

Saul Becomes King

1 Samuel 10:10-27

by Don Falkos

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When Saul arrived home, he encountered a group of prophets. The Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon him, and he began to prophesy, just as Samuel had said he would.

Saul didn't tell anyone that he had been anointed as king. But then Samuel called the people of Israel together and said, "The Lord, the God of Israel, rescued you from the Egyptians and from all your other enemies. But you have rejected your God and demanded a king. So today, your king will be chosen from among you."

Samuel presented all the tribes of Israel to the Lord; the tribe of Benjamin was chosen by lot. The clans of Benjamin were presented to the Lord; one of them was chosen. A family was chosen from that clan. And from that family Saul was chosen. But when the people looked for Saul, they couldn't find him. They asked the Lord, "Where is he?"

The Lord replied, "He is hiding among the baggage." They found him and brought him out. He stood among the people a head taller than anyone else, and Samuel said, "This is the man the Lord has chosen as your king. No one in all Israel is like him!"

The people shouted, "Long live the king!"

Samuel explained to the people how the kingship was supposed to work within their covenantal relationship with the Lord. He wrote down these regulations, and the document was placed in the Tabernacle for safekeeping.

Saul went back home accompanied by a group of men whose hearts God had touched. There were some who rejected Saul's kingship. But Saul ignored them.