

PLEASE NOTE - The references below are taken from the 86-22 Index. Many verses have additional references that have not been included due to time & space. We are encouraged to do additional personal research.

(1 Samuel 9:16) 16 “Tomorrow about this time, I will send to you a man from the land of Benjamin. You must anoint him as leader over my people Israel, and he will save my people from the hand of the Philistines. For I have seen the affliction of my people, and their outcry has reached me.”

*** w15 4/15 p. 6 par. 13 Elders, How Do You Feel About Training Others? ***

13 One day over 3,000 years ago, Jehovah told the elderly prophet Samuel: “Tomorrow about this time, I will send to you a man from the land of Benjamin. You must anoint him as leader over my people Israel.” (1 Sam. 9:15, 16) Samuel realized that his role as leader had come to an end and that Jehovah had assigned him to anoint a successor. ‘How can I prepare that man for his task?’ Samuel must have thought.

(1 Samuel 9:25) 25 Then they went down from the high place to the city, and he continued to speak with Saul on the housetop.

*** w15 4/15 p. 6 par. 14 Elders, How Do You Feel About Training Others? ***

Afterward, Samuel and Saul walked down to the prophet’s house, talking as they went. Samuel wanted to make good use of the pleasant atmosphere that the fine meal and the leisurely walk had created. So he invited Saul to come up to his roof. In the cool evening breeze, Samuel “continued to speak with Saul on the housetop” until they went to sleep.

(1 Samuel 10:8) 8 Then go down ahead of me to Gilgal, and I will go down to you there to offer up burnt sacrifices and communion sacrifices. You should wait for seven days until I come to you. Then I will let you know what you should do.”

(1 Samuel 11:14, 15) 14 Samuel later said to the people: “Come and let us go to Gilgal to confirm the kingship.” 15 So all the people went to Gilgal, and in Gilgal they made Saul king before Jehovah. Then they offered communion sacrifices there before Jehovah, and Saul and all the men of Israel celebrated with great joy.

*** rr chap. 2 p. 22 “God Approved” Their Gifts ***

After the sacred Ark was removed from the tabernacle, it seems that Jehovah approved of sacrifices being offered at locations other than the tabernacle.—1 Sam. 4:3, 11; 7:7-9; 10:8; 11:14, 15; 16:4, 5; 1 Chron. 21:26-30.

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(1 Samuel 9:3-19) When the donkeys belonging to Saul’s father Kish got lost, Kish said to his son Saul: “Please take with you one of the attendants and go look for the donkeys.” 4 They passed through the mountainous region of Ephraim and through the land of Shalishah, and they did not find them. They traveled through the land of Shaalim, but the donkeys were not there. They passed through the entire land of the Benjaminites, and they did not find them.

5 They came into the land of Zuph, and Saul said to his attendant who was with him: “Come, let us return, so that my father does not start worrying about us rather than the donkeys.” 6 But the attendant replied: “Look, there is a man of God in this city, a man who is held in honor. All that he says is sure to come true. Let us go there now. Perhaps he can tell us which way to go.” 7 At this Saul said to his attendant: “If we go, what can we take to the man? There is no bread in our bags; there is nothing to take as a gift to the man of the true God. What do we have?” 8 So the attendant answered Saul again: “Look! There is a quarter

of a shekel of silver in my hand. I will give it to the man of the true God, and he will tell us which way to go.” 9 (In former times in Israel, this was what a man would say when going to seek God: “Come, and let us go to the seer.” For the prophet of today used to be called a seer in former times.) 10 Then Saul said to his attendant: “What you said is good. Let us go.” So they went to the city where the man of the true God was. 11 While they were going up the ascent to the city, they met girls going out to draw water. So they said to them: “Is the seer in this place?” 12 They answered: “He is. Look, he is just ahead of you. Hurry now, for today he has come to the city, because the people are making a sacrifice today on the high place. 13 As soon as you come into the city, you will find him before he goes up to the high place to eat. The people will not eat until he comes, for he is the one who blesses the sacrifice. Once that is done, those who are invited may eat. So now go up right away, and you will find him.” 14 So they went up to the city. As they were coming into the middle of the city, there was Samuel coming out to meet them to go up to the high place. 15 The day before Saul came, Jehovah had told Samuel: 16 “Tomorrow about this time, I will send to you a man from the land of Benjamin. You must anoint him as leader over my people Israel, and he will save my people from the hand of the Phi-lis’tines. For I have seen the affliction of my people, and their outcry has reached me.” 17 When Samuel saw Saul, Jehovah told him: “Here is the man of whom I said to you, ‘This is the one who will govern my people.’” 18 Then Saul approached Samuel in the middle of the gate and said: “Tell me, please, where is the house of the seer?” 19 Samuel answered Saul: “I am the seer. Go up ahead of me to the high place, and you will eat with me today. I will send you away in the morning, and I will tell you all that you want to know.

