

What It Takes For You To Enjoy Security

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[0 : 00] of oil and poured it on his head, Saul's head, and kissed him and said, Has not the Lord anointed you to be a 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 a sign to you that the Lord has anointed you to be prince over his heritage.

Now, when you depart from me today, you will meet two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin of Zelzhe.

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 he is anxious about you, saying, What shall I do about my son?

Then shall you go on from there further and come to the oak of Tabat. Three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you there, one carrying three young goats, another carrying three loaves of bread, another carrying a skin of wine.

[1 : 11] And they will greet you, and give you two loaves of bread, which you shall accept from their hand. After that you shall come to Gilel 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 a harp, tambourine, flute, and lute before them prophesying.

Then the Spirit of the Lord will rush upon you, and you will prophesy with them, and be turned into another man. Now, when these signs meet you, do what your hand finds to do, for God is with you. Then go down before me to Gilgal, and behold, I am coming down to you to offer burnt offerings and to sacrifice peace offerings. Seven days you shall wait until I come to you and show you what you shall do.

When he turned his back to leave Samuel, God gave him another heart, and all these signs came to pass that day. When they came to Giveth, behold, a group of prophets met him, and the Spirit of God rushed upon him, and he prophesied among them.

[2 : 28] And when all who knew him previously saw how he prophesied with the prophets, the people said to one another, What has come over the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?

And a man of the place answered, And who is their father? Therefore it became a proverb, Is Saul among the prophets? When he had finished prophesying, he came to the high place.

Saul's uncle said to him and to his servants, Where did you go? And he said, To seek the donkeys. And when they saw they were not found, we went to Samuel.

And Saul's uncle said, Please tell me what Samuel said to you. Saul said to his uncle, He told us plainly the donkeys had been found. But about the matter of the kingdom of which Saul had spoken, he did not tell him anything.

Now Samuel called the people together to the Lord at Mizpah, 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.

[3 : 44] 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, by your thousands. Then Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel nearer, and the tribe of Benjamin was taken by Lot.

He brought the tribe of Benjamin nearer by its clans, and the clan of Matrites was taken by Lot. Samuel the son of Kish was taken by Lot.

But when they sought him, he could not be found. So they inquired again of the Lord, Is there a man still to come?

The Lord said, Behold, he has hidden himself among the baggage. Then they ran and took him from there, and when he stood among the people, he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders upward.

[4 : 48] 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 of the people shouted, Long live the king!

Then Samuel told the people the rights and the duties of a 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 own home. Saul also went to his home at Gibeah, and with him went men of valor whose hearts God had touched. But some of the worthless fellows said, How can this man save us?

And they despised him. And brought him no present, but he held his peace. The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God. You may be seated.

Would you pray with me? Lord, you know your people.

[6 : 06] You know what's in the heart of every person. And I ask, Lord, that because you are our good and gracious king, please minister, Father, as I do my best to interpret and apply your word, this passage that Ralph just read for us, in such a way, Lord, that brings you glory and you alone, and that builds up your people, that we can present everyone mature within your kingdom by your power.

Lord, we thank you, Lord, that we have King Jesus so clearly given to us in all of Scripture. And we thank you, Lord, that the light of King Jesus shines back on ancient passages like this, and it becomes useful even for our instruction and for our building up, but only if you will do this, Lord, by your power.

And so that's what we ask for your glory and our good. Amen. Well, picture yourself in London. Someone gave you tickets to watch the national football or soccer team at Wembley Stadium. 70,000 people packing the stadium, wearing the jersey that has the three lions on the chest. And here come the best athletes from the whole nation, and they line up. And then you just hear like one voice, all the people singing, Long live our noble King.

[7 : 40] Scatter his enemies and make them fall. Confound their politics. Frustrate their knavish tricks. Send him victorious, happy, and glorious.

Long to reign over us. God save the King. That British national anthem was written in 1740s. I looked it up. When was the first international soccer match played?

Not until about 130 years later. 1870s. So these national anthems of countries like ours and of England, of around the world, they were not written for sports.

They were written for war, to expand the empire, to provide security for the nation. Did you catch that line in our passage today? Would you look at chapter 10, verse 24?

