

## **Samuel Anoints David**

1 Samuel 16:1-13

by Don Falkos

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God said to the prophet Samuel, "Take some anointing oil and go to see Jesse in Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."

Samuel objected, "How can I anoint a new king? If Saul hears about it, he'll kill me."

"Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice. There I will reveal to you which of his sons you are to anoint."

Samuel went to Bethlehem. The leaders of the town were frightened and asked, "Do you come in peace?"

Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace. I have come to offer a sacrifice to the Lord." He invited Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice. When Samuel saw Jesse's oldest son, he thought, "Surely this is the man God has chosen to be king."

But the Lord said, "Samuel, it doesn't matter how tall a man is or how handsome. My perspective is different from yours. People judge by the outward appearance, but I look at what is inside, at thoughts and intentions. He is not the one."

Jesse introduced seven of his sons to Samuel. Each time, the Lord said, "He is not the one."

Samuel asked Jesse, "Do you have any other sons?"

"Yes, my youngest, David. He's out tending the sheep."

"Send for him."

When David arrived Samuel could see that he was a fine looking, ruddy outdoorsman. The Lord said, "Get up and anoint him. He is the one."

Samuel anointed David with oil. From that day on the spirit of the Lord became a powerful force in David's life.