

Series: Pathway Through Psalms

I HAVE PROVIDED ME A KING

PSALMS 23 & 1 SAMUEL 15 - 16

Text: 1 Samuel 16:1

1 Samuel 16:1

¹ *And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: **for I have provided me a king among his sons.***

Introduction:

David the shepherd king is the man who the Lord used to pen the words to Psalm 23.

David is known as a man after God's own heart.

Before we enter into Psalms 23 I want to study an introduction to David's life.

In the closing days of his life, the prophet Samuel was heavy hearted over the condition of the kingdom of Israel.

God had rejected King Saul, and Israel desperately needed leadership.

In 1 Samuel 16:1 God announced to Samuel, *“I have provided me a king.”*

God did a wonderful work in David’s life to enable him to lead an entire generation.

Why did the Lord reject and choose David?

God saw something in Saul’s heart that He could not bless and something in David’s heart that He could bless.

The Lord is still searching for those who have a heart for Him.

He is looking for someone to bless and use.

The question for us – “Do we desire to be one of those people?”

Note:

1. THE LORD IS IN CONTROL

Samuel felt as if the kingdom were out of control.

The nation had rejected his leadership and wanted a king.

1 Samuel 8:1-5

¹ And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. ² Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba. ³ And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment. ⁴ Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, ⁵ And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: **now make us a king** to judge us like all the nations.

That king that was selected was Saul.

1 Samuel 9:15-17

¹⁵ Now the LORD had told Samuel in his ear a day before Saul came, saying, ¹⁶ To morrow about this time I will send thee a man out of the land of Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him to be captain over my people Israel, that he may save my people out of the hand of the Philistines: for I have looked upon my people, because their cry is come unto me. ¹⁷ And when Samuel saw Saul, the LORD said unto him, Behold the man whom I spake to thee of! this same shall reign over my people.

Now God had rejected Saul as the king because of his rebellion.

It no doubt seemed to Samuel that everything he had lived for was falling apart.

We need to remember when we experience difficulties in life that God is still in control.

Note:

Philippians 4:5-7

⁵ *Let your moderation be known unto all men. **The Lord is at hand.** ⁶ **Be careful for nothing**; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

We can be careful for nothing because the Lord is at hand.

We don't have to worry our way through life because God is in control.

In 1 Samuel 16:1 God asked Samuel:

1 Samuel 16:1

¹ *And the LORD said unto Samuel, **How long wilt thou mourn for Saul**, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons.*

God was asking “How long will you go without trusting Me with this matter?”

Like Samuel, all of us have things that are difficult to give to God.

When we surrender these things to Christ, He may not give immediate deliverance, but He will give us the sweet comfort of knowing that He is in control!

We don't have to worry our way through life because God is in control.

Note not only “The Lord Is in Control” but also note:

2. THE LORD IS ALWAYS WORKING

God was preparing young David when nobody knew about him except the Lord.

If you read 1 Samuel 16 carefully, you will see that God had to deal with Samuel, Jesse, Jesse's sons, and finally David.

Just as He worked in all these lives, He is certainly working in our lives.

Note:

1 Samuel 16:6-11

⁶ And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. ⁷ But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart. ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. ¹⁰ Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these. ¹¹ And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.

One by one Jesse's sons passed by and God said, "That's not the one."

Finally, Samuel said, "Are here all thy children?"

He was beginning to wonder whether God was working!

Have you ever felt that God was not working at all in your life?

Many times we do not believe that great things can be done.

God is always working, and we should desire for Him to do a mighty in our lives.

Note not only “The Lord Is In Control” and “Always Working” but lastly note:

3. THE LORD USES PEOPLE WHO OTHERS OVERLOOK

Note 1 Samuel 16:12-13:

1 Samuel 16:12-13

¹² *And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he.* ¹³ *Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.*

On that day when Samuel came to the house of Jesse, no one thought to send for David the youngest son out in the field.

If anyone would have loved to meet Samuel, it would have been David, yet David was forgotten and overlooked.

In 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 we read a description of the things that God chooses to use.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

²⁶ For ye see your calling, brethren, how that **not many wise men** after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: ²⁷ But God hath chosen **the foolish things of the world** to confound the wise; and God hath chosen **the weak things of the world** to confound the things which are mighty; ²⁸ **And base things of the world, and things which are despised**, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: ²⁹ That no flesh should glory in his presence.

If we try to steal His glory, he will stop the blessing.

The Lord is not concerned with ability, but with availability and the condition of our hearts.

As God sees your heart, does he find someone He can bless and use?

Remember that God works so that He gets the glory and men do not.

Close:

I don't know what you may be facing or going through but do not have to worry our way through life because God is in control.

You may not always see God's work, but He is always working, and we should always desire for Him to do a mighty work in our lives.

Lastly remember the God works in such a way the He gets the glory and not us.