

Anointed Obedience

Chapter 9

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson 35



Objective: To understand the main differences between the life of Saul and the life of David.



“The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

—1 Samuel 16:7

Saul’s disobedience caused the Lord to cast him away from His presence and take His Holy Spirit from him. When that happened, the life of Saul became a walking definition of what we describe in our culture as the disintegration of a personality.

David’s life was the exact opposite of the life of Saul. The dominating characteristic of David’s life was obedience—he was a man after the Lord’s own heart who would do all God’s will. Where Saul’s life was disintegrating because he had divorced himself from God, God was bringing everything in David together because David was more focused on obedience and Saul was focused on disobedience.

David was a shepherd, a musician, a warrior, a leader, and a friend. Most important of all, he is described as a man after God’s own heart.



1. True or false? God is just as concerned about how we look as He is about how pure our heart is.
2. True or false? David became king immediately after Samuel anointed him.
3. True or false? God spent years preparing David to be king.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one answer for each question.

4. Which of the following words describe David? *(choose all that apply)*
 - a. Godly
 - b. Weak
 - c. Musical
 - d. Obedient
 - e. Strong and brave
 - f. Handsome
 - g. Double-minded
 - h. Afraid
 - i. Heroic

5. Which of the following words describe Saul? *(choose all that apply)*
 - a. Godly
 - b. Paranoid
 - c. Faithful
 - d. Strong
 - e. Weak
 - f. Jealous
 - g. Disobedient
 - h. Musical
 - i. Militant

6. Why did David fight Goliath?
 - a. He thought he was stronger than Goliath.
 - b. He thought Goliath would surrender.
 - c. He wanted to be promoted in rank.
 - d. He was outraged that God and His people were being mocked.

7. How did David's men feel about David?
 - a. They were very loyal.
 - b. They resented him.
 - c. They liked Saul better.
 - d. They were afraid of him.

8. How is David's relationship with Jonathan described?
 - a. As immoral
 - b. As a rivalry
 - c. As a beautiful friendship
 - d. Like a father and son

9. Why was David a fugitive from king Saul?
 - a. Jonathan asked his father to kill David.
 - b. David sinned against Saul and had to flee.
 - c. Saul wanted to make David king, but David did not want to be.

- d. Saul was insanely jealous that God had chosen David.
10. What did David write when he was a fugitive?
- a. The book of Ruth
 - b. His autobiography
 - c. Many of the psalms
 - d. Letters to Saul's supporters
11. What did God use to prepare David to be king? (*choose all that apply*)
- a. He was the little brother, youngest of eight.
 - b. He had the boring job of watching sheep.
 - c. He was asked to lead the army to defeat a giant.
 - d. He got a job playing music in the king's castle.
12. What did God promise David?
- a. To make him king of all of Asia
 - b. To establish his dynasty forever
 - c. To let David build a temple for God
 - d. To cut off his descendants completely



When God looks at your heart, what do you think He sees? Are there areas you have held back from God? What “giants”—impossible circumstance that test your faith—are you facing? In what ways can you devote more of your heart to Him?



Ask God to give you a heart like David's. Thank Him that He has sought for you to know Him and love Him.



Going Deeper

1. Contrast what the people saw when they looked at Saul with what God saw when he, through Samuel, looked at David (1 Samuel 16:7). Compare this to what James calls the sin of showing favoritism, partiality, or in the Authorized Translation, the sin of respecting persons (James 2: 1-9). _____

2. What did God see when He looked at the heart of David? _____

3. Do you base your evaluation of people on their persons (externals or masks) or on what you believe is in their heart? Explain. _____

4. Profile the tool kit and the leadership gift patterns of David that qualified him to be the best king that Israel ever had. _____

5. When David fought Goliath, what motivated him, and where was his confidence that he, as a young teenager, could kill the 9-foot giant? _____

6. Where are most of David's writings found? What do they tell us about who/what David was? _____

7. As you consider the disintegration of the personality of Saul and the integration of the life and personality of David, why did Saul hate David so much, and what does it tell us about the character of David when he refused to kill Saul? _____

