

The Jewish Kingdom - Lesson 10

The Anointing of Saul

We pick up our lesson from last week when Saul met Samuel. God has revealed to Samuel that Saul would be made king. Now, as Saul and his servant depart from Samuel's house, Samuel takes Saul aside...

24. The Anointing of Saul - I Samuel 10:1

- Anointing with oil pictured the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. It was used in consecrating prophets, priest, and kings into their respective offices.

25. The Confirmations for Saul - I Samuel 10:2-16

- Saul in many ways is reluctant to take his place as king. Perhaps his own doubts had to be dissolved first. God does so by giving him three signs.
 - First, he would meet messengers from his father
 - Second, he would meet three men and receive gifts from them
 - Third, he would meet and prophesy with a company of prophets
- vs. 2 - The location of Rachel's tomb is claimed by some to be in Bethlehem (see Genesis 35:19). It appears here to be a few miles north, perhaps a bit north of Jerusalem.
- vs. 3 - The plain of Tabor can be mistakingly applied to the area around Mt. Tabor in Galilee, but this location is obviously different and its exact location is unknown.
- vs. 3 - Bethel - Famous for being the site of Jacob's dream in Genesis 28:10-22. This location was another "high place" similar to Ramah. We see that the men headed there are going to worship/sacrifice based on what they carry.
- vs. 5 - Hill of God - not sure where this location is at all. Some say Gibeah (I like this one), some say Geba (I Samuel 13:3), and some Kirjathhearim (I Samuel 7:1). The Philistine outpost is interesting, but remember the turmoil between the Jews and Philistines at this time.
- vs. 6 - I love this. When God comes into a person's life, they become a new creature! (II Corinthians 5:17)
- vs. 8 - Gilgal - located somewhere on the plains around Jericho. (Joshua 4:19)
- vs. 8 - We'll see the fulfillment of these events in the chapter 11.
- vs. 9 - a new heart - the country boy was now king.
- vs. 10 - Exhibit A that Saul was saved. The Holy Spirit will not move on the unrighteous in this way.
- vs. 12 - John Gill comments this on the "proverb": "that when a person of a mean parentage, and of a low life and education, was raised up to any degree of dignity in sacred and civil things, they used to apply this proverbial expression to him, or speak of him in this manner, is Saul among the prophets?"
- vs. 16 - Why didn't Saul tell his uncle about his anointing? Possibly because he was instructed not to do so until the time was right. Seems like no one would have believed him any way based on verses 13-14.