

Lecture 21- David's Rise and Saul's Demise (I)

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." ... So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; he is the one." So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah.

1 Samuel 16:7, 12-13

Key Terms

David's rise: key to confidence; holding out & giving in; depravity; adversity; friendship

Lecture Objectives

- Briefly outline David's rise to power in 1 Samuel 16-31
- Identify key themes early in David's life and the role they play in furthering our understanding of God and his redemptive work.

Preliminary Questions

- What is your favorite story from the life of David? Where does it fit in David's life? What does it show us of God's character, our character, or God's covenantal and redemptive work in the world?

David's Rise and Saul's Demise (I)**I. Introduction****A. Defense regarding Saul**

1. *De jure* - Saul is not the king
2. *De facto* - Saul remains on the throne
3. The book of Samuel is an apologetic defending the rule of David.
4. 2 Sam 16 - Shimei

B. Defense regarding Abner and Ish-bosheth

In what way does the book of Samuel defend David's rule?

II. A Thematic Survey**A. David's rise delights all but Saul (1 Sam 16-18)**

What really counts to God is not height, but heart.

1. Questions in chapter 16

a. 1 Sam 16:2 - misinformation, but allow for irony

1) Times of warfare

b. 1 Sam 16:13 - Spirit came on David in power

1) 1 Sam 16:14 - evil spirit

2) "Evil" is not necessarily moral evil

3) "Evil" can mean tumultuous, calamitous

4) God is sovereign over all things.

5) When God withdraws his Spirit, what is left?

c. 1 Sam 16:18 - letter of reference

2. The key to confidence (chpt. 17)

a. 17:45 - confession – placing trust in God

3. Holding out when you should be giving in (chpt. 18)

- a. compare Eli (3:18) to Saul (18:8)
 - 1) See 17:55-58 - Whose son is this young man?
 - 2) See 20:30-31 - Saul knows David will be king

How do these truths apply to church leadership today?

- B. Saul seeks David's life (1 Sam 19 - 23)
 1. Acting in character (chpt. 19)
 - a. 19:23-24 - Saul prophesies again
 2. The high cost of holding out against God (Chpt. 20)
 - a. 20:34 - Remaining in sin can alienate those who love us and would support us.
 3. Half-truths that hurt others (Chpt. 21)
 - a. David deceives Ahimelech
 4. The depravity of man without God (Chpt. 22)
 - a. Saul slaughters the priests at Nob
 - b. Compare 22:19 and 15:3
 - c. Fulfillment of prophesy to Eli
 - d. 22:22-23 David's involvement
 5. Adversity: Leave it in God's hands
 - True friendship (chapter 23)
 - a. 23:16 - "helped him find strength in God"
- C. David protects Saul's life and avoids blood-guilt (1 Sam 24-26)
 1. David will not hurt Saul

Since Saul was no longer king (*de jure*) would David have been wrong in killing Saul to defend himself?

2. Nabal (Chpt. 25)
 - a. God will deal with my adversaries.
 - b. "Nabal," fool, sounds like wineskin
 - c. The best defense is not a good offense.
 - d. Let God defend you.

Retrace both Saul's and David's designation as king. How are these two men different?