

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

1 SAMUEL 16

1 Samuel 16

Before we jump into I Samuel sixteen, we must look at the last two verses of chapter fifteen. ***"Then Samuel went to Ramah, and Saul went up to his house at Gibeah of Saul. And Samuel went no more to see Saul until the day of his death. Nevertheless, Samuel mourned for Saul, and the Lord regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel."*** (vv.34-35) Samuel grieved long and hard over Saul's disobedience. Samuel had such high hopes and expectations for this handsome, humble young man. What a disappointment he was. As Samuel grieved, God was patient and then there came the day when God says, enough! ***"Now the Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons.'" (16:1)*** Samuel was frightened by God's request, because he had already sensed the paranoia in King Saul. God gave him a legitimate reason to go to Bethlehem and while he was there Samuel was to perform one of his most, if not the most important thing he would do in his ministry; anoint David, son of Jesse as King of Israel.

When Samuel got to Bethlehem and to Jesse's house, Samuel began as he did with Saul, looking as to who is the most handsome and best looking. Samuel still had some lessons to learn, and God gave him this word. ***"But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.'" (16:7)*** When all of Jesse's sons had passed before Samuel, he was puzzled and asked, "are these all the sons you have?" Jesse, I am sure said rather sheepishly, ***"There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep."*** (v.11) Did you notice he said, "There he is" they could see David doing his duty, keeping the sheep, not invited to the party. Not even considered important enough to meet the great prophet, priest, and judge!

Prayer and Action Steps

Isn't it amazing! Man looks at the outward person, God looks on the heart. Action step: "Look beyond what you see outwardly"

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?