We're given this very detailed account of how Saul is finally put in front of the people. And the response of the nation is, Long live the King. Or may the King live forever.

[8 : 41] And ancient Israel is just like our country today. This doesn't change. What people want from their leaders, from their government, is stability and security. And it's very easy, when we don't have those things, to put our hopes in a man, a ruler, a king, who could maybe bring that to us.

And that's what's going on in this story today. Because what that phrase says is this, As long as this king lives, the kingdom will continue like this, secure.

So may the king live forever. May the way it's going now be locked in forever. May the king never die. Beloved congregation of our Lord Jesus Christ, I want to show you, with this longing for security, what all it takes, for a kingdom to enjoy that.

More specifically, specifically for us, in Christ's kingdom, what does it take, for you and I, to enjoy security? Well first, it's this, for God's people to enjoy security, God must grant, a king federal headship, over his own kingdom.

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When evil men tried to, grab power for themselves, in the book of Judges, it failed.

[10 : 07] The Lord wouldn't put up with it. When evil men tried to bring in, idols into God's kingdom, God would destroy them. Even Samuel, who loved the Lord, and feared him, when he tried to set up, nepotism, that his own sons, would become the next judges, it failed.

God is showing his people, I'm the one who must, grant authority. And we see that the Lord, granted to Saul, everything he needed, to fulfill this charge, that God had put on him.

I see in Saul, all that it would take, for a man to be a representative, a federal head, one figure head, over the entire kingdom.

A shadow of all the offices, God would give, to the one man, Jesus Christ. First, the Lord took, Saul, if you remember last week, chapter nine, Saul is embarrassingly, unqualified, and God elevated him.

Would you look even, at the very end, of chapter nine. Notice how, every time Saul, is moving, and toward the end, of the chapter, he's going upward. He goes up to Ramah, then he goes up, to the feast, and then at the very end, even goes up, on top of the house.

[11:21] The Lord is elevating Saul, out of nothing, bringing him up. And that's symbolic, to what God is about, to do in chapter 10. Now in verse one, of chapter 10, Samuel took a flask, of oil, and poured it, over Saul's head, and kissed him, and said, this is not, because the Lord has, is this not, because the Lord, has anointed you, commander.

Now he reminds him, over his inheritance. So who is Saul, to rule over? God's inheritance. It's God's kingdom. God's the one, who has to appoint, and delegate this authority, to a man, a federal head, over God's own kingdom.

What a scene, this would be, we're on the top, of these mountain peaks, and here's a giant, of a man, between LeBron James, and Shaquille O'Neal, most likely. And here's old, Samuel, Samuel, he's a Nazirite, so he's got long hair, and beard never cut.

This man likely, kneels down, you're going to do a private, anointing ceremony, following God's instruction, pours the oil, over him, says, this is because, the Lord is anointing you, to rule over, God's inheritance.

Picture the weight, of that charge, on this man. Well next, the Lord took this, anointed man, and notice what he does. In verses three and four, there are these men, going up to God, going up to worship.

[12:56] And notice the three things, that these people are carrying, goats, bread, and wine. And it's, the bread of the communion, that they're going to give, to Saul.

What are you going to do, with the goats, when you go up, to worship God? There's your blood sacrifice. And after a blood sacrifice, you're going to enjoy, the peace, the peace sacrifice, where you're going to have, you get to eat the meat now, the sins have been atoned for, the burnt sacrifice is done, now we get to enjoy, this delicious, this delicious, feast with God.

There's meat, and there's bread, and there's the fruit of the vine. But they, he says, these men are going to give you, the bread. Well, in the ceremonial law, in Leviticus, the bread is set apart, for the priests.

But, there's also in the law, provision, where it can be legally shared. Remember when David comes, and the priest gives him bread, and it was, it was legal, and the Lord even reminds, the law keepers of this.

And so, here's this man, anointed to be king. There's the kingly office, being given the bread, the portion of the priests. There's the priestly office, shadowy, symbolized there.

[14:02] Well, what about the office of prophet? prophet. The Lord took this anointed king, with the priestly bread, and in verse six, look at what he says. The spirit of the Lord will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them, and you will be turned, into another man.

