

## 1 Samuel Lesson 14 Samuel Publicly Declares Saul as King

### Key Themes in 1 Samuel :

- The connection between our obedience and our relationship to God
- God opposes the proud and exalts the humble
- Despite human evil, God is working out His purposes in history
- Kingship in Israel and God's plan to one day raise up an anointed divine king

### Background:

**The Spirit of the Lord-** During the period of the Judges, "the Spirit of the Lord" came upon certain individuals to empower them for certain tasks. We see that "the Spirit of the Lord" came mightily upon Saul and enabled Him to prophesy and change into another man. In 1 Samuel 11 "The Spirit of the Lord comes upon Saul and enables him to call up an army.

**Saul as a prophet:** Kings in the ancient near east were often considered to have prophetic gifts.

**casting lots:** In both the old and new testaments the casting of lots were often used to determine God's will. In addition, God often used lots to communicate knowledge to men.

### Key Word:

**deliver: Strong's: H5337 "natsal"** deliver, pluck, preserve, recover, rescue

As the new king of Israel, Saul has been chosen, anointed, and instructed. He will now receive power in order to carry out that commission and be publicly presented to the people of Israel..

### Read 1 Samuel 10:9-27

1. According to 1 Samuel 10:9-10 Saul received a change of heart from God and the Spirit of the Lord came upon him, enabling him to prophesy. What was the reaction of the people in 10:11-12 and how might this be further evidence of Saul's previous heart for spiritual things?

2. Samuel called all the people together "to the Lord" at Mizpah in order to present their new king. He began by reminding the people of their true king, Yahweh. In 10:18-19 what did Samuel remind the people that their true king had done for them? What did the people want the new human king to do for them according to 1 Samuel 8:20?

**Application:** How can we apply this to our own struggle to trust God in times of difficulty or hardship? What are some of the things we often choose to trust in to solve our difficulties rather than the Lord?

3. Samuel used lots to reveal to the people the Lord's choice for their king. In 10:21-22 what was Saul's response when he was chosen? What can you discern from this about Saul's heart for his new position and His regard for Yahweh who had chosen Him?

**Application:** There may be occasions when the Lord calls us to a ministry, task or position of leadership that is difficult or one that we don't like or want. If so, how should we respond? What should our attitude be like? How might our attitudes towards God and the things that He has called us to do affect those we serve or those who observe us?

4. In 10 :25 what did Samuel tell the people and what did he write for them in a book? Why was this important in regards to his announcement of the new king? See Deuteronomy 17:18-20. How could the hearing of these words be a benefit to the new king and bring hope to both Saul and the people?

**Application:** We know from 1 Corinthians 1:27 that God often uses the weak and foolish things of the world to bring glory to Himself. If you are called to a ministry or leadership position that you feel inadequate, ill equipped, or too weak to handle, what encouraging lesson can you glean from 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. What do these verses teach us about God's ability and our weaknesses?