**Lesson 17**



**1 Samuel 16:1-13 (NASB)**   
1  Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have selected a king for Myself among his sons."   
2  But Samuel said, "How can I go? When Saul hears *of it,* he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'   
3  "You shall invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for Me the one whom I designate to you."   
4  So Samuel did what the LORD said, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the city came *trembling to meet him* and said, "Do you come in peace?" (Expecting something bad to happen)  
5  He said, "In peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." He also consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.   
6  When they entered, he looked at Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD'S anointed is before Him."   
7  But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God *sees* not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."   
8  Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either."   
9  Next Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either."   
10  Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. But Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these."   
11  And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are these all the children?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and behold, he is tending the sheep." Then Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here."   
12  So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with beautiful eyes and a handsome appearance. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is he."   
13  Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. And Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

**1 Samuel 16:1-13 (NIV)**   
1  The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king."   
2  But Samuel said, "How can I go? Saul will hear about it and kill me." The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'   
3  Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."   
4  Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?"   
5  Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.   
6  When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."   
7  But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."   
8  Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either."   
9  Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one."   
10  Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these."   
11  So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse answered, "but he is tending the sheep." Samuel said, "Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives."   
12  So he sent and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; he is the one."   
13  So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah.

**Bible Knowledge Commentary - 1 Sam 16:1-13**

[16:1-13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A1-13).

»[Front Matter](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=137&sec=00000017#links215) »[Intro](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=137&sec=00009693#links783) »[Outline](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=137&sec=00009721#links781) »[Bibliography](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=137&sec=00010183#links782)

**C. Saul and David (**[**chaps. 16-26**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16-26)**)**

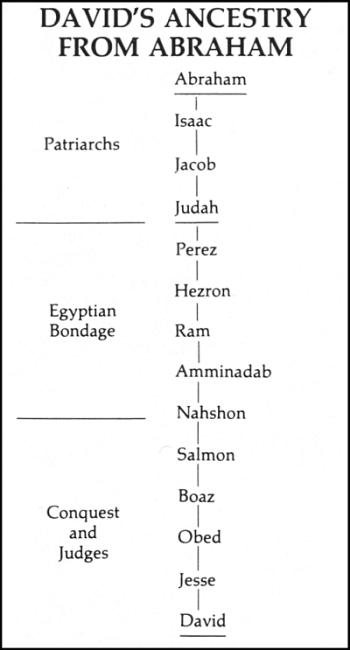
**1. On Friendly Terms (**[**Chaps. 16-17**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16-17)**)**

**a. The choice and anointing of David (**[**16:1-13**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A1-13)**)**

[16:1-13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A1-13). After Saul's further rebellion against the Lord and his subsequent rejection by **the** Lord**,** Samuel was commissioned to seek out the **one** who would succeed Saul on the throne of **Israel.** This one had already been identified as "a man after [God's] own heart" ([13:14](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+13%3A14)) and "one of [Saul's] neighbors" who was "better than" he ([15:28](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+15%3A28)). David had been chosen from eternity past to be ruler of Israel. The rejection of Saul did not force **the** Lord to a new course of action. Rather, God's action followed His omniscient plan in such a way as to use Saul's disobedience as the human occasion for implementing His higher plan. God had permitted the people to have the **king** of their choice. Now that that king and their mistake in choosing him had been clearly manifested, God proved the superiority of His own wisdom in raising up a king who would come in fulfillment of His perfect will.

After an undetermined length of time in which **Samuel** lamented the rejection of **Saul,** the Lord commanded the prophet to go to **Bethlehem** to select a son of **Jesse... to be king** ([16:1-3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A1-3)). Jesse was the grandson of Ruth and Boaz ([Ruth 4:18-21](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ru+4%3A18-21)), and so was in the line of promise (see the chart "[David's Ancestry from Abraham](file:///C:\ProgramData\WORDsearch\WORDsearch%2011\Cache\%7BE636088B-3433-4D63-9DC4-31462E80E0C3%7D.html#links131)"). As the wives of Jacob gave birth to a royal house ([Gen. 35:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+35%3A11); [49:10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ge+49%3A10)), so Ruth would produce the Davidic dynasty ([Ruth 4:11](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ru+4%3A11)). God did not tell Samuel to be deceptive, but rather to combine the anointing with the business of sacrificing ([1 Sam 16:2](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A2)). **The elders** in **Bethlehem** may have wondered if **Samuel** had come for judgment ([v. 4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A4)).

Chart, David's Ancestry from Abraham



After the **seven** older **sons** of **Jesse** were disqualified one by one ([vv. 5-10](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A5-10)), **David** was singled out by **the** Lord and **anointed** by **Samuel** ([vv. 11-13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A11-13)). The anointing, as in the experience of Saul, was accompanied by the coming of **the Spirit** of God mightily on the young lad ([v. 13](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A13)). This was the supernatural authentication of God's will. Later David was anointed king over Judah ([2 Sam. 2:4](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Sa+2%3A4)) and then over Israel ([2 Sam. 5:3](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Sa+5%3A3)).

**Open it**

**1. What physical characteristics tend to attract public attention and inspire respect among the people you know?   
 Charisma, physical presence, attitude**

**Explore it**

**7. What did God promise to do when Samuel arrived at Jesse’s house? (**[**16:3**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A3)**)   
 God would show Samuel what to do and who to anoint**

**10. Why did Samuel think that Eliab might be the son God had chosen? (**[**16:6**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A6)**)   
 His physical presence and looks, he looked like a king**

**11. What mattered to God in choosing the next king for Israel? (**[**16:7**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+16%3A7)**)   
 God looks to a man’s heart not his appearance**

**Get it**

**18. Why was Samuel reviewing the sons of Jesse one by one?   
 God was showing him what was needed in a leader, a good heart, not a good appearance**

**19. What qualities should we look for in our leaders, particularly in the church?   
 They should have a heart for God**

**Apply it**

**23. Toward what individual in your life could you resolve to look at the heart rather than outward appearances?   
 friends**