



# **Samuel and Saul**

**1 Samuel 9:15-16; 10:1, 6-7, 9, 20-24**

**"Hey Scripture Guy, listen to this article!" Kingdom Crusader called out, as she read from her paper. "The Redeem Team rescued an unlikely victim yesterday when a certain villain by the name of, 'The Philistine' cried out for help. Scripture Guy and Kingdom Crusader answered the call, bandaged his wounds, prayed for him and dropped him off at the prison hospital. It takes a special kind of superhero to reach out and love an enemy." She folded the paper and tossed it on to the table. "Wow, that Scoop Gibson is some writer!"**

**Scripture Guy turned a knob on the metal desk below the large screen in his secret lab. "He is pretty incredible!" he agreed, hiding a smile. Kingdom Crusader did not know his secret identity as Scoop.**

**"Thanks to the King City Herald," Kingdom Crusader added, "the whole city loves us."**

**"What can I say?" Scripture Guy said with a shrug of his shoulders. "God has chosen us to do His good works."**

**Kingdom Crusader asked, "Do you think the Philistine learned his lesson?"**

**Scripture Guy turned two knobs at the same time and the picture on the screen scanned the waterfront. "It's hard to say, Crusader. Only God can know a man's heart! That's how it was with King Saul."**

**"I think I've heard of King Saul," Kingdom Crusader commented.**

**"He was the first king God gave to the Israelites," Scripture Guy explained. He picked up his Bible from the desk. "I'll show you in the Good News. The prophet Samuel was getting old and could not be judge over Israel much longer. The people begged Samuel for a king to rule over them."**

**"But I thought God had given them judges?" Kingdom Crusader asked.**

**Scripture Guy turned his chair to look at her. "He did, but they wanted a king so they could be like all of the other countries."**

**"Ok, I'm confused," Kingdom Crusader said as she rubbed her hand against her head. "They weren't like the other countries. They had God as their King."**

**Scripture Guy shook his head sadly. "If only they could have seen it that way. Samuel tried to warn them, but God knew their hearts, so He told Samuel to give them a king. That king would be Saul."**

**"Where was Saul?" she asked.**

**"He was out looking for donkeys," He replied.**

**"What? That's kind of a strange thing for the future king to be doing," Kingdom Crusader scoffed.**

**"Well Crusader," Scripture Guy began, "the more you read the Good News, the more you'll find that God works in mysterious ways. Saul's dad had lost some donkeys..."**

**"And he sent Saul to look for them," she guessed.**

**"Exactly, Saul searched through several towns and did not find a single donkey. But he did find Samuel. When they came to a town called Ramah, his dad's servant told Saul about a man of God who might be able to tell them the way to go," Scripture Guy explained.**

**Kingdom Crusader leaned forward, "Was that Samuel?"**

**Scripture Guy nodded. "It was. But what Saul didn't know was God had told Samuel He was going to send a leader from the tribe of Benjamin."**

**"Was that Saul?" she asked.**

**"It was. Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on Saul's head..." he began.**

**"Eeew!" Kingdom Crusader screeched. "What did he do that for? I thought Samuel was a good guy!"**

**"He was!" Scripture Guy laughed. "He was obeying God by anointing Saul with oil. It was a sign to show that God had chosen Saul for a special job."**

**Kingdom Crusader looked impressed. "I'll say it was special—the first king of Israel! That's a big job!"**

**"It was," Scripture Guy agreed. "Saul wasn't going to do it with his power; God had a plan in place and Samuel told Saul all about it. It's right here." He found his place in the Bible and read, "The Spirit of the Lord will come upon you in power, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person. Once these signs are fulfilled, do whatever your hand finds to do, for God is with you."**

**Kingdom Crusader listened carefully, then asked, "Wow, did King Saul prophesy?"**

**"He did," Scripture Guy said, "and was he changed."**

**"After all that, Saul must have been so excited to be chosen as king!" she said.**

**"Actually," Scripture Guy paused, "he ran away and hid."**

**"Why?!" she exclaimed. "Why would Saul want to hide?"**

**"Good question, but I don't know. The Bible doesn't say but I guess he might have been afraid of the job."**

**"Well, did they ever find him?" Kingdom Crusader said with concern.**

**"They did. The Lord told them that Saul was hiding behind the baggage. The people brought him out and shouted, 'Long live the king!'"**

**"I bet they were glad God chose a leader for them!" Kingdom Crusader joked.**

**"Actually, they were." Scripture Guy looked at Kingdom Crusader and said sincerely, "And I'm glad He has chosen you."**

**Kingdom Crusader's looked down shyly. "Me? Oh no, not me! I'm no leader."**

**Scripture Guy motioned towards the folded paper she had been reading. "Read the papers. You're a hero. You led King City to safety."**

**"That's only because I was working with you," Kingdom Crusader explained. "I'm just a gal who wants to help, but you...you...you're my hero!"**

**"Kingdom Crusader, you are part of the Redeem Team," Scripture Guy assured her. "God knows your heart and He has chosen you to do His good works."**

**"But I'm not ready to do God's work!" she said, as she slumped down in her chair.**

**Scripture Guy smiled. "That's what Saul thought. But just like Saul, God has chosen you. You may not think you're ready, but God thinks you are."**

**"But...but...but..." Kingdom Crusader stuttered.**

**"No buts," Scripture Guy insisted. "God makes perfect choices. If God believes you're ready, I believe you're ready, too. And, it's your turn to watch over the city." He stretched and walked out the door, his cape swishing behind him.**

**"Okay...thanks," Kingdom Crusader called after him. "Wow, I can understand why King Saul was nervous. When God chooses you, you want to serve Him with all your heart. I just wish I believed in me as much as God does. I'm going to pray that He prepares my heart and helps me to give everything to honor my King!" she exclaimed out loud. With that, she turned to do her job as protector of the city.**