

Lesson 16- 1 Samuel 9:22-11:15

The Meal, Samuel Anoints Saul, Saul the King, The defeat of the Ammonites.

In our last lesson, Samuel was portrayed as the ideal prophet, priest and judge of Israel. Samuel served as judge for all of Israel, traveling from place to place each year to spread the Word of the LORD. His sons, however, did not follow Samuel's example. They "took bribes and perverted justice". The people protested and demanded a king. Samuel was instructed by the LORD to warn them first of the dangers of having a king, and then to listen to the people. The people again demanded a king. The Lord had revealed to Samuel that He had chosen a Benjaminite to be king, and Samuel was to anoint him to be ruler over Israel. Today's lesson begins with a meal that Samuel, Saul and Saul's servant shared shortly after their first meeting.

1. **Read 1 Samuel 9:22-26 and footnotes. Share any interesting footnotes on these verses.**

Which verses indicate that Samuel was *expecting* to meet Saul that day?

What is significant about what Saul is served and where he is to sleep? (Check footnotes)

2. **Read 1 Samuel 9:27 and 10:1.**

Why did Samuel ask Saul to send his servant away?

3. **Read 1 Samuel 10:2-8 and footnotes.**

Saul receives three signs in these verses.

What is the sign he received in verse 10:2?

Why do you think Saul was given this sign?

What sign did Saul receive in verses 10:3-4?

What is the meaning of this sign? (Check footnotes)

What sign did Saul receive in verses 10:5-6?

What is the meaning of this sign? Compare to 2 Kings 9:11-13 below.

2 Kings 9:11-13 ¹¹ When Jehu rejoined his master's servants, they asked him, "Is all well? **Why did that madman come to you?**" He replied, "You know that kind of man and his talk." ¹² But they said, "Tell us another lie!" So he told them, "**This is what the prophet's aide said to me, 'Thus says the LORD: I anoint you king over Israel.'**" ¹³ At once each took his garment, spread it under Jehu on the bare steps, blew the horn, and cried out, "Jehu is king!"

4. **Read 1 Samuel 10:7-13 and footnotes.**
Samuel foretold the signs that Saul would see.
What instructions did Samuel give Saul in 10:8?

Did Saul follow these instructions?

5. **Read 1 Samuel 10:14-16.**

Reflection. Why do you think Saul did not tell his uncle about Samuel's message and the signs that were given him?

6. **Read 1 Samuel 10:17-27 and footnotes.**
How was the king of Israel chosen in these verses?

Reflection: Why do you think Saul was hiding?

At this point what opinions did the people have of Saul the Benjaminite as king?

7. **Read 1 Samuel 11:1-15 and footnotes. Share any helpful footnote with your group.**

Who is threatening Israel at this time?

Where was Saul when news of impending war reached him?

What was his response to the news?

How was the "Spirit of the Lord" involved in Saul's actions?

**How did Saul's leadership change the opinion of the people of Israel?
(See 1 Sam 11:12-15)**

8. **Reflection:** Where in this lesson do we see the "Hand of God" involved in the events of history? (Review 1 Samuel 9:22-11:15)