INTRODUCTION/ SYNOPSIS:

1 SAMUEL 15:26-35  
26 The Lord had rejected Saul from being king over Israel because he had rejected the Word of the Lord. God's patience had ended with this man who had hardened his heart in disobedience. 27 As Samuel turned to go, Saul grabbed the skirt of his mantle and it ripped. 28 The accidental tearing of Samuel's mantle provides a parting symbolism of God's tearing away the kingdom of Israel this day, and had given it away to one of their neighbours not his family, but to one who is better than him (and that would be David). 29 The Strength of Israel does not lie nor repent. He does not change His decision like man. God took His authority away from Saul. David was better than Saul was, because David obeyed the Lord. 30 Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned YET, honour ME NOW in front of the elders; leaders of Israel, and come back with me so that I can worship the Lord your God." That's funny, Saul didn't call God his God, he said "your" God (Samuel's God). Saul was less concerned about the prophecy which he evidently did not believe, but about his public image. 31 So Samuel went back with Saul, and Saul worshipped the Lord. 32 Samuel told Saul to bring Agag, king of the Amalekites, to him. This is where the disobedience came after hearing the Command of God: "Go smite and destroy ALL the Amalekites" (v.3). This is the same king who is a part of the Amalekites God said destroy, but Saul had disobeyed and kept him alive. "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry" (v.23). Samuel is the one to see that God's command is being carried out. So Agag comes daintily, full of smiles, thinking that the worst is over; that the bitterness of death has passed. 33 Samuel told him that since he had killed the sons of many mothers with his sword, and have left them childless, then his mother shall be childless. And Samuel cut Agag into pieces in front of the altar at Gilgal. 34 Then Samuel left Gilgal and went to his home in Ramah. But Saul went to his home in Gibeah. 35 During the rest of his life Samuel never saw Saul again. And Samuel mourned for Saul, and the Lord repented that He had made Saul king of Israel.

LESSON:

I. 1 SAMUEL 16:1-4b

16:1 And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons. God asked Samuel a question: "How long will you mourn for Saul, the one I have rejected from reigning over Israel?" Saul's time is up; no going backwards. God has rejected Saul from reigning over Israel. Now, Samuel's new assignment is to fill his horn; vial with oil to anoint a new king. He was to go to the house of Jesse, the Bethlehemite. God had already made the choice, and he would come from one of Jesse's sons. This king would be God's servant. The "horn of oil" represented being filled with the Holy Spirit!

16:2 And Samuel said, How can I go? If Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take an heifer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD. Samuel is apprehensive about this move because he says "If Saul hears about it, Saul will kill me." But God's solution to this was for Samuel to take a heifer with him and say that he is going to sacrifice unto the Lord.
16:3 And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will shew thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me him whom I name unto thee. God has put His Plan in Play! And Samuel is to call Jesse to the sacrifice, and the Lord will tell Samuel what he was to do; instruct him as to whom he was to anoint.

16:4 And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably?— Samuel did exactly what the Lord told him to do. He arrived at Bethlehem, and the elders; leaders trembled as they met Samuel asking him, if he came peacefully. They knew him to be a prophet sent by God and would bring judgment.

NOT APART OF THE LESSON: VERSE 5

16:5 And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. Samuel did exactly what the Lord told him to do. He instructed them to sanctify themselves and come with him to the sacrifice. They washed and put clean clothes on. This showed that they had made themselves holy, for God is holy. And Samuel sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

BACK TO THE LESSON: II. 1 SAMUEL 16:6-10

16:6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. When they arrived at Jesse's house, Samuel saw Jesse’s son Eliab. And he thought, “I am sure that the Lord has chosen this son.”

16:7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart. “But the Lord told Samuel, Do not look at how handsome or tall Eliab is. I have not chosen him. The Lord does not look at people the way that other people look. People look at the outside of a person. But the Lord looks at their spirit” (inside). It looks like Samuel was looking for another Saul.

16:8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. Then Jesse called his son Abinadab, and told him to walk before Samuel. But Samuel said, “The Lord has not chosen this man.”

16:9 Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. Jesse told his son Shammah to walk pass Samuel. But Samuel said, “The Lord has not chosen this man.”

16:10 Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these. Jesse made 7 of his sons walk pass Samuel. But Samuel said, “The Lord has not chosen any of these men.”

III. 1 SAMUEL 16:11-13

16:11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither. Samuel asked Jesse, “Do you have any more sons?” Jesse answered, “I have one more son. He’s the youngest, looking after the sheep.” Samuel calls for the one more son to come before him, and they will not sit down to eat until he arrives.

16:12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance.
And goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he. So Jesse sent for him and took him to Samuel. This young man was handsome and healthy (reddish color tone). He was a shepherd. The Lord said to Samuel, “I have chosen this man. Go and anoint him”.

16:13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

The name of the young man was David. Samuel took the horn that was full of oil, anointed him by pouring the oil over his head. And Samuel did this in front of David’s brothers. The Spirit of the Lord came upon David in a powerful way, empowering him from that day forward for the rest of his life. After completing the Lord’s assignment Samuel went back home to Ramah.

Saul and David were anointed in two different ways. Saul had a vial of oil poured upon him by Samuel. Then after meeting the prophets prophesying, the Spirit of the Lord came upon him on the road, and he began prophesying (1 Sam.10:1, 5-6).

However, for David, Samuel anointed him with a horn of oil at the house of his father and brothers, and the Spirit of the Lord came upon him (1 Sam.16:13).

SUMMARY:

1 God asked Samuel a question: How long will you mourn for Saul, the one I have rejected from reigning over Israel? Saul's time is up; no going backwards. God has rejected Saul from reigning over Israel. Now, Samuel’s new assignment is to fill his horn; vial with oil to anoint a new king. He was to go to the house of Jesse, the Bethlehemite, for the Lord has provided a king among Jesse’s sons. 2 Samuel says “If Saul hears about it, he will kill me.” God’s solution to this was for Samuel to take a heifer with him and say that he is going to sacrifice unto the Lord. 3 Call Jesse to the sacrifice, then God would instruct him as to whom he should anoint. 4 Samuel did exactly what the Lord told him to do. He arrived at Bethlehem, and the elders; leaders trembled as they met Samuel asking him, if he came peacefully. 6 When they arrived at Jesse’s house, Samuel saw Jesse’s son Eliab. And he thought, surely the Lord’s anointed this one. 7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, “don’t look upon his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: God sees not as man sees; for man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.” 8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And Samuel said, neither has the LORD chosen this. 9 Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And Samuel said, neither hath the LORD chosen this. 10 Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, “The LORD hath not chosen these.” 11 Samuel asked Jesse, “Do you have any more sons?” Jesse answered, “I have one more son. He's the youngest, looking after the sheep.” And Samuel said unto Jesse, “Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he arrives.” 12 So Jesse sent for him and took him to Samuel. He was ruddy, and had a beautiful countenance, and handsome to look at. And the LORD said, “Arise, anoint him: for this is he.” 13 The name of the young man was David. Samuel took the horn that was full of oil, anointed him by pouring the oil over his head. And Samuel did this in front of David’s brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord came upon David in a powerful way, empowering him from that day forward for the rest of his life. After completing the Lord’s assignment Samuel went back home to Ramah (1 Sam.16:1-13).