


First Baptist Church
Canton
Gather. Grow. Go.

**'HONING IN ON THE
HEART!'**



A KINGDOM. YOUR HEART. A KING.

**A VERSE-BY-VERSE SERIES ON THE BOOK OF
1ST SAMUEL
DURING WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICES IN 2024**

Honing in on the Heart!' Sermon Series

Sermon #18:

'The Public Proclamation!'

Wednesday, June 5th, 2024

Last week in 'Honing in on the Heart:

- Last Wednesday we looked at and studied the first 16 verses of 1st Samuel 10.
 - *Last Wednesday we looked at how the anointing of Saul occurred in private.*
- From 1st Samuel 10:1-16, I preached a sermon entitled **'The Private Plot!'** where I asked the question: *What occurs privately and publicly in this text to show us the plot and the plan of Saul becoming the first King of Israel?*
 - **Point 1: The Anointing. (V. 1)**
 - **Point 2: The Affirmations. (V. 2-8)**
 - **Point 3: The Acquisition. (V. 9)**
 - **Point 4: The Appearance. (V. 10-13)**

- **Point 5: The Asking. (V. 14-16)**
- Based on last week's sermon, I hope and pray that we were all reminded that what happens in our private lives, will eventually be brought to the public.
 - **I left you with the question last week, what private plot is God working in your heart right now, that will one day come out to the public...**

'The Public Proclamation!'

1st Samuel 10:17-27

Sermon in a Sentence:

The Public Proclamation of Saul as the first king of Israel unfolds as there is a Reminder of the Past, a Remarkable Process that takes place, and then the Rights of the Kingship are Presented by Samuel.

Intro:

- Tonight's scripture text is a culmination of what had been transpiring in Israel for quite some time.
 - *Back in 1st Samuel 8, the nation of Israel came to Samuel and said that they **wanted** a King.*
 - "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations." 1st Samuel 8:5
 - *Then they explained **why** they went to Samuel asking for a King.*

- ‘that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.’ 1st Samuel 8:20
 - ***Then, the Lord revealed to Samuel that Saul was going to be His chosen choice to be the King of Israel.***
 - We saw last week how the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon Saul, he was given instructions to do something about the Philistines, and did not do it.
 - ***What we saw unfold last week was private, now the nation of Israel is going to be introduced to the man that will be their first king.***
- ***I think it's important to point out that there was probably a period of time between 1st Samuel 10:16 and 1st Samuel 10:17.***
 - One reason this public proclamation by Samuel takes place is because Saul had not made any moves or actions on the royal warrant that he was given to be able to do so.
- So, Samuel was going to give the people what they had previously asked for.
 - Robert D. Bergen said ***‘Samuel knew it was God’s will to select Saul as king, but he also understood that the day’s events were motivated by Israel’s rejection of God as King.’***

- ***We must not forget that all this is happening because the people of Israel weren’t satisfied with God being their King.***
 - They desired an earthly king and to look like the other nations.
- ***What we find tonight is the people of Israel meet again for an assembly.***
 - The last time they met at Mizpah was in 1st Samuel 7:5, where Samuel prayed on their behalf.
- ***Now, they were going to be introduced to what they had previously asked for.***

****Read 1st Samuel 10:17-27****

Question to Ask:

What unfolds during this public presentation and proclamation of a king that shows us the people had rejected God as their King and wanted their own earthly king?

Point 1: The Reminder of the Past. (V. 17-19)

- Verse 17 shows us that the nation of Israel once again gathered together and they did so at Mizpah.
 - ***At this particular public convocation, it was not Samuel’s job to act as Judge, but to act as Prophet.***
 - During this meeting, Samuel was going to tell the people what God had said concerning their request and was going to be the Lord’s mouthpiece.

- *Notice that unlike other nations at this time, the assembly doesn't begin with the entrance of the new King and an immediate celebration and shouting.*
 - *Verses 18 & 19 show us that it begins with Samuel revealing the Lord's prophetic judgements.*
- This is seen by what the beginning of verse 18 will state *'Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel'*
- What differed from the nation of Israel, is that God was truly King and that God was truly in control.
 - *Even if that's not what the people wanted.*
- In these verses, before the King is going to be publicly announced for the first time, there are two reminders of the past that are given here to the Israelites.
- *The Actions of God. (V. 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.'
 - *Immediately here they are reminded by God, through Samuel, what had been done for them*

in the past. Specifically with the Exodus out of Egypt.

- *These words were said so that maybe, just maybe, Israel would be able to see that God had done so much for them. He had been so faithful, and that He had protected Him.*
- Maybe just maybe, while they were being reminded they would see that they are better off with God in control instead of man.
 - Verse 19 will show us in a moment that they did not come to that realization.
- *In the way the hebrew is worded, it seems that the word choice makes subtle yet deliberate links to the Sinai covenant from Exodus 20:2.*
 - *Verses 18 & 19 when interpreted together seem to signify that because Israel got away from God's laws and the Sinai covenant, they had created this for themselves.*
- *Oftentimes you and I are so similar to the Israelites. We don't want to look at what God has given us in the past, we just want to let Him know what we don't have right now.*
 - David Garland said *'The Israelites continued to insist in no uncertain terms that they wanted a king- a*

demand not outside of God's will but one sinfully motivated.'

- Before you put demands at the feet of the Lord, make sure you are reminded of the actions of God on your behalf that have occurred in the past.
- ***The Audacity of the Israelites. (V. 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.'
 - ***The people want what they want, over what God has given and offered them for so long.***
 - He's asked them for obedience, and even by their rejection here, they continue to disobey Him.
 - ***The Lord was the one who had proven Himself and had helped them through their calamities and distresses. But the Israelites had done the opposite.***
 - ***They responded to God's protection and safety by demanding essentially, a 'replacement' over the Lord.***
 - ***While you and I might not necessarily ask God for a King, we do become replacements over God when we put our own will and agenda over His.***
- Scholar John Woodhouse said ***'There was a certain madness in Israel's heart. What they had done made no sense at all. To reject God was to reject their savior.'***
- ***'Now therefore present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes and by your thousands.'***
 - The people don't yet know what is going to occur. Samuel didn't give a hint of what was going to happen.
 - ***To the nation of Israel, this could have been alarming and frightening words.***
- The last time all of Israel was summoned and something like this occurred, was back in Joshua 7:14-16, when Israel had just gotten to the promised land and they were faced with punishment due to Achan's disobedience.
 - 'In the morning therefore you shall be brought near by your tribes. And the tribe that the LORD takes by lot shall come near by clans. And the clan that the LORD takes shall come near by households. And the household that the LORD takes shall come near man by man. **15** And he who is taken with the devoted things shall be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he has done an outrageous

thing in Israel.” So Joshua rose early in the morning and brought Israel near tribe by tribe, and the tribe of Judah was taken.’

- ***The ‘old timers’ in Israel at this time would have been trembling when Samuel called the people to assemble together.***
 - They probably think they are going to be punished, but that’s not what happens and that’s part of the reason what is getting ready to happen is truly remarkable.

Point 2: *The Remarkable Process. (V. 20-24)*

- ***Part of the purpose of these verses is to show that yes, God is giving the people what they want.***
 - ***It has a slice of humor in it even due to the fact that Saul’s name in the Hebrew literally means ‘you asked for it’.***
 - The process is going to be remarkable because God wants the people to see that the way they go about this, still has the Lord’s Hand on it.
 - ***It’s not Samuel’s choice on who is to be king or even the people’s choice, this is God’s decision and that’s how this will unfold.***
 - ***What we see here is what Robert D. Bergan referred to as ‘Divine Prerogative’***
 - God wanted His people to know that they were not getting a King on the basis

of human manipulation, which was how other nations at this time operated.

- ***While He was giving them what they wanted, He wanted them to know they weren’t getting to choose who was to be king or how it was to be done.***
 - There are **three** remarkable things I want to point out concerning the remarkable process that God designed for Saul to be chosen as King.
- ***Divine Choosing. (V. 20-21a)***
 - ‘Then Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel near, and the tribe of Benjamin was taken by lot. **21** He brought the tribe of Benjamin near by its clans, and the clan of the Matrites was taken by lot; [a] and Saul the son of Kish was taken by lot.’
 - ***In the OT it was a common practice for ‘lots’ to occur to determine what God’s will was for a particular situation.***
 - Lots were taken in Jonah’s case to see who was responsible for the storm and who would be thrown overboard.
 - ‘And they said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah.’ Jonah 1:7

- Lots were also taken with the incident to isolate Achan as the thief of Israel's plunder in Joshua 7:14-18.
 - *In OT times, Lots were often used so that God's choice on a particular matter could be discerned by people.*
 - 'The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.' Proverbs 16:33
 - The use of lots was used so that the people would know God did this. Stephen J. Andrews said *'Samuel knew that the leaders who coveted the kingship would not be satisfied with his testimony alone. God would have to do the choosing.'*
 - But, the man that was chosen by God, which was Saul, was nowhere to be found.
- **Desperate Searching. (V. 21b-23a)**
 - 'But when they sought him, he could not be found. 22 So they inquired again of the LORD, "Is there a man still to come?" and the LORD said, "Behold, he has hidden himself among the baggage." 23 Then they ran and took him from there.'
 - *As we've unpacked these verses, maybe you were wondering what Saul was thinking or what Saul's reaction would be to this public*

display of announcing him as God's choice for King.

- In fact, in 1 Samuel 10:16 we saw that Saul did not want to tell his own uncle what had happened, and now everyone will know.
 - *I wonder if the people were frustrated that God had chosen a man who hadn't even shown up yet?*
 - So the people are searching, they don't know what this man looks like yet or who he is. Just his name.
 - *So, the people go to God and say, 'Is there a man still to come?'-despite their desperate searching they were not able to find Him.*
 - God reveals to the people that Saul is hiding in the baggage.
 - ***Word Study***
 - Now 'baggage' is a vague and interesting word that is found here.
 - This word in the Hebrew is **'Kelay' כֵּלַי** which is a Hebrew term that can literally refer to any general object.
 - So, we can affirm that Saul was hiding behind some kind of physical object. Whether that was weapons, instruments, furniture, we don't know. But it would

have had to of been something big enough that a tall man could hide behind.

- *The importance of this word is not WHERE Saul is hiding, it's the fact that Saul is HIDING.*
 - **Word Study**
 - The Hebrew word for hidden is **'Chaba'** חָבַא *which literally at the root of the word, means to keep secretly.*
 - *Saul didn't want everyone to know he was to be king. Perhaps he was ashamed that he had failed in his first task of defeating the philistines, or he just didn't want it.*
 - Robert D. Bergen points out the foreshadowing that exists in these verses **'Saul's vacancy at his own coronation suitably foreshadows a reign that would vacate responsibilities associated with the exercise of a Godly rule and perhaps suggests the lack of wisdom of those who preferred such a king to Yahweh.'**
 - An interesting application that we can draw from this is that many people are hiding from the public what God has given you privately.
 - *God may want to do INCREDIBLE things through you. Things only that*

He can accomplish and enable you to do but He wants to use you to do it!

- *But how can God use what He's given you privately if you don't allow yourself to be used by Him publicly.*
- *Distinct Choice. (V. 23b-24)*
 - 'And when he stood among the people, he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders upward. 24 And Samuel said to all the people, "Do you see him whom the LORD has chosen? There is none like him among all the people." And all the people shouted, "Long live the king!"
 - Now that they get Saul out from his hiding spot, everyone can see that this was a tall and handsome man.
 - *For now, the people are happy with this choice. But God was going to use Saul to cast judgment on the people for their disobedience to Him.*
 - *It seems as if the king that they wanted, one like all the other nations, would be Saul. He fit the descriptions and desires that they had for what their king would look like.*
 - *This is a strong reminder for us. Just because something looks pleasing to the eye, doesn't*

mean that it's good for your soul.

