man Chooses—God Corrects.

⁴ *Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, “Do you come in peace?”*

⁵ *Samuel replied, “Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me.” Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.*

⁶ *When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed stands here before the LORD.”*

⁷ *But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”*

⁸ *Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.”* ⁹ *Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the LORD chosen this one.”* ¹⁰ *Jesse had seven of his*

sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The LORD has not chosen these.” (1 Sam 16:4-10)

A. Samuel went to Bethlehem to anoint the next king.

1. Assuring them that his visit was ‘in peace’, he called together Jesse and his sons.
2. Samuel was there to scout out God’s chosen man.
3. This was a new deal for Samuel, the only time he had anointed a king was when he anointed Saul.
4. Keep in mind that Saul was man’s choice. Notice Saul’s qualifications in Sam. 9:1-2

¹ There was a Benjamite, a man of standing, whose name was Kish son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Becorath, the son of Aphiah of Benjamin. ² He had a son named Saul, an impressive young man without equal among the Israelites—a head taller than any of the others. (1 Sam. 9:1-2)

B. Samuel was looking for a man with similar qualities.

1. When he saw Eliab he was sure that this must be God’s chosen replacement.
2. And God had to correct Samuel’s thinking
3. When Samuel began considering the sons in the light of God’s criteria, he had to reject seven of Jesse’s sons.

4. God told him not to look
for the most handsome
or the tallest
or the most impressive appearance.
5. God looks upon the heart,
while men look upon the outward appearance.

III. Man Forgets.. God Remembers.

¹¹ *So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?"*

"There is still the youngest," Jesse answered, "but he is tending the sheep."

Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."

¹² *So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features.*

Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; he is the one."

¹³ *So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah. (1 Sam 16:11-13)*

A. Jesse was guilty of wrong thinking also.

1. Samuel could have been left
with the impression
that Jesse had only seven sons.
2. Jesse did not even consider the possibility
that God could use his youngest son, David.
 - a. Often what we least expect is what uses or does.
 - b. Lesson: We can't discount someone for what they look like.
 - c. God looks at the heart!

B. Look at Jesse's description of David.

1. Jesse said, “He’s the youngest, just a little shepherd boy.”
2. He obviously did not possess the same qualities that his other seven brothers had.
3. Samuel wouldn’t accept any excuses; he told them to go get him, because his mission would not be accomplished until he had seen all the sons and anointed one as the new king of Israel.

c. Look at God’s description of David.

1. He was ruddy,
that means his complexion was dark and beautiful,
2. He was of a beautiful countenance
and nice to look to.
3. How often we overlook the beauty
in someone or something
because on the outside
it seems to be insignificant.
4. Look at God’s declaration:
 - a. *Arise and anoint him; this is the one* (1 Sam 16:1)
 - b. He did not leave the choice up to Samuel or to Jesse.
 - c. He chose that which was insignificant to man.

D.Look at David's Anointing

1. Samuel took the oil
and anointed him
in the midst of his brothers.
2. No private service for David,
he was clearly God's choice
over and above the other sons.
3. The fact that he was God's choice
is seen by the presence of the Spirit of the Lord

from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. (1 Sam 16:13)

4. David was not at this time brought to the throne of Israel.
 - a. He was anointed, for future service.
 - b. He would not come to the throne until he was about 30 years old.
 - c. In the mean time
he returned to the fields
and remained faithful
to his insignificant job as a shepherd.

Conclusion

There were three qualities in the life of David that made him the choice of God.

Those same three qualities
are still desirous to God in His servants.

They are:

(1) Spirituality:

David's life was in complete harmony
with what the Lord desires,
he was a man after God's own heart.

(2) Humility:

Servants are successful
only because they can graciously accept
lower rank and set aside self-dependence.

(3) Integrity:

⁷⁰ *He chose David his servant
and took him from the sheep pens;
⁷¹ from tending the sheep he brought him
to be the shepherd of his people Jacob,
of Israel his inheritance.
⁷² And David shepherded them with integrity of heart;
with skillful hands he led them. (Psa 78:70-72)*

David's heart and mind
were wholly innocent and unimpaired.

God could no longer trust Saul
for he had been disobedient.

God is looking for those same qualities
in each of our lives.

How often we overlook the beauty
in someone
or something
because on the outside it seems to be insignificant.