

“Now The Spirit Of The LORD Departed From Saul”  
1 Samuel 16:13-23

*“In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory” (Ephesians 1:13-14). “You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him” (Romans 8:9).*

- An overview of the passage:
  - 1 Samuel 16 is a transitional chapter; the focus will go from Samuel to David (1 Samuel 16:13).
  - We must remember that the book of 1 Samuel is not always chronological (1 Samuel 14:47-52), and that many believe that Chapter 17 happens between verses 13 & 14.
  - We see that the writer of 1 Samuel again draws out the reality that God uses “everyday” people to accomplish His purposes by leaving some people nameless (1 Samuel 2:27 — a man of God; 1 Samuel 4:12 — a man of Benjamin; 1 Samuel 9:3,6 — one of the young men/Saul’s servant; 1 Samuel 14:7 — Jonathan’s armor-bearer; 1 Samuel 16:18 —one of the young men).
  - Saul’s love for David was used by God to give David a front row seat into the reality of being king (1 Samuel 16:19-22).
- God’s warnings are serious: *“But if you will not obey the voice of the LORD, but rebel against the commandment of the LORD, then the hand of the LORD will be against you and your king.” (1 Samuel 12:15)*
  - “Rushed upon” and “departed from”: There are multiple examples in the Old Testament when the Spirit of the LORD “rushed upon” someone to give them the ability to do a task according to the plan of God (Ephesians 1:11). The Spirit of the LORD was “upon” Othniel, giving him the ability to judge Israel (Judges 3:10); The Spirit of the LORD “clothed” Gideon, giving him favor with the people and courage to fight a battle according to God’s plan (Judges 6:34); On three different occasions the Spirit of the Lord “rushed upon” Samson, enabling him to do three supernatural acts: 1) Tear a lion apart with his bare hands (Judges 14:6). 2) Strike down thirty men (Judges 14:19). 3) Strike down one thousand men with the jawbone of a donkey (Judges 15:14-15); Then finally, we see the Spirit of the Lord “rushed upon” Saul, giving him the grace he needed to be Israel’s king (1 Samuel 10:6). *“Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the LORD of hosts.” (Zechariah 4:6b)*
    - In the cases of Samson (Judges 16:20) and Saul (1 Samuel 16:14) the Spirit of the LORD “had left” or “departed from” them.
    - Psalm 51:10-12 is very helpful to understanding what we are witnessing in 1 Samuel 16:13-14. *“Create in me a clean heart, O God, (repentance) and renew a right spirit within me (faithful and unwavering). Cast me not away from Your presence, (unable to hear from God or worship God) and take not Your Holy Spirit from me (take away the grace to be king of Israel). Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, (remove guilt, depression, anxiety, and misery) and uphold me with a willing spirit (devoted to what pleases God).”*
  - “A harmful spirit from God is tormenting you”: Just like the Spirit rushing upon someone is *observable*, so is a harmful Spirit tormenting us *observable*. God is not the author of evil, but is the author of a story that involves evil. *“Shall we receive good from God (what we don’t deserve), and shall we not receive evil (what we do deserve)? In all this Job did not sin with his lips.” (Job 2:10b)*

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- Saul's struggle here was a *theological issue*, not a *psychological issue*. This is something we must all consider as Christians. This is why we have Scriptures like these: "*The LORD is my light and salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? (Psalm 27:1). 'Cast your burden on the LