

Week 6 – March 16 2024

Saul is Chosen, Anointed and Prophecies

Background

Last week we read about how the Israelites demanded a king, and that God told Samuel to “listen to their voice and set a king over them” (1 Sam 8:22). In our study this week we will see how the selection of Saul and his anointing took place and the immediate consequences of him being anointed.

Scripture

Please read 1 Samuel 8:22 – 10:16

Historical notes

The following are possible timelines relating to the lives of Saul and David:

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Saul-king-of-Israel>

<https://www.thebiblicaltimeline.org/saul/>

<https://bible.ca/archeology/bible-archeology-maps-timeline-chronology-1samuel-eli-samuel-saul-becomes-king-1046-1019bc.htm>

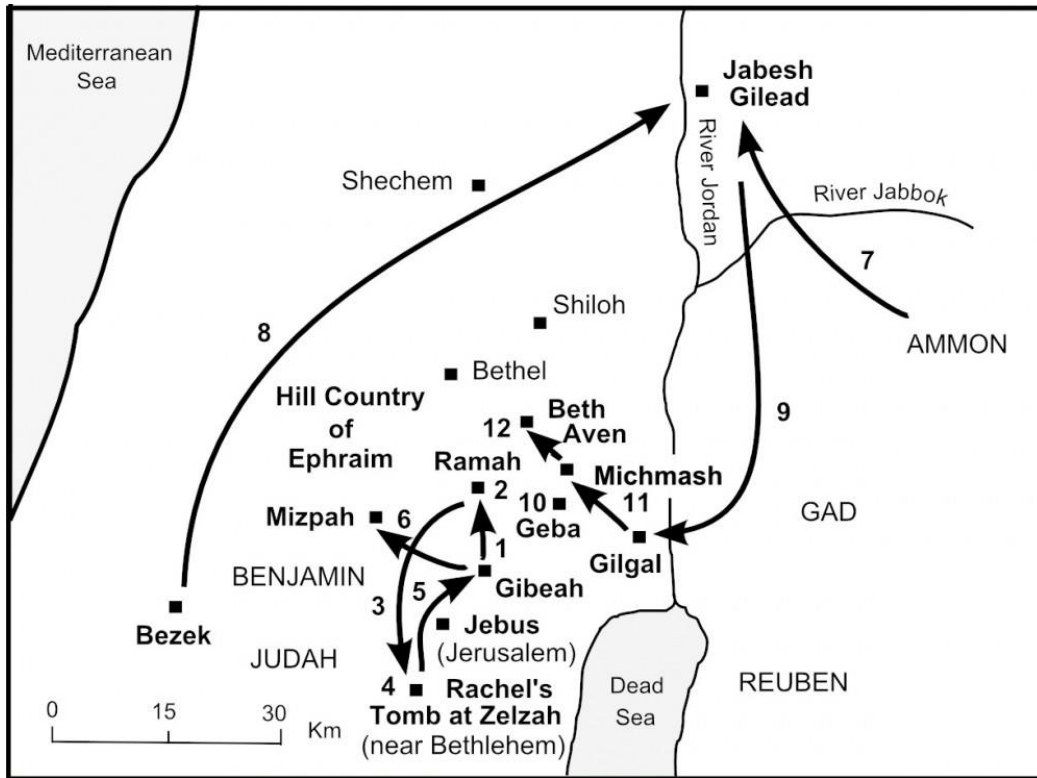
Readers will note that differing suggestions are offered.

Resources

See the attached pdf of a few pages from Brueggemann’s commentary.

Questions for Discussion

1. Given the loss of the donkeys in time for Saul to meet Samuel, the boy telling Saul about the Seer, Saul meeting Samuel just as Samuel was visiting the town on the hill in order to make a sacrifice, Saul meeting people at Rachel’s tomb, the Oak of Tabor, Gileath-elohim and Gibeah, the donkeys being found.... How much was God involved in arranging these events? Or were they all coincidental? (see the attached pdf diagram)
2. Why didn’t Samuel anoint Saul publicly?
3. What is your understanding of Saul being possessed by the Spirit of the Lord, being in a prophetic frenzy and being turned into a different person? (10:6)
4. What do you understand by “God giving Saul another heart”? (10:9)
5. Why didn’t he tell his uncle about the anointing?
6. What might have been going through the minds of Samuel and Saul as this event ran its course?
7. What might we learn from this event that could help us in our listening to and consequently doing what God seems to be telling us to do either directly or through other people?



Saul's Journey to Kingship – from thebiblejourney.org