- *Just because what someone else has may work for them, doesn't guarantee that it will work for you and your benefit.*
 - If only the Israelites could see how strong their safety and protection was when they hailed God as their King.
- The people's response shows us what they thought of their new 'king'.
 - *They shouted 'long live the king!'*
 - *Everything is fine and dandy and we are so happy when we get what we think we want. But the tide changes when we realize that wasn't what we had to have in order to have the happiness we thought we were getting...*
- Tonight we've seen the Reminder of the Past, the Remarkable Process, and now we need to see that Samuel presents the rights of this new king.

Point 3: *The Rights Presented. (V. 25-27)*

- *This entire passage that we've studied tonight is extremely important because it shows what a huge turning point this was in the life of Israel. It's a turning point that will affect the course of the nation that we will see play itself out in 1st Samuel and into 2nd Samuel.*

- Samuel is going to formally present the new king, Saul, with the rights that he was to have.
 - *The main thing to take away from these verses is that God is still very much in control, even though He chose and allowed Saul to be the King.*
- There are **two** things we need to look at considering the rights that were presented.
- ***Difference from other Nations. (V. 25)***
 - 'Then Samuel told the people the rights and duties of the kingship, and he wrote them in a book and laid it up before the LORD. Then Samuel sent all the people away, each one to his home.'
 - We do not know what the exact content of this document was. The scripture tells us here that it was given to the Lord.
 - *It is possible that these rights and duties of the kingship was a section of Mosaic legal materials, or it could've been an expansion of what is shared throughout deuteronomy.*
 - *To be certain, we cannot.*
 - *The important thing to note here is that this was totally different than what other nations did.*
 - *Although Saul won't follow them fully, he and the people are given guardrails*

and guidelines that they are to follow regarding this new kingship.

- In other ancient nations, the king was free to do what He wanted to do and what He pleased.
 - *But the fact we are told that this document existed, shows us that God wanted them to know that it was still Him who was in control and in charge.*
- ***Distractors are always Present. (V. 26-27)***
 - ‘Saul also went to his home at Gibeah, and with him went men of valor whose hearts God had touched. 27 But some worthless fellows said, “How can this man save us?” And they despised him and brought him no present. But he held his peace.’
 - ***Saul goes home, but not without some folks that have negative comments that are aimed at being distractions to the new king.***
 - Anytime you are in ANY kind of leadership position (Pastor/Teacher, SS teacher, staff, deacon, etc), you will face complaints from others that satan intends to use as a distraction to your ministry.
 - ***Despite the fact that God clearly gave strong evidence that Saul was chosen by God, some people didn't like it and spoke against it.***
 - But, in the beginning, Saul didn't let these distractors cause him to lose his cool.

- *He kept his peace.*

- ***Know that when God chooses you for a task and has His hand on you, those who are seeking to distract and derail you are signs that you are following the Lord in obedience, because distractors and derailleurs are evidence that satan doesn't like it.***

Conclusion:

- ***What had developed in private circles was now in the open.***
 - Now we are going to see Saul's time as King commence. As it unfolds, we will most likely see that it is not all that the Israelite people thought and hoped that it would be.
- ***Tonight, be careful. Be very careful what you ask God for. He may give it to you in order to teach you an important lesson.***
 - This isn't even something saul wanted which was why he hid away from everyone.
 - ***But, satan would use this and grow an ego in Saul that would be stronger than his personal will to obey God.***
 - Maybe tonight you're like the nation of Israel and you are running, rebelling, and rejecting God at an alarming rate.
 - ***Maybe you are here, and you need for God to remind you of what He's done for you in the past, so that you realize He's in control!***

- ***Maybe tonight you haven't verbally asked God for a new King to be placed in your life, but you may be living your life as if you are King, instead of letting Him be the King.***
 - These are all things that must be repented of this evening, if we're going to truly see a move of God in our life and in our Church.
- We saw the Public Proclamation tonight in the:
 - **Point 1: *The Reminder of the Past. (V. 17-19)***
 - **Point 2: *The Remarkable Process. (V. 20-24)***
 - **Point 3: *The Rights Presented. (V. 25-27)***