All three offices put onto Saul, this one man, king, priest, prophet, the anointing, this is God's inheritance. You're the federal head, lift it up.

Will this man be able to bear, under the weight of this charge? Will he be able to do, what is required to secure, the peace, and the kingdom? I know I sure wouldn't, I would crumble under that. Now, when it says, the spirit will be upon you, that doesn't necessarily mean, Saul gets a new heart, of regeneration, to believe and follow the Lord.

Because the spirit of God, also made a donkey prophesy. The spirit of God, made Nebuchadnezzar prophesy. The spirit of God, takes creatures, and does whatever God wants to do.

[15:12] So that's, that's important for us to realize, because Saul is a complex character. He doesn't stay flat, through all these chapters. That's all we need to say, about that for now. The Holy Spirit operated differently, in the Old Testament, than now, in the church.

Well, next the Lord took this anointed king, associated with the priestly rite of bread, who prophesied, speaking God's word to the people. What do we mean by prophecy? It's that, it's one who speaks God's word to the people. And he made him able to obey. Look at verse 9. So it was, when he had turned his back from Samuel, that God gave him another heart. Again, in this context, for these reasons, I believe this means, that he had the inward ability, to do what God expected, of him as king.

He had a special, God-given ability, to fulfill this office, for which God anointed him. I don't necessarily think, it should mean, or we should read into it, that he's regenerated, or saved, or got a new heart, savingly.

[16:14] But that God is not giving him, any excuse, or the people any excuse, to say that the Lord sabotaged, the thing they wanted. God will allow him, to be able to govern.

Alright, so for God's people, to enjoy security, do you see how, God must grant, a man, federal headship, to represent, God's people, God's kingdom.

Let's remember this, that if you and I, have enjoyed, any level of security, in this state, or in this nation, it's because God, has granted peace. God steers the hearts, of rulers, like the streams, God lifts up, and God throws down.

He can do that. The reason we're to pray, for all civil magistrates, in every state, no matter what their views are, even the views that disagree, with God's kingdom, we still pray for them, because God put them there, in his providence, in his big plan.

Now, with God's moral law, inside his people, we should not like laws, that contradict God's moral law. We can't, not if the Holy Spirit, lives in us. But we can still pray, for these rulers, who are dark, they're in darkness.

[17:23] They're deceived, by the enemy, and we need to pray, that God will, give us peace, despite those laws. Well, the second observation, about how, God secures, secures peace, in his kingdom, for his people, is this.

In order for God's people, to enjoy security, the king, must not just be selected, and appointed, and given authority, he must do something with it. Specifically, I see two things here.

The king must purify, God's kingdom, and second, the king must, care, for God's kingdom, on earth. Purify, and care for it.

First, for God's people, to enjoy security, look at what Saul needs to do, in verse five. We read, after you shall come, to the hill of God.

Some translations, just have it, the high place, but we're told, this is where, this is where the worship, is happening. This is the hill, where God will receive, the offerings, and the sacrifices, of his people, and meet them.

[18:25] And there, is a Philistine, garrison. This is not, Philistine territory. This is God's territory. It's part of the, geographic boundaries, of God's kingdom, on earth, during this time.

This is God's land, and it's God's hill. And on this hill, this village, the Philistines, have put an outpost, of the Philistine empire.

Now the Philistines, hate the true God. They want to worship, the idols, and the pagan gods. And yet, here on this holy, hill of the Lord, they're being allowed, to live there, with their soldiers, and this outpost.

The hill of the Lord, is not being kept pure, of those who blaspheme, and contradict, the sovereign rule, of God, in the land. One commentator put, a blaspheming, army of God, and the hill of God. Pagans, been permitted here, to build a fortified, strong hill, stronghold, on God's property. Enemy troops, oppressing God's people, from God's own hill.

[19:35] What should a king, do about that? Now the instructions, to Saul, are very clear. It will be, after all these signs, look at verse six, the spirit will come upon you, and you will prophesy, so listen for that, in the story.

Samuel says, when that happens, when you prophesy, look at what he says next, in verse seven, let it be, when those signs come to you, that you do, as the occasion, demands.

