

# The People's King – 1 Samuel 9

**Big picture:** 1 Samuel is the story of 3 key men of Israel. Samuel, Saul and David. Here we begin to look at the person of Saul.

**Big principle:** Saul was the king after Israel's own heart. When we refuse to wait on God for His best, we go for what we think is best. Things always start out fine (which is why we go for it) but they always end up worse. **John 2:10a**

**The Danger:** Many start well. But they do not guard their hearts, and so Satan is able to derail their walk with God.

## 1. Saul's \_\_\_\_\_. Vs 1-2

- From the tribe of Benjamin. Gen 49:8-12 Judah is the tribe of the kingly line.
- Abi-el = My father is El (God)
- Kish = "a bow" this comes from the word "Koshe" – to bend as in setting a trap. His name means "a snare!"

Saul = asked; to request or \_\_\_\_\_. Saul had \_\_\_\_\_ – he was from a leading family.

Saul was a choice young man – Saul had prospects. He was somebody. "Higher" than everyone. **2 Cor 11:14; Isaiah 14:12-15**

Not everyone OR everything that LOOKS good is ACUTALLY good. **Gen 3:6; Prov 16:25**

## 2. Saul's \_\_\_\_\_. Vs 3-13

- Notice how Saul \_\_\_\_\_.
- Starting out, Saul has many good qualities. We will contrast those with who Saul ultimately reveals himself to be.  
*KEY: Saul is a type of antichrist. The world will see the antichrist as THE Saviour, but he'll be revealed as "that wicked."* **2 Thess 2.**
  - Vs 5: Saul shows \_\_\_\_\_ for his father.
  - Notice how God now has Saul where he wants him! God is so good at getting (thru our circumstances) us exactly where we need to be! **Ruth 2:3; Romans 8:28; Psalm 37:23**  
**The problem?** Saul doesn't keep walking in a way that the Lord can direct his path. Prov 3, Saul quits acknowledging the Lord in all his ways. **Contrast David. Psalm 119:133**
  - Vs 6-10: Saul \_\_\_\_\_ the man of God.  
Note: What is a Seer? The Word of God is SELF interpreting. Vs 9 A \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Saul wanted a \_\_\_\_\_ for the man/work of God. Contrast **1 Samuel 15:22-23**
  - Vs 11-13: Saul is even willing to ask \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_!  
Later – Saul asks another woman, a \_\_\_\_\_ for directions! **1 Samuel 28:7-14**

## 3. Saul's \_\_\_\_\_. Vs 14-27

- *Remember:* this will be the king after Israel's own heart.
- God calls Saul a "captain" – that just means a leader. BUT, captains are men under authority. **Matthew 8:5-9**
  - Saul is so \_\_\_\_\_, that he doesn't even know WHO Samuel is! This is a bad sign, because REMEMBER what came into ALL Israel with Samuel's ministry. **1 Samuel 3:19-21; 4:1**
  - **Problem:** Saul's focus is on himself. Vs 19b... "I... will tell thee all that is in thine heart."  
Samuel will tell Saul that he is to be king! That's what is in Saul's heart! But look how unprepared Saul is for ministry leadership. He doesn't know Samuel OR the Word of the LORD. Clueless in control.
- **When we don't seek to \_\_\_\_\_ and submit to God's Word, we seek to fulfill the \_\_\_\_\_ of our own \_\_\_\_\_. Prov 18:1-2**
  - Saul is associated with the \_\_\_\_\_ for asses. Note the picture: later Israel will be likened to asses! **Hosea 8:8-9**
  - David is associated with \_\_\_\_\_ sheep. Note the picture: Israel is likened to sheep needing a shepherd. **Ps 78:70-72**
- Vs 25: Samuel began discipling and speaking the Word of God into Saul's heart and life. Now he will tell Saul that he is become king over Israel. There was much good and great potential in Saul!

Know what? **You can start \_\_\_\_\_ and end \_\_\_\_\_.**

You can start on fire for God and end up frozen in living for self! Saul's good shows in the beginning. We'll see that he will not humble himself; stay dependent on God's Word or fear the LORD. He will change. He will begin to focus on what he wants; what he thinks he deserves. Ultimately, he will be revealed as... **2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 verses Philippians 2:12**