

I. Unique Qualifications

- A. From Benjamin – between the two key tribes
- B. Begins as a man little in his own eyes
- C. He was the kind of a man the nation wanted – impressive warrior

II. God's Provisions

- A. A new heart – ability to do what he was asked to do
- B. Anointing of the Spirit
- C. Opportunity to demonstrate God's choice - Nahash

III. Saul's Rejection as King

Three Key Mistakes That All Stem From Pride:

- A. Failure at Gilgal – I Samuel 13
 - 1. Saul was asked to wait for Samuel to make a sacrifice
 - 2. Because of fear, he performs the sacrifice himself
 - a. Everybody was deserting him
 - b. Samuel did not come
 - c. He may or may not have actually made the sacrifice personally
 - 3. *Saul's family is rejected as a ruling family*
- B. Failure in the following battle at Mishmash - I Samuel 14
 - 1. Only 600 men remain with Saul
 - 2. Jonathan wins the victory
 - 3. Saul puts a curse on anyone who eats before "I have been avenged of my enemies"

Assignment:

Read through the story of David and Goliath. Think through the differences between David and:

- 1) Goliath
- 2) Saul
- 3) The rest of the Israelites

Why did God create this situation? Why did God allow David to suffer so much before becoming King?

C. Amalekites – I Samuel 15

1. Saul is directed to completely destroy the Amalekites and all their possessions
2. Saul kills everyone but the king and saves the best of the sheep
 - a. Saving the king is a point of pride
 - b. Saving the sheep is a point of greed
3. Saul's pride leads him to adjust the will of God to himself
 - a. Incomplete obedience is complete disobedience
4. Saul's failure to repent
 - a. I did the will of God – vs. 20
 - b. The people brought back the spoils – vs. 15, 21
 - c. We disobeyed in order to worship – vs. 21
 - d. I sinned because of the people – vs. 24
 - e. I have sinned, but please honor me now before the elders – vs. 30
5. The Lord has rejected you as king – vs. 26

IV. Saul's Downfall

- A. David is anointed king – I Samuel 16:13**
- B. Spirit of God departed from Samuel – I Samuel 16:14**
- C. Saul continues to sit on the throne and use the vocabulary of a spiritual man**
- D. Saul attempts to destroy David out of jealousy**
- E. Finally, after Samuel's death, Saul is left alone with no help from God**
 1. Seeks out a witch to help him find Samuel
 2. Dies in humiliation in battle