

SAUL ANOINTED KING (I SAMUEL 9-10)

Parts: Yehowah
Narrator
Saul
Samuel
Kish
Servant
women (1 & 2)

Yehowah (to Samuel):

"Tomorrow about this time I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him commander over My people Israel, that he may save My people from the hand of the Philistines. For I have looked upon My people, because their cry has come to me."

Narrator:

There was a man of Benjamin, whose name was Kish, a mighty man of power. And he had a son whose name was Saul, a choice and handsome young man. There was not a more handsome person than he among the children of Israel. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people. Now the donkeys of Kish, Saul's father, were lost.

Kish (to his son Saul):

"Please, take one of the servants with you, and arise, go and look for the donkeys."

Narrator:

So he passed through the mountains of Ephraim and through the land of Shalisha, but they did not find them. Then they passed through the land of Shaalim, and they were not there. Then he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they did not find them.

Saul:

"Come, let us return, lest my father cease caring about the donkeys and become worried about us."

Servant:

"Look now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is an honorable man; all that he says surely comes to pass. So let us go there; perhaps he can show us the way that we should go."

Saul:

"But look, if we go, what shall we bring the man? For the bread in our vessels is all gone, and there is no present to bring to the man of God. What do we have?"

Servant:

"Look, I have here at hand one fourth of a shekel of silver. I will give that to the man of God, to tell us our way."

Saul:

"Well said; come, let us go."

Narrator:

So they went to the city where the man of God was. As they went up the hill to the city, they met some young women going out to draw water.

Servant:

"Is the seer here?"

Woman 1:

"Yes, there he is, just ahead of you. Hurry now; for he came to this city today, because there is a sacrifice of the people on the high place."

Woman 2:

"As soon as you come into the city, you will surely find him before he goes up to the high place to eat. For the people will not eat until he comes, because he must bless the sacrifice. Afterward those who are invited will eat. Now therefore, go up, for about this time you will find him."

Narrator:

So they went up to the city. And as they were coming into the city, there was Samuel, coming out toward them on his way up to the high place. And Samuel saw Saul.

Yehowah:

"There he is, the man of whom I spoke to you. This one shall reign over My people."

Narrator:

Then Saul drew near to Samuel in the gate.

Saul:

"Please tell me, where is the seer's house?"

Samuel:

"I am the seer. Go up before me to the high place, for you shall eat with me today; and tomorrow I will let you go and will tell you all that is in your heart. But as for your donkeys that were lost three days ago, do not be anxious about them, for they have been found. And on whom is all the desire of Israel? Is it not on you and on all your father's house?"

Saul:

Am I not a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel, and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then do you speak like this to me?

Narrator:

Then Samuel took Saul and his servant and brought them into the hall, and had them sit in the place of honor among those who were invited; there were about thirty persons.

Samuel (to the cook, out of hearing of Saul):

"Bring the portion which I gave you, of which I said to you, 'Set it apart.' "

Narrator:

So the cook took up the thigh with its upper part and set it before Saul.

Samuel:

"Here it is, what was kept back. It was set apart for you. Eat; for until this time it has been kept for you, since I said I invited the people."

Narrator:

So Saul ate with Samuel that day. When they had come down from the high place into the city, Samuel spoke with Saul on the top of the house. They arose early; and it was about the dawning of the day that Samuel called to Saul on the top of the house.

Samuel:

"Get up, that I may send you on your way."

Narrator:

And Saul arose, and both of them went outside, he and Samuel. Now as they were going down to the outskirts of the city, Samuel spoke to Saul.

Samuel:

"Tell the servant to go on ahead of us. But you stand here awhile, that I may announce to you the word of God."

(Samuel takes flask of oil, anoints Saul's head, kisses him.)

"Is it not because Yehowah has anointed you commander over His inheritance? When you have departed from me today, you will find two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say to you, 'The donkeys which you went to look for have been found.' "

"Then you shall go on forward from there and come to the terebinth tree of Tabor. There three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you, one carrying three young goats, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a skin of wine. And they will greet you and give you two loaves of bread, which you shall receive from their hands.

"After that you shall come to the hill of God where the Philistine garrison is. And it will happen, when you have come there to the city, that you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying. Then the Spirit of Yehowah will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. And let it be, when these signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands; for Yehowah is with you.

"You shall go down before me to Gilgal; and surely I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings and make sacrifices of peace offerings. Seven days you shall wait, till I come to you and show you what you should do."

Narrator:

And so it was, when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, that Yehowah gave him another heart; and all those signs came to pass that day.

(The End)