



(Like David) A Woman After God's Own Heart #1 More than "Just-A" (1 Sam. 16)

I. Introduction

- A. David is an important biblical figure: He is mentioned in the New Testament more than any other Old Testament hero. His name appears 600 times in the Old Testament and 60 times in the New Testament.
- B. God honored him with an incredible statement regarding his character. Acts 13:22 and 1 Sam. 13:14 – *"A man after God's own heart."*
- C. The world David was born into:

"The people were on a long drift from God." (G. Frederick Owen, Abraham in the Middle-East Conflict)

Eli and his wicked sons are gone. Samuel has a ministry, his sons do not (1 Sam. 8:1-3). The people wanted a King (because Samuel is old, his sons don't walk with God and they wanted be like other nations). Saul reigned as the people's choice. David is born 10 years after Saul becomes King.

- D. There is a realism to the story of David.

"...it presents us not with a polished ideal to which we aspire but with a rough-edged actuality in which we see humanity being formed – the God presence in the earth / human conditions.

No other biblical story has this range to it, showing the many dimensions of height, depth, breadth and length of human experience as a person comes alive before God, aware of God, responsive to God." Eugene Peterson

II. David was insignificant, but chosen (1 Sam. 16)

- A. Jesse – a local farmer with eight sons
Eliab (a dominating bully), Abinadab, Shammah and the other four are unnamed.
- B. David is referred to as the "haqqaton" – "the youngest": The insignificant, the one who doesn't count for much, the runt! (He isn't named until vs. 13)
- C. David's job: The least demanding job on the farm – tending the sheep. (1 Sam. 17:34-35)
He was trained in obscurity, solitude, monotony and reality. (Sounds like motherhood).
- D. He was chosen and anointed (assigned) (1 Sam. 13:13-14)
 - 1. He was chosen because...

- a. His heart was deeply sensitive to the things of God.

2 Chron. 16:9: *"For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war."*

- b. He had a servant's heart (filled with humility)

See Psalm 78:70, 89:20

Other examples of deep humility, Gideon (Judges 6:15), Solomon (1 Kings 3:7), Isaiah (Isa. 6:5), John the Baptist (Matt. 3:14)

- c. He had a heart governed by integrity.

See Ps. 78:71-72

2. He was anointed, consecrated, assigned his task (1 Sam. 16:12-13)

Anointing: It indicates that things or people are set apart for sacred uses.

Objects like: The altar in the tabernacle (Ex. 29:36, 40:10)

The utensils and the basin (Lev. 8:11)

The tabernacle itself (Ex. 30:26, Num. 7:1)

People like: Aaron and his sons (Lev. 8:30)

Saul (1 Sam. 10:1)

Solomon (1 Kings 1:39)

Jehu and prophet (1 Kings 19:16, 2 Kings 9:3)

Josiah (2 Kings 11:12)

Jehoahaz (2 Kings 23:30)

III. So what? God used "JUST A" shepherd boy (David) and he is in the business of using insignificant ordinary people today.

1 Cor. 1:26-29 *"Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him."*

- A. New Testament believers are chosen

Look at Rom. 9:23-26

John 15:16 *"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name."*

Acts 9:15 *"But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel."*

- B. New Testament believers are anointed (set aside, assigned specific work to accomplish for the glory of God)

Acts 1:8 " But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Rom. 12:1 " Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship."

" The choice of David, the runt and shepherd, to be the anointed, to be a sign and representative of God's working presence in human life and history is surely intended to convey a sense of inclusion to all ordinary men and women...this is humanity burgeoning a vital, bold and extravagant, skillfull and inventor in love an prayer and work. David's life is the premier biblical example of what's sometimes called "the priesthood of the believers." (E. Peterson, Leap Over a Wall, p. 18)

The priesthood of all believers: 1 Pet. 2:5, 9, Rev. 1:6, 5:10, 20:6

1. A "priest" represents people before God
Who are you praying for?
2. A "priest" represents God before people
Who are you sharing Christ with?
"JUST-A" s build bridges between the Lord and people
3. Who are you a bridge for?

Discussion Questions:

1. How is your "spiritual self-esteem"? What do you base it on?
2. Are you "just-a"? How can you change that attitude?
3. Who needs what you have or what you need to say?