

GOD'S CALLING IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Lesson Twenty-Two

GOD CALLED DAVID

(1 Sam. 15:26-28; 16:1-13)

Burden to Impart:

In this lesson we see how God called David, a young shepherd-boy who worked in the field, to be the king over His people Israel. Although King Saul was a mighty man of war, he was disobedient to the Lord's word so he was rejected by the Lord from being the king of Israel. God had searched the land and had found one whose heart was perfect toward Him in faithfulness, fearlessness, love, and obedience. It was David. He became the greatest king ever to reign in Israel, destroying all the enemies, establishing the kingdom of God, and preparing all the materials for the building of the temple.

Memory Verse: "I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, who will do all my will" (Acts 13:22).

Facts to Teach:

1. When Samuel the prophet was old the people of Israel demanded that he appoint them a king, so they could be like all the nations around them. Although the Lord was displeased with their request, because they were actually rejecting Him from being their only King, he gave them a man as they desired, Saul, to be their king (1 Sam. 8--10).

2. However, King Saul did not obey the Lord's command completely, but rather did what he wanted. Therefore, the Lord rejected Saul from being king (1 Sam. 15:16).

3. The Lord knew that there was a much better person than Saul nearby, a young neighboring shepherd-boy (1 Sam. 15:28) named David.

4. The Lord's eyes searched over the whole earth to find anyone whose heart was perfect toward him, so He could raise up that person for His own glory (1 Chron. 16:9). He found such a one with such a heart, David.

5. The Lord sent Samuel to the house of David's father (Jesse) to anoint him.

a. When Samuel saw the oldest son he thought that he was the one the Lord had chosen to anoint as king of Israel. The Lord stopped Samuel from anointing him and told him, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart" (1 Sam. 16:7).

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Lesson Twenty-Two (Continued)

- b. Seven of Jesse's sons passed before Samuel, but the Lord was silent and did not have Samuel anoint any of them. Samuel found out that there was one son left, the smallest and youngest, apparently so insignificant to Jesse that he didn't even bother to bring him in before the great prophet, Samuel. This young one was out in the field taking care of the sheep. Samuel told Jesse to have this youngest one, David, brought before him.
 - c. When this young shepherd-boy passed before Samuel the Lord suddenly spoke to Samuel, "Arise, anoint him: for this is he" (1 Sam. 16:11).
 - d. Suddenly, in front of Jesse and his seven sons, the great, aged prophet Samuel anointed the young shepherd-boy, David, to be the king of Israel.
6. David did not immediately become the king. He needed to wait until many years later, when King Saul died in battle. He needed to grow up and to learn many hard lessons through much suffering. He became the greatest king who ever reigned in Israel (except for the Lord Jesus). Some of the great things about him were:
- a. David loved the Lord and desired to do God's will above all else.
 - b. He wrote many of the psalms to the Lord (like Psalm 23) which became the hymns of the people of God.
 - c. He fought and slew Goliath.
 - d. He defeated all of the enemies of Israel in the land.
 - e. He established the kingdom of God on this earth in Israel.
 - f. He prepared most of the materials that were used to build the great temple for the Lord by his son Solomon.
 - g. He received the plans for the building of the temple from the Lord and passed them on to his son, Solomon.