Some translations say, do what your hand, finds to do. And in Judges chapter nine, we saw this in Sunday school, verses 32 and 34. That phrase, in this context, do what your hand, finds to do, it means you're the king.

You're the man, anointed by God, given power. You're to go, and drive them out, slay them, cleanse the hill of God, from idolatry. And it's given that, further reinforcement, look at verse seven,

the very end.

Do what your hand finds to do, drive out the enemy, for God is with you. What more could you need? These are marching orders. Get at it.

[20 : 43] In verse 13, when he had finished, prophesying, let's see whether, Saul does this. The Lord is with you, Saul. We simply read, in verse 13, that Saul went, to a high place.

He goes to talk, to his uncle. I think because, the command was so clear, the signs were so clear, you will prophesy, all these things happened, he prophesied.

People are shocked, even Saul, he's not, the son of a prophet, what's going on? And instead of, obeying, he does the same sin, of Adam. It's God's temple, God's kingdom.

You're allowing the serpent, to be right here, in the holy, consecrated land. He sinned, by neglecting, to drive them out. It's a sin of omission.

And that's the first sin, we see for this man, anointed to be, the king, and the federal head. He did not purify, the kingdom of God. I think the reason, Saul did not purify, the kingdom of God, is because he did not, care about, or care for, the kingdom of God.

[21 : 49] Why didn't he do it? We only care for, what we care about. Look at verse 14. He goes up to talk, to his uncle. We know one of, Saul's uncles was Abner, who was associated, with the kingdom, and the army, a great general.

And his uncle says, where did you go? Super open-ended, catching up with you. You can take this conversation, anywhere you want. Where did you go? And look at what Saul says, of all the things, he had to report, to look for the donkeys.

And when we saw, they were nowhere to be found, we went to Samuel. Okay, we're developing this conversation, taking it, in the direction of God's man, the man of God, who speaks for God. And then verse 15, Saul's uncle said, please tell me, what Samuel said to you.

It's emphatic. Tell me, please, what did Samuel say to you? That's what I'm interested in. So in the conversation, this is how it goes. One person shows interest, in going this direction.

I want to hear about the man of God. What did he have to say? He's specific, and he's very interested. But look at Saul. He told us plainly, that the donkeys had been found.

[22 : 59] Now, we could interpret this, as him being humble, and keeping it private. But I think that the narrator, right here, of this same passage, he doesn't want us to miss this point. Look at verse 16.

He teaches us how to interpret this. Verse 16, but about the matter of the kingdom, Saul did not tell his uncle, what this man of God had said. Well, we can't read more into Saul, in this chapter than that.

That's what it says. What we do know, though, is that for God's people, you and me, to enjoy security, we need a greater king, a great king, who cares for God's kingdom, who brings the kingdom of heaven, to earth, who purifies it.

This is what we need. If you're here, and you belong to the kingdom of God, through Jesus Christ, Jesus is your king. Know that he cares about you.

And he will purify his kingdom. If you're in his kingdom, he will continue to purify you, and me. And he will continue to care, about demolishing, and pushing out, those strongholds of the enemy.

[24 : 13] Because you're in his kingdom, and he's a king who cares, and he's a king who is active. And he uses the power of his spirit, to cleanse, and purify his people.

Always. Anything brought into the domain, and the rule of the special kingdom, of heaven. If you're in the church, it means you're being cleansed, more and more, and more, and more. Because we have such a king, in Jesus Christ.

Well third, for God's people, to enjoy security, the king must, lead the people, back to God. For God's people, to enjoy security, we need a king, who understands, all the layers of authority.

If you want a king, like all the other nations, he's going to lead you, in the path, of all the other nations. Which is more power, for yourselves, more glory for yourselves, and in the end, it's destruction, from the hand of God.

But if you want a king, who understands, true authority, it's a king, who will lead his people, to the highest ruler, of all. God the creator. Samuel sets the stage, for Saul.

[25 : 18] Look at verse 17. Samuel next, calls all the people, together, to the Lord, at Mizpah.

Here's the man of God, who proclaims the word of God, calling all the people, representative heads, from the whole nation, to the Lord. The Lord's going to meet with you. And the place is

Mizpah.

