



## LIFE GROUP SERMON NOTES

### “Kings & Queens: King Saul”

Sr. Pastor James Lowe – June 29, 2014

#### WARM-UP (10-15 minutes)

Choose a question below to answer, or ask another. *No right or wrong answers.*

- How did your parents help define who you are? How have you done the same for your children?
- Has God confirmed who you are? Is it the same as the definition you had of yourself? Why or Why not?
- Are you serving in church in some capacity? How and why?

#### WORD (10-15 minutes)

Sermons can be heard online at [bethelbrentwood.org/media](http://bethelbrentwood.org/media)

**Revelation 1:6** and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ESV - We are all called to be kings and priests in God's service. God does not allow us to stay where we are, but calls us to move forward in His anointing and appointment.

Saul was called by God to be King over the Israelites. After he was appointed king, he did many things that were sinful and wicked before the Lord, but if he had followed the pattern and process of God's anointing and appointment that he had in the beginning, his outcome could have been much different. Saul's failure to repent of his sins because of his disobedience to God resulted in his destruction. God's Word says that if we turn (repent) from our evil, He will relent from his intentions of destruction. Saul fell into believing his anointing was about him rather than about God.

#### **God's Instruction**

**Jeremiah 18:5** Then the word of the LORD came to me: 6 "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the LORD. Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. 7 If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, 8 and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it. 9 And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, 10 and if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will relent of the good that I had intended to do to it. ESV

## The Anointing

**1 Samuel 18:1** Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head and kissed him and said, "Has not the LORD anointed you to be prince over his people Israel? And you shall reign over the people of the LORD and you will save them from the hand of their surrounding enemies. And this shall be the sign to you that the LORD has anointed you to be prince over his heritage. **2** When you depart from me today, you will meet two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah, and they will say to you, 'The donkeys that you went to seek are found, and now your father has ceased to care about the donkeys and is anxious about you, saying, "What shall I do about my son?"' **3** Then you shall go on from there farther and come to the oak of Tabor. Three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you there, one carrying three young goats, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a skin of wine. **4** And they will greet you and give you two loaves of bread, which you shall accept from their hand. **5** After that you shall come to Gibeath-elohim, where there is a garrison of the Philistines. And there, as soon as you come to the city, you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with harp, tambourine, flute, and lyre before them, prophesying. **6** Then the Spirit of the LORD will rush upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. **7** Now when these signs meet you, do what your hand finds to do, for God is with you. ESV

Saul was anointed by God. God sent confirmation to Saul to verify the anointing. We are all called to be anointed to accomplish what the Lord has called us to do. The anointing is not about us, but about our assignment to do what the Lord directs.

## The Appointment

**1 Samuel 18:17** Now Samuel called the people together to the LORD at Mizpah. **18** And he said to the people of Israel, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and I delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all the kingdoms that were oppressing you.' **19** But today you have rejected your God, who saves you from all your calamities and your distresses, and you have said to him, 'Set a king over us.' Now therefore present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes and by your thousands." ESV

Saul was appointed King. Not because he was special, but because the Israelites rejected God as their leader. When we are appointed to a position, we need clarity of assignment, so we will do as God has directed us. We also need to recognize that appointment is a process which needs to work to its completion. We are not to pursue our own ideas about our appointment but instead we are to allow God's process of accountability, knowledge, and revelation to come forth.

Saul was an example of a failure to properly accomplish God's appointment. He sought other people's advice and direction and did not obey God. Samson was another example of being anointed and appointed (a judge), but he sinned and did not have clarity of God's calling. Because of his bad character and his failure to repent, Samson was destroyed, but God's desired results (delivery from the Philistines) was still accomplished.

### **PERSONAL APPLICATION (10-15 minutes)**

**Choose an item below to discuss, or introduce another related topic for discussion.**

- How do we define success? (It should be when we are functioning in our anointing and appointed assignment given by God.)
- What did you learn from this sermon and how would you apply it in your own life?
- Why does it seem so difficult for us to be repentant, especially when we are getting accolades from people, even if they are appointing us to things that God did not choose for us?

### **PRAYER (10-15 minutes)**

**Pray for any of the following, as well as any other requests you may have.**

- That we would be delivered from all obstacles that hinder our ability to receive God's true anointing for our lives.
- That we would have clarity of what God has called us to do.
- That we would be quick to repent when we lose focus on God's anointing and to always remember that we are accountable before God for our thinking and actions.