

From God rule to now trusting in Man to rule—Saul. J Vernon Magee calls him ‘Satan’s man’ *Hosea 13:11 ‘I gave you a king in my anger & I took him away in my wrath.*

*1 Now there was a man of Benjamin whose name was Kish the son of Abiel, the son of Zeror, the son of Becorath, the son of Aphiah, the son of a Benjamite, a mighty man of valor. 2 And he had a son whose name was Saul, a choice and handsome man, and there was not a more handsome person than he among the sons of Israel; from his shoulders and up he was taller than any of the people.*

Seems honor and preferment is on father but never translated to son but only physical appearance. How a person starts is not always how they finish, good or bad. Saul set apart from others by his looks, outward appearance. A strength can become a weakness. Glory in outward a false sense of spiritual reality. KJV ‘goodly’ but not Godly

*3 Now the donkeys of Kish, Saul’s father, were lost. So Kish said to his son Saul, “Take now with you one of the servants, and arise, go search for the donkeys.” 4 And he passed through the hill country of Ephraim and passed through the land of Shalishah, but they did not find them. Then they passed through the land of Shaalim, but they were not there. Then he passed through the land of the Benjamites, but they did not find them. 5 When they came to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant who was with him, “Come, and let us return, lest my father cease to be concerned about the donkeys and become anxious for us.” 6 And he said to him, “Behold now, there is a man of God in this city, and the man is held in honor; all that he says surely comes true. Now let us go there, perhaps he can tell us about our journey on which we have set out.”*

Saul an obedient son, compliant, a good trait. *Train up a child....* More important is for child to develop obedience to God. He was diligent & thoughtful of father. Out ward honor of his father never translated into holy honor of heavenly father.

Servant suggest that they seek God, a spiritual man in their search. Seems Saul lived a sheltered life w/ no personal knowledge of Samuel so

afterthought to seek out Samuel. Always wise to seek wisdom of the wise, hang out w/ spiritual men & women to elevate our spiritual life. Some won't go out of their way....**Chuck, Don...others.** 'Those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be lightly esteemed. 1Sam 2:3

Many took Samuel for granted. *Iron sharpens iron....* Seems a small thing to ask Judge & prophet Samuel about donkeys. God uses all circumstances to speak--small things to deliver big message. Seek the giver not the gifts, the Blessed one not the blessing. *Seek K of G first....*

*7 Then Saul said to his servant, "But behold, if we go, what shall we bring the man? For the bread is gone from our sack and there is no present to bring to the man of God. What do we have?" 8 And the servant answered Saul again and said, "Behold, I have in my hand a fourth of a shekel of silver; I will give it to the man of God and he will tell us our way."*

God's providence---puts in mind of Saul's servant but from God side for a greater purpose, unknown to them. **For Saul's calling**—life is like a puzzle, only when God in his sovereignty puts the divine puzzle pieces together is the purpose for our life seen, otherwise it's unfinished. Gift a token of respect not payment.

*9 (Formerly in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he used to say, "Come, and let us go to the **seer**"; for he who is called a prophet now was formerly called a seer.) 10 Then Saul said to his servant, "Well said; come, let us go." So they went to the city where the man of God was. 11 As they went up the slope to the city, they found young women going out to draw water, and said to them, "Is the seer here?" 12 And they answered them and said, "He is; **see**, he is **ahead** of you. Hurry now, for he has come into the city today, for the people have a **sacrifice** on the high place today. 13 "As soon as you enter the city you will 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 you will find him at once."*

*Seer* to uncover things unseen. Prophet, seer, sees things God reveals & speaks on behalf of God. *Providence*; *young women, Samuel ahead*....God's divine appointments. Never how we start the race (*looking*

for donkeys) but how we finish & what we do along the way. *Seer*, see...they *giggle*. Peace offering/free will...eat w/ Lord in fellowship...Sam *blessed* offering...did spiritual service then ate. Eating in fellowship w/ God reconciliation gained by sacrifice....real worship not ritual/*stagnant* worship.