Do you remember Mizpah? You can turn back to chapter 7, if it helps you remember. Mizpah is the place, where the Lord, gave his nation, the great victory, as they worshiped the Lord.

And they had this wonderful, worship ceremony, and the burnt offering, is going up, and the Philistines, are approaching, and the Lord, blasts the enemy, from heaven, with thunder, and lightning. This is where God, gathers his people.

And back in chapter 7, remember what, what the people did, when they were gathered, to the Lord, at this place. Chapter 7, verse 6, so they gathered at Mizpah. What they did, is they drew water, and they poured it out, before the Lord.

[26 : 22] And they fasted, and they prayed, and they said, Lord, we have sinned, against you. And Samuel judged, the children of Israel, at Mizpah. Everyone should know, what the right response is.

We're being gathered, to the same place. This is our only response, to God. It's to repent, to pour out our hearts again. But there's no such, pouring out of their hearts, like water.

There's no repentance, no fasting, no prayers, this time around. Imagine being Samuel. How do you prepare, to speak next, to these people?

Many of you, have had to get up, and give a talk, you know, for your business, or your job, and speak to your audience, and you know the stakes are high, you feel that pressure. What is the message, that God's going to have Samuel, give his people, in this moment?

How do you prepare? Well, let's see what he says. Look at chapter 10, verse 18. Samuel stands up, and says, thus says, the Lord God of Israel, I brought up Israel, out of Egypt, and delivered you, from the hand of the Egyptians, and from the hand of the kingdoms, of those who oppressed you, but you have today, rejected your God, who himself saved you, from all your adversaries, and your tribulations, you have said to him, no, set a king over us, now therefore, present yourselves, before the Lord, by your tribes, and by your clans.

[27 : 56] He's calling them, to judgment. When you notice, what he's preaching though, is the same thing, he already preached to them, turn back to chapter 8, and look at verse 7.

In chapter 8, verse 7, Samuel stands before the people, he gives them God's word, then he goes back, and talks to the Lord, and the Lord says, Samuel, they have not rejected you, they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them, according to all the works, which they have done, since that day, when I brought them, out of Egypt, even to this day, with which they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so they do now.

And in chapter 8, Samuel turns around, and preaches this to the people, it's the exact same message, from the exact same person, to the exact same audience, God's word, is relentless, God's word, God's word, is relentless, God's word, is relentless, God's word, is relentless, God's word, is relentless, God's word, chases his people down, and when the people, reject the Lord, he could easily walk away, become cold, and distant, but instead, he pursues his people, he brings his same word, back to his people, his message, does not change, what needs to change, is the hearts of his people, this has been true, in all of redemptive history, Martin Luther, made this comment, the Bible, is alive, it speaks to me, it has feet, it runs after me, it has hands, it lays hold of me, God's truth, through his word, chases us down, doesn't it, and he's so gracious, it's the same message, to his people, praise the Lord, if it's coming from a different mouth, a different person, even a different century, it's the same message, from the same God, to his people, God is lovingly, relentless, in his word, just like our hearts, often are, God, is faithful, when his people, are faithless, he's relentless, but still in Israel, there's no repentance, well who is it now, this story cries out, for someone, who will lead the people, by example, repent, turn back to God, wouldn't it be amazing, to have a king, a representative, who will do that, who will stand up, and come forward, to the Lord, and be the first one, to pour out, his heart like water, I think it's a wonderful pattern, in churches that want to be biblical, when those in the congregation, has set aside for an office, elder or deacon, to lead by that, that prayer of confession of sin,

Lord search me, you know my heart, show me Lord, those ways that are not right, in my heart, and that's what it means, to have spiritual leadership, in a relationship, in a family, in a congregation, it's to be, like in Psalm 51, a broken hearted evangelist, Lord you know, my faults, help me to now, turn around and proclaim, the goodness of God, who washed me clean, to those who need to know, this wonderful good news, well now, what happens next, is that no one, stands up voluntarily, and that wasn't the purpose, except to expose, their lack of repentance, the purpose is really, that God is going to give them, the king that they want, to be like all the other nations, but it'll be God, who will

