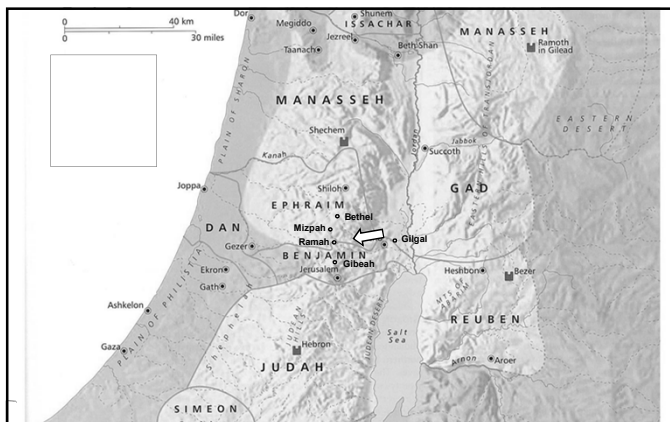


In Search of a King 1-2 SAMUEL

1 Samuel 9:1-10:27

Lost Donkeys & the Kingdom of God



In Search of a King...

1. A Strange Providence

- a seemingly ordinary event orchestrated by God for His kingdom purpose
- in God's providence there are no coincidences or chance happenings

The mind of man plans his way,
But the LORD directs his steps.

(Proverbs 16:9)

Many plans are in a man's heart,
But the counsel of the LORD will stand.

(Proverbs 19:21)

In Search of a King...

2. An Unexpected Mercy

- the Lord chose Saul as king out of a merciful response to the cry of His people
- the Lord abounds in mercy and unfailing love for His people

⁶ ...“The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in loving-kindness and truth;

⁷ who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave *the guilty* unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations.”

(Exodus 34:6-7)

In Search of a King...

3. A Divine Enablement

- assurance that Saul is anointed by Yahweh and enabled for his role as king
- demonstrated that kings were subordinate to the prophetic word

In Search of a King...

4. A Subtle Uncertainty

- Saul's outward impressiveness and initial lack of trust in Yahweh are ominous signs
- in spite of the Lord's mercy, will Saul prove to be a “king like all the nations?”

He has no *stately* form or majesty
That we should look upon Him,
Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him.
He was despised and forsaken of men,
A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
And like one from whom men hide their face
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

(Isaiah 53:3-4)