

David, Shepherd and King (1/10/10AM)
#2 – In the School of Saul, 1 Samuel 16:13-23

This chapter shows the transition of the kingdom from Saul to David. David now becomes the central figure. Though Saul has not been physically removed without the Spirit's enabling he is effectively no longer the true king. The fact that God did not immediately remove Saul was for David's benefit. Saul is the primary person that God used to shape David's life in "the in between years, between the sheep and the throne" (Swindoll). There are some lessons we can only learn through difficult relationships.

Every Christian Has One or More Sauls in their _____

It seems that when God removes one He will replace them with another. The account now reveals how God brought Saul into David's life.

1. The High Cost of Sin (14)

Sin Is the Herald of Sorrow

In the Old Testament the Spirit would come upon people for special empowerment. At Pentecost the Spirit began to permanently indwell every believer in Christ. We quench and grieve the Holy Spirit with our sin but He will never leave us. The principle of God's discipline of His children is illustrated by Saul's experience.

• **God _____ a demonic spirit to torment Saul**

There is not evidence that Saul was possessed but he was certainly oppressed. God still works this way in the lives of rebellious Christians.

1 Corinthians 5:5, "deliver such a one to Satan..."

Saul's own insecurities and jealousies became intensified by the evil spirit. This gave Satan a foothold in his life, Ephesians 4:26-27.

Saul the Heroic Figure became a Moody and Resentful _____

2. The Folly of Treating the Symptoms (15-17)

Saul's Well Meaning Counselors

Saul's counselors lacked spiritual perception. They recognized that Saul was suffering from some kind of spiritual oppression.

• **Saul would only have been cured by _____**

The remedy for sin is always the same, confession and repentance.

This pattern of confession of sin was established in the law. Leviticus 5:5, "And it shall be, when he is guilty in any of these matters, that he shall confess that he has sinned in that thing." Saul's earlier confessions were not sincere as was shown by his actions. Saul sought temporary relief not spiritual restoration. He dealt with the cares of his soul by delighting his senses. He should have called for Samuel to intercede

for him confessing his sins.

1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

The ancients believed that music calmed the emotions.

Repentance Delayed becomes More _____

3. The Promotion of the Lord (18-19)

The Hand of God on David's Life

Saul was responsible for his own disobedience. God used the discipline of Saul to bring David into Saul's court. God placed the right person at the right time to say the right words about David. It seems likely that this person was about David's age and either knew him or had at least met David. He describes David as a man of natural ability and spirituality "and the LORD is with him." More than half of the Psalms are written by David.

• **The hidden person of the heart is revealed in attitudes and _____**

David had not tried to promote himself since his anointing. His abilities were being recognized and God was promoting him. Proverbs 18:16, "A man's gift makes room for him, and brings him before great men." He went back to tending his father's sheep. David's humble faithfulness stands in contrast to Saul's arrogant willfulness.

Luke 16:10, "He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much."

It is likely that David's killing of the bear and the lion while keeping the sheep happened some time after God's anointing. David's time with the sheep was not wasted time.

In God's Work Servantship Always Precedes and Accompanies _____

4. The Placement of the Lord (20-23)

David Became Saul's Servant

Saul's love for David was superficial. He loved his appearance and the relief of his music. Saul had no idea that David was the one Samuel had told him of who would replace him.

1 Samuel 15:28, "The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you."

David apparently did not live at this time in Saul's court. He would go back and forth still tending his father's sheep. When Saul became distressed David would be called for to play before him.

- **God will use Saul to shape David's life through interaction and _____**

David will see for himself the high cost of sin. He will personally experience the effects of Saul's insecurities and jealousies. David

must have displayed great wisdom as he was "prudent in speech" (18).

Though these words were not written yet they are illustrated in David's life. Proverbs 9:10, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."

Saul was not all bad and David was not all good. The difference was in the focus of their hearts. David's coming to Saul was evidence of God's grace working in his life. He would see what a man with a heart for God looked like. David's initial response to Saul set the pattern for their time together.

David Will Respond to Saul with Humility, Patience and _____ to God's Will