(1 Samuel 9:20, 21) As for the donkeys that were lost three days ago, do not worry about them, for they have been found. And to whom does all that is desirable of Israel belong? Is it not to you and to the whole house of your father?” 21 At this Saul answered: “Am I not a Ben’ja-min-ite of the

smallest of the tribes of Israel, and my family the most insignificant of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? So why have you spoken to me in this way?”

(1 Samuel 9:22-10:16) Then Samuel took Saul and his attendant and brought them to the dining hall and gave them a place at the head of those invited; there were about 30 men. 23 Samuel said to the cook: “Bring the portion that I gave you and told you, ‘Set it aside.’” 24 At that the cook lifted up the leg and what was on it, and set it before Saul. And Samuel said: “What has been reserved has been set before you. Eat, because they have reserved it for you for this occasion. For I told them, ‘I invited guests.’” So Saul ate with Samuel on that day. 25 Then they went down from the high place to the city, and he continued to speak with Saul on the housetop. 26 They rose early, and at daybreak Samuel called to Saul on the housetop, saying: “Get ready, so that I may send you away.” So Saul got ready and both he and Samuel went outside. 27 While they were descending toward the outskirts of the city, Samuel said to Saul: “Tell the attendant to go on ahead of us,” so he went on ahead. “But you, stand still now, so that I may let you hear the word of God.”

10 Samuel then took the flask of oil and poured it out on Saul’s head. He kissed him and said: “Has not Jehovah anointed you as a leader over his inheritance? 2 When you leave me today, you will find two men near the tomb of Rachel in the territory of Benjamin at Zel’zah, and they will say to you, ‘The donkeys that you went to look for have been found, but now your father has forgotten about the donkeys and is worried about you. He is saying: “What should I do about my son?”’ 3 Go on from there until you come to the big tree of Ta’bor, where you will meet three men going up to the true God at Beth’el, one carrying three young goats, one carrying three loaves of bread, and one carrying a large jar of wine. 4 They will ask about your welfare and give you two loaves, and you must accept the loaves from them. 5 After that you will come to the hill of the true God, where there is a garrison of the Phi-lis’tines.

When you come to the city, you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place, and a stringed instrument and tambourine and flute and harp will be played ahead of them while they are prophesying. 6 The spirit of Jehovah will empower you, and you will prophesy along with them and be changed into a different person.

7 When these signs have taken place, do whatever your hand finds possible, because the true God is with you. 8 Then go down ahead of me to Gil'gal, and I will go down to you there to offer up burnt sacrifices and communion sacrifices. You should wait for seven days until I come to you. Then I will let you know what you should do."

9 As soon as Saul turned around to leave Samuel, God began changing his heart to be like that of someone else, and all these signs came true on that day. 10 So they went from there to the hill, and a group of prophets met him. At once the spirit of God empowered him, and he began to prophesy among them. 11 When all those who previously knew him saw him prophesying with the prophets, they said to one another: "What has happened to the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?" 12 Then a man from there said: "But who is their father?" So it became a saying: "Is Saul also among the prophets?"

13 When he finished prophesying, he came to the high place. 14 The brother of Saul's father later said to him and to his attendant: "Where did you go?" At that he said: "To look for the donkeys, but we saw that they were not there, so we went to Samuel." 15 Saul's uncle asked: "Please tell me, what did Samuel say to you?" 16 Saul replied to his uncle: "He told us that the donkeys had already been found." But Saul did not tell him what Samuel said about the matter of the kingship.