do it, just as God, anointed him in private, God's going to, announce him now, in public, and God does this, by using lots, there were different forms, of casting lots, and most likely, it's each tribe, brings a stone, marked with their tribe, and you bring it forward, and then the stones, will be selected, so it's like a blind test, where you just, you let luck, or chance, as pagans would view it, decide what's, which stone, is going to be chosen, well in this case, we know, that there's no such thing, as chance, or luck, in all of this creation, everything happens, through God, and by his will, and if you thought, it was a high view of God, to let him, make salt, chase the donkeys, for three days, and then go down the hill, and arrive at the gate, just as Samuel's going up, what about this, for a view of God's providence, the Lord controls, and he shows the people, this is my choice, this is how I will, rule my people, with a high providence, over you, my high sovereignty, on my people, so the family of,

[32 : 50] Matri is chosen, from the tribe of Benjamin, down to Kish, and then which of Kish's sons, and it will be Saul, we read in verse 22, they looked around, and he couldn't find him, and so they said, well has this man, come here yet, see here's the irony, at this point in the story, is these elders of Israel, who want a king, like all the other nations, these wayward men, they can't even find, Saul, the man God put forward, for them, just as Saul, couldn't find, those wayward donkeys, well you know, what the Lord did, with the donkeys, is first he found, those donkeys, for the king, and now he's going to find, the king, for these wayward men, God answered, there he is, hidden among, the equipment, how could Saul, be a king, that would draw the people, back to God, he neglected, to draw near to God himself, and instead, he went into hiding, the people should be seeing, all these red flags, they should be hearing, the message loud and clear, from the Lord, don't you see,

I am your king, but instead, look at verse 23, the people ran, they're still eager, to have their way, and they brought Saul, from there, from behind the equipment, and then, Saul stands up, among the people, and everyone can now see, with their eyes, he's taller, than any of the people, from his shoulders upward, the tallest head, came up to Saul's shoulders, in verse 24, Samuel said, to all the people, do you see him, whom the Lord has chosen, that there is no one, like him, among all the people, look at verse 24, one more time, I don't know, what Samuel's tone, would have been here, but it could be read, a few different ways, right, there's no one, like Saul, well first of all, we're not told, of anyone else hiding, there's no one, like that here, and these men, who are eager, to have their king, there's no one, tall like him, he does look like, the giant we want, the great champion, that could give our nation, that fighting chance,

Samuel says, see there's no one, like him, among all the people, and now instead, of repenting, and fasting, and pouring their hearts out, look what the people do, in verse 24, all the people shouted, and said, long live, the king, may the king, this man, who moments ago, was hiding, may he live forever, as long as this king, is alive, the kingdom, of God, God's inheritance, inheritance, it will continue, as it is, so what the people, are really saying, is we like the kingdom, just like this, we don't want it, to change, and they're going, to learn the lesson, as goes the king, so goes, the kingdom, how is it going, for Saul, up to this point, not good, not leading anyone, back to God, not stepping up, and purifying the kingdom, from the obvious, enemies, that have taken, the hill, of God, that's how it's, going to go, with Israel, is this the king, that you want, to live forever, and the people, shouted, long, live, the king, the sad reality, of sin, their sin, my sin, and yours, is this, when, when sin, has a grip, or a foothold, you know, the sin, is not good,

Paul says, in Romans 7, I actually hate it, but you pray, and you see, like, this sin in my life, it needs to be, someone stronger, than me, to set me free, from it, and until, the Lord himself, by power, sets you free, and purges, and cleanses, his kingdom, which is you, you're his temple, his life, it's your life, until the Lord, does it, it's like, that Philistine, garrison, on the hill, of the Lord, you're powerless, just like Saul, and I'm powerless, we're probably, worse than Saul, and the Holy Spirit, inside God's people, he wants to show you, how foolish this is, see, you're saying, to this idol, may you live, like this, in my life, forever, I like my life, exactly how it is now, I don't want the Lord, to come and disrupt it,

God came, in King Jesus, to show you and me, there is a better kingdom, there's a better life, and where you fail, where you're too weak, the Lord, will cleanse you, now there's also, I think, an application, from Saul, he's chosen, by God, he's put into this position, maybe like Esther, she's reluctant, and doesn't know, what to do with her, even if she wants, all this responsibility, but for such a time, as this, the Lord has placed you, where he's placed you, and when the Lord, gives you a position, of influence, it could be influence, over one person, in your family, maybe a younger

sibling, maybe a friend, that you're back, in touch with now, you have a chance, to influence them, you want to use, that position, of influence, and point them, to the Lord, lead them back, to God, do what Saul failed to do, show them, look, I'm the first one, to confess my sin, and repent, and come with me, because God, is a good, and gracious king, lead your friend, lead those people,
[38 : 50] God is entrusted to your care, back to his kingdom, and you do it, soli deo gloria, for the glory of God alone, well that's the last, of this passage, and we see, as it ends, that not only did Saul fail, to lead the people, in repentance, and he failed, to declare, the Lord of armies, to this rebellious people, he failed, to point them back, to the true king, God, on high, who's been their help, who delivered them, out of slavery, and what's more, by neglecting, and being passive, Saul actually becomes, the object, of their idolatry, well you and I, we want security, just as badly, as these ancient Israelites, and our hearts, can just as easily, set our hopes, on lesser things, on idols, that are just as foolish, and none of those things, can secure, our future, or provide the stability, that we want, so I want to leave you, with this word of hope, even in the shadows, of this passage, of chapter 10, and the work of God, ordaining every event, that happens, we see signs, that are given very clearly, to mark out the king, what sign, does God give, in this story, that can help us, as God's people, to recognize, our true king, see in literature, an archetype, is a pattern, that repeats itself, in multiple stories, to highlight, a motif, or a theme, the theme of this chapter, obviously, is the kingdom, of God, and it's being administered, on earth, by a man, it's this English, theologian, named Alistair Roberts, who helped me, to see this, look at the signs, go back to chapter 10, verse 3, do you remember, those men, that Samuel told him, would be bringing, goats, loaves of bread, a skin of wine, and then there will be, followed by music, you remember those signs, and then we read, in verse 9,

Saul's heart, would change, even though, it would be temporarily, and it wouldn't affect, the whole nation, it would be, a sign, these are signs, of the kingdom, but they're only, an archetype, they're only signs, we can trace out, if they show up, in other stories, would you turn next, to 1st Samuel chapter 16, look at 1st Samuel 16, 19, just a few pages forward, let's see, let's see, if we find, those same, signs, and develop, an archetype here, are these pointing, to the king, to the kingdom, well, the next king, after Saul, is going to be David, and look at this, amazing description, Saul says, send me your son, David, who's with the sheep, then Jesse, took a donkey, there's a donkey, loaded with bread, and skins of wine, and a young goat, they're all there, and he sent him, with his son David, to Saul,

David plays music, in the court of the king, and we're told, that Saul's heart changes, exact same events, the donkey, the goats, the bread, the wine, music, and a changed heart, well, now we got to look, at the new testament, would you turn, to Luke chapter 19, Luke chapter 19, Luke chapter 19, remember we're listening, for a donkey, a blood sacrifice, bread, wine, music, Luke chapter 19, verse 30, Jesus tells his disciples, as you enter the village, you will find, a colt, tied there, now, in Luke chapter 19, look at verse 45, where Saul neglected, to drive out, the Philistines, in the garrison, of the holy hill of God,

Jesus Christ, drives out, those who are buying, and selling, in the holy temple, this is God's domain, now, if you keep going, in Luke, look at Luke chapter 22, verse 10, what about the goat, the blood sacrifice, the bread, the wine, and the music, Luke 22, chapter 10, behold, he tells his disciples, when you enter the city, a man carrying, a pitcher of water, you'll see him coming down, follow him, into a house, he'll show you, to the upper room, and there, make ready, the Passover, what do you do, to make ready, the Passover, you take, a blood sacrifice, a lamb, you prepare the bread, you prepare, all the utensils, you leave the wine, and the cups, ready to be served, when the Lord, administers the Lord's, supper, we read this, every single week, they ate, they ate the blood sacrifice, he says,

I'm your Passover lamb, he gives them the bread, he gives them the fruit, of the vine, and then they sing a song, and then they departed, where Saul is set, to go wait for seven days, after Christ's work is done, which we'll celebrate, with Good Friday and Easter, he tells the church, go and wait, the Holy Spirit, is poured out on the church, in Acts 2, their hearts are changed, but now it's not just, a temporary change, it's the whole nation of God, everyone who will believe, will have a changed heart, so those are the signs, and there's the fulfillment, from the shadows, the substance, Jesus Christ, he shows up, and those who know the Bible, they know to look for him, the true king, and this is one small way, one small shadow, every chapter of the Old Testament, points to Christ, in so many different, glorious ways, our lifetimes are too short, to study all of it, behold King Jesus, that's

the takeaway, from 1 Samuel chapter 5, you need a greater king, and behold, in Jesus Christ, he has come, there are a few contrasts, that we can draw here as well, see, [45 : 42] Saul's heart, was never perfectly aligned, to God, on earth, we need a king, whose heart will be unbending, always, consummately, in every way, aligned, to the will of God, in heaven, we're told at the end of chapter 10, of 1 Samuel, that a few valiant men, went with Saul, whose hearts God had touched, and now, because the Holy Spirit, has been poured out, on his church, all those, whose hearts, the Holy Spirit touches, they follow King Jesus, to be a Christian, is to be one of those valiant men, that God himself, has said, follow this king, and you do it, in chapter 10, of 1 Samuel, verse 16, we're told, that sad insight, in talking with his uncle, that of the kingdom of God, Saul said, nothing, and when all the people, are gathered at Mizpah, Saul called no one, to repent, he led no one, back to God, but behold King Jesus, in Mark 1, 14 and 15, he came preaching, the gospel, of the kingdom of God, and saying, the time is fulfilled, the kingdom of God, is at hand, repent, and believe in the gospel, calling everyone, whosoever will, to go to God, turn back to him, the kingdom of God, is at hand, in Jesus Christ, in 1 Samuel, chapter 10, verse 21, we are told, that Saul, the son of Kish, was chosen, and when they sought him, they could not, find him, well behold, in King Jesus, the son of God,

God the son, he was chosen, to accomplish, God's eternal plan, and because he succeeded, he calls everyone, whosoever will, to come to God, in him, and come to God, while he may be found, Christ is here, to extend grace, and draw everyone, to the father, who will believe in him, for you and me, as God's people, to enjoy security, the king must be the one, to lead the people, back to God, and behold, King Jesus, he has done this, and saw, the Lord Jesus, and saw, God took an embarrassingly, embarrassingly, unqualified man, and elevated him, the contrast, the contrast is, Jesus Christ, is the only qualified man, already elevated, at the right hand of God, and yet he descended, he took on a body, Hebrews 10 says, a body you have prepared for me, and I have come, to do your will, God anointed Saul, with oil, to please sinners, but because he's well pleased, in his son,

God the father, anointed King Jesus, with his Holy Spirit, so that he would save sinners, like you and like me, in John 14, 6, Jesus says, I am the way, to the father, no one comes to the father, except through me, so come to me, all you who are weary, and heavy laden, I'll take you to the father, I'm the only one, who can, Jesus hides from no one, he's lifted up, so all the world, can see him, for you and me, to enjoy security, as God's people, the king must purify, and care for, his kingdom, on earth, we read in Revelation 1, King Jesus is the one, who loved us, and washed us from our sins, with his own blood, so that we can enjoy, communion with God, just like every nation, or every kingdom, has an anthem, all of those, who belong to King Jesus, and his kingdom, we have an anthem as well, it's a glorious anthem, even though there's, many melodies to it, many lyrics, many different languages, it tells one, great story, and it's that God, saves sinners, by his amazing grace, through Jesus Christ, the king, and the lord of all, so we join our voices, like we will in a moment, we say amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saves a wretch like me, I once was lost, but now I'm found, I was blind, but now I see, we sing this together, one voice, changed hearts, I love the line also, reminds us, the lord has promised, good to me, his word, my hope, secures, he will, my shield, and my portion be, as long as life, endures, king Jesus, has done, all, that is required, for the kingdom, of heaven, to come, to earth, make sure Jesus Christ, is your king today, and then enjoy security, with all his people, in his kingdom, would you pray, respond in this way, to the lord, thank you,