

OK, BUT...! 1 SAMUEL 9

Israel was insistent...we want a king! And not just a king like the nations have a king, we want the king of king the nations have!

1 Samuel 8:5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: **now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.**

1 Samuel 8:19 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, **Nay; but we will have a king over us; 1 Samuel 8:20** That we also may be **like** all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.

The Lord answers our prayers:

- **Yes**
- **No**

Matthew 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. **Matthew 6:10** Thy kingdom come. **Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.**

Luke 22:42 Saying, Father, **if thou be willing**, remove this cup from me: **nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.**

- **Wait / keep on praying**
- **OK, but you'll be sorry**

1 Samuel 8:7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, **Hearken** unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

1 Samuel 8:9 Now therefore **hearken** unto their voice: **howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. 1 Samuel 8:11** And he said, **This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you....**

1 Samuel 8:22 And the LORD said to Samuel, **Hearken** unto their voice, and make them a king....

Psalms 106:15 And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.

1 Samuel 9 is simply the answer to their prayers! And what an answer it is!

I. OK, but you'll be sorry!

1. A humble man who was not really so humble

1 Samuel 9:19 And Samuel answered Saul, and said, I am the seer: go up before me unto the high place; for ye shall eat with me to day, and to morrow I will let thee go, and will tell thee all that is in thine heart. **1 Samuel 9:20** And as for thine asses that were lost three days ago, set not thy mind on them; for they are found. And on whom is all the desire of Israel? Is it not on thee, and on all thy father's house? **1 Samuel 9:21** And Saul answered and said, **Am not I a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel? and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? wherefore then speakest thou so to me?**

1 Samuel 9:1 Now there was a man of Benjamin, whose name was Kish, **the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphiah, a Benjamite, a mighty man of power.**

Saul's protest:

- **Was typical politics**
- **Was "humble" talk!**
- **Hid his powerful family**
- **Distracted from his questionable roots**

2. A good-looking man (on the outside) who wasn't really so good- looking (on the inside)

1 Samuel 9:2 And he had a son, whose name was Saul, **a choice (בְּחִיר) young man**, and a **goodly (טוֹב)**: and there was not among the children of Israel a **goodlier (טוֹב)** person than he: from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people.

1 Samuel 16:6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. **1 Samuel 16:7** But 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.**

We like good looking people – externally! We rarely see anything more! Saul was ugly on the inside.

3. A big, strong guy but **only** on the outside

1 Samuel 9:2 And he had a son, whose name was Saul, a choice young man, and a goodly: and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he: **from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people.**

1 Samuel 10:23 And they ran and fetched him thence: **and when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward.** **1 Samuel 10:24** And Samuel said to all the people, **See ye him whom the LORD hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people?** And **all** the people shouted, and said, God save the king.

1 Samuel 16:6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, **Surely** the LORD'S anointed is before him. **1 Samuel 16:7** But 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.

1 Samuel 17:4 And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, **whose height was six cubits and a span.** **1 Samuel 17:10** And the Philistine said, **I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.** **1 Samuel 17:11** When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

1 Samuel 17:26 And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?

1 Samuel 17:29 And David said, What have I now done? **Is there not a cause?** **1 Samuel 17:33** And Saul said to David, Thou art **not** able to go against this Philistine to fight with him: **for thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.**

1 Samuel 17:45 Then said David to the Philistine, **Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.** **1 Samuel 17:46** This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. **1 Samuel 17:47** And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.

4. A shepherd who can't shepherd!

1 Samuel 9:3 And the asses of Kish Saul's father were lost. And Kish said to Saul his son, Take now one of the servants with thee, and arise, go seek the asses. **1 Samuel 9:4** And he passed through mount Ephraim, and passed through the land of Shalisha, but they found them not: then they passed through the land of Shalim, and there they were not: and he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they found them not. **1 Samuel 9:5** And when they were come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant that was with him, Come, and let us return; lest my father leave caring for the asses, and take thought for us. **1 Samuel 9:20** And as for thine asses that were lost three days ago, set not thy mind on them; for they are found....

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Ezekiel 34:1-6

5. A soon-to-be-anointed king who didn't know the already anointed prophet / priest / judge

1 Samuel 9:6 And he said unto him, Behold now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is an honourable man; all that he saith cometh surely to pass: now let us go thither; peradventure he can shew us our way that we should go.

1 Samuel 9:10-14

1 Samuel 3:19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. **1 Samuel 3:20** And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD.

1 Samuel 7:15 And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. **1 Samuel 7:16** And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places. **1 Samuel 7:17** And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar unto the LORD.

1 Samuel 9:18 Then Saul drew near to Samuel in the gate, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, where the seer's house is. **1 Samuel 9:19** And Samuel answered Saul, and said, I am the seer....

II. OK, but I'm still gracious and will not let you go

1 Samuel 9:15 Now the LORD had told Samuel in his ear a day before Saul came, saying,

1 Samuel 9:16 To morrow about this time I will send thee a man out of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him to be captain over **my** people Israel, that he may save **my** people out of the hand of the Philistines: **for** I have looked upon **my** people, because their cry is come unto me. **1 Samuel 9:17** And when Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said unto him, Behold the man whom I spake to thee of! this same shall reign over my people.

Jeremiah 31:3 The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, **Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.** **Habakkuk 3:2** O LORD, I have heard thy speech, and was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; **in wrath remember mercy.**