Note that common people knew of spiritual practices & the person, Sam who blessed spiritual activities...they gave directions knew of sacrifice & need of Sam presence....*let your light so shine...walk Duke it change my life*

*14 So they went up to the city. As they came into the city, behold, Samuel was coming out toward them to go up to the high place. 15 Now a day before Saul's coming, the LORD had revealed this to Samuel saying, 16 "About this time tomorrow I will send you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be prince over My people Israel; and he shall deliver My people from the hand of the Philistines. For I have regarded My people, because their cry has come to Me."*

God sets things up...if we don't get anxious & go off on own...Jesus is never late or early...but we in a hurry....

Revealed to Sam Lit *God uncovered the ear*....*hearing ear, seeing eye God has made both Pr 20:12*....*veil remains is removed in Christ...2Cor 3:16* God speaks...*still small voice*...*thoughts, impression, premonition, audibly* for Gods purposes & others prayers...No greater joy than being used for work of God. Only know extent in heaven.

In spite of *'they have not rejected you but me..'* God's favor & loving kindness remained w/ His people. Tho carnal & rebellious He calls them 'His people'

*17 When Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said to him, "Behold, the man of whom I spoke to you! This one shall rule over My people." 18 Then Saul approached Samuel in the gate, and said, "Please tell me where the seer's house is." 19 And Samuel answered Saul and said, "I am the seer. Go up before me to the high place, for you shall eat with me today; and in the morning I will let you go, and*

*will tell you all that is on your mind. 20 “And as for your donkeys which were lost three days ago, do not set your mind on them, for they have been found. And for whom is all that is desirable in Israel? Is it not for you and for all your father’s household?”*

They had no clue where they were going or who to look for. Samuel is very unassuming, not a stand out physically like Saul. God’s providence brings them to Samuel tho he didn’t look the part. Always a surprise when God leads w/o our help, we are surprised by grace, dropped into the spiritual living room of God.

Promotion Ps 15:6,7

20 Confirmation and prophecy...call on Saul’s life...me Sam Sassor. So Sam instead of striving against carnality graciously accepts and honors Saul in spite of burden he will impose 8:9-18 ? do we believe God is sovereign ...then carry on and trust God, pray Gods will be done in spite of contradictions. True grace and humility is see another pass you in ministry and rejoice in their success

21 Always a humbling thing to be commended and have calling on life communicated and confirmed by someone as great as Sam Began in humility...not ‘it’s about time you saw my potential’ don’t know why I wasn’t chosen before. But don’t know why I was chosen.

22 Place of honor...don’t take to yourself lest master put you lower...Boat trip from hell...not where start but where finish.

24 What others know and see we ratify what God sets apart. Sam had table set in anticipation of Saul coming. Providence of God....humiliation Sam felt did not turn him from trust in God or faithful to his call. Sam

prepared way for Saul w/o ill will. Sam jealous for God but not for himself and showed respect and honor for Saul and did so thru out.

25 Providence prepares us Saul went to find donkeys and found calling God speaks on highways and byways of life's opportunities.

26 Some of what God does is public, other is private...just us and Lord and prophet.

27 Fellowship and assurance that Saul was Gods choice and Sam willing to step down. No jealousy w/ Sam...fruit of sp love...love is not jealous. Not seek it's own...not take into account wrong suffered. God' kingdom advances our kingdom declines.Their time together convinced Saul he was to be installed as king and Sam step down...transition...dismisses servant and anoints MH 'went to search for fathers donkeys and found a kingdom' told him all about him on mind :19 People come Hawaii searching Surfboards and find Jesus

10:1 Anointing and calling...someone can suggest call and ministry but only God can confirm and put into ministry

*21 And Saul answered and said, "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 to me in this way?" 22 Then Samuel took Saul and his servant and brought them into the hall, and gave them a place at the head of those who were invited, who were about thirty men. 23 And Samuel said to the cook, "Bring the portion that I gave you, concerning which I said to you, 'Set it aside.'" 24 Then the cook took up the leg with what was on it and set it before Saul. And Samuel said, "Here is what has been reserved! Set it before you and eat, because it has been kept for you until the appointed time, since I said I have invited the people." So Saul ate with Samuel that day. 25 When they came down from the high place into the city, Samuel spoke with Saul on the roof. 26 And they arose early; and it came about at daybreak that Samuel called to Saul on the roof,*

*saying, "Get up, that I may send you away." So Saul arose, and both he and Samuel went out into the street. 27 As they were going down to the edge of the city, Samuel said to Saul, "Say to the servant that he might go ahead of us and pass on, but you remain standing now, that I may proclaim the word of God to you."*