(1 Samuel 10:20, 21) So Samuel had all the tribes of Israel draw near, and the tribe of Benjamin was selected. 21 Then he had the tribe of Benjamin draw near by its families, and the family of the Mat'rites was selected. Finally Saul the son of Kish was selected. But when they went to look for him, he was nowhere to be found.

(1 Samuel 10:17-27) Samuel then called the people together to Jehovah at Miz'pah 18 and said to the Israelites: "This is what Jehovah the God of Israel says: 'It was I who brought Israel up out of Egypt and who rescued you from the hand of Egypt and from the hand of all the kingdoms that were oppressing you. 19 But today you have rejected your God who was your Savior out of all your evils and distresses, and you said: "No, you should appoint a king over us." Now take your stand before Jehovah by your tribes and by your thousands.'" 20 So Samuel had all the tribes of Israel draw near, and the tribe of Benjamin was selected. 21 Then he had the tribe of Benjamin draw near by its families, and the family of the Mat'rites was selected. Finally Saul the son of Kish was selected. But when they went to look for him, he was nowhere to be found. 22 So they inquired of Jehovah: "Has the man come here yet?" Jehovah answered: "There he is hiding himself among the luggage." 23 So they ran and brought him from there. When he stood in the middle of the people, he was head and shoulders taller than all the other people. 24 Samuel said to all the people: "Do you see the one whom Jehovah has chosen, that there is none like him among all the people?" And all the people began to shout: "Long live the king!" 25 Samuel spoke to the people about the rightful due of kings and wrote it in a book and deposited it before Jehovah. Then Samuel sent all the people away, everyone to his house. 26 Saul also went to his home in Gib'e-ah, accompanied by the warriors whose hearts Jehovah had touched. 27 But some worthless men said: "How will this one save us?" So they despised him, and they did not bring any gift to him. But he said nothing about it.

*** it-2 p. 871 Saul ***

Anointed as King. Thereafter Jehovah guided matters to provide the occasion for anointing Saul as king. With his attendant, Saul looked for the lost she-asses of his father. Since the search proved to be fruitless, he decided to return home. But his attendant suggested that they seek the assistance of the "man of God" known to be in a

nearby city. This led to Saul's meeting Samuel. (1Sa 9:3-19) In his first conversation with Samuel, Saul showed himself to be a modest man. (1Sa 9:20, 21) After eating a sacrificial meal with Saul, Samuel continued speaking with him. The next morning Samuel anointed Saul as king. To confirm that God was with Saul, Samuel gave him three prophetic signs, all of which were fulfilled that day.—1Sa 9:22–10:16.

Later, at Mizpah, when chosen as king by lot (1Sa 10:20, 21, JB; NE), Saul bashfully hid among the luggage. Found, he was presented as king, and the people approvingly shouted: "Let the king live!" Escorted by valiant men, Saul returned to Gibeath. Though good-for-nothing men spoke disparagingly of him and despised him, Saul remained silent.—1Sa 10:17-27.

Early Victories. About a month later (according to the reading of the Greek Septuagint and Dead Sea Scroll 4QSam^a in 1Sa 11:1) Ammonite King Nahash demanded the surrender of Jabesh in Gilead. (See NAHASH No. 1.) When messengers brought news of this to Saul, God's spirit became operative upon him. He quickly rallied an army of 330,000 men and led it to victory. This resulted in a strengthening of Saul's position as king, the people even requesting that those who had spoken against him be put to death. But Saul, appreciating that Jehovah had granted the victory, did not consent to this. Subsequently, at Gilgal, Saul's kingship was confirmed anew.—1Sa 11:1-15.

Next Saul undertook steps to break the power of the Philistines over Israel. He chose 3,000 Israelites, placing 2,000 under himself and the remainder under his son Jonathan. Evidently acting at his father's direction, "Jonathan struck down the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba." In retaliation, the Philistines assembled a mighty force and began camping at Michmash.—1Sa 13:3, 5.