

**The Story of David's Secret Anointing as King  
and His Service in Saul's Court:  
God Judges the Heart, Not the Appearance of a Person  
1 Samuel 16:01–13**

- 1. *The mission of Samuel to arise and anoint a new king: Conquering grief and sorrow***
- a. The LORD's rebuke of Samuel:  
He had grieved over His rejection of Saul far too long
- b. The protest by Samuel:  
He feared that if he went to Bethlehem Saul would kill him
- c. The LORD's solution:  
He was to go for the purpose of offering a sacrifice to prevent Saul from being suspicious
- 1) To invite Jesse and his sons to the sacrifice
- 2) To anoint the son indicated by God
- d. The obedience of Samuel
- e. The fear felt by Bethlehem's officials
- 1) They feared Samuel had come to execute judgment
- 2) Samuel assured them he had come to offer sacrifice, and he charged them to consecrate themselves
- 3) Samuel consecrated Jesse and his sons
- 2. *The secret anointing of David: Being empowered by God's Spirit***
- a. The choice of Samuel
- 1) He chose the first-born

- 1 The LORD said to Samuel,  
"How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."
- 2 But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."  
The LORD said,  
"Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'"
- 3 Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."
- 4 Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?"
- 5 Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.
- 6 When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."

- 2) He was rebuked by God:  
God had not chosen Eliab to be king
- b. The basic qualification of God for service:  
Not physical appearance, but the heart
- c. The choice of the father Jesse:  
He brought each of his seven sons before Samuel
- 1) Abinadab: Was rejected
  - 2) Shammah was rejected
- 3) All seven sons brought by Jesse were rejected
- d. The choice of the LORD:  
The youngest son
- 1) Samuel was perplexed:  
Asked Jesse if he had any other sons
  - 2) David, the youngest, had been left tending the sheep
  - 3) Samuel immediately sent for David:  
When he arrived, he was seen to have striking features
  - 4) The LORD identified David as His choice to be king
- e. The secret anointing of David
- 1) He was anointed in the presence of his brothers
  - 2) He was equipped, empowered by the Spirit of the LORD

- 7 But the LORD said to Samuel,  
“Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him.  
The LORD does not look at the things people look at.  
People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”
- 8 Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said,  
“The LORD has not chosen this one either.”
- 9 Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said,  
“Nor has the LORD chosen this one.”
- 10 Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him,  
“The LORD has not chosen these.”
- 11 So he asked Jesse,  
“Are these all the sons you have?”  
“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered.  
“He is tending the sheep.”  
Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”
- 12 So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said,  
“Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”
- 13 So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.