

“Losing Donkeys But Finding A Kingdom”
1 Samuel 9

Saul searches for donkeys to lead home (1-5).

- *He has an impressive dad but an unimportant tribe and 10:26 stigma.
- *What is the most striking feature about Saul? (10:23) Age--13:1
- *Does Saul seem like leadership material?

Saul seeks Samuel to get help (6-14).

- *Searching for Samuel is a last-ditch effort (bread gone / one last coin).
- *Does Saul seem like leadership material?
 - He fails in search for donkeys
 - . . . runs out of food / money
 - . . . ever needing and heeding advice from servant / young girls
 - . . . shows national naiveté--not even sure who Samuel is!
- *Does Saul seem like leadership material?

Saul sent by God to become king (15-21).

- *Note flashback interruption (vs. 18 naturally flows right after vs. 16). This revelation shows how a seemingly disconnected string of chance events is actually a divinely orchestrated plan.
- *Note a key part of Saul’s reign is to deliver the Israelites from the Philistines. He will also fight Ammon, Edom, Moab, and Amalakites.
- *Saul’s response in 21 reveals humility (15:17, Jdgs. 6:15, Ex. 3,4).

Saul selected as guest of honor by Samuel to meet VIPs (22-27)

- *Saul unexpectedly eats at the head of a large dinner party, plus he gets the best plate! The thigh portion is a priestly portion: Ex. 29:27, Lv.7:34, 10:14,15. Recall shocking honoring of Benjamin, Gen., 43:34.

Insights from our surprising story

What do we make of Saul . . . a good choice or chosen for failure?

Exaltation of the humble--God’s continues to make surprise selections.

Problems used for good--frustration can lead to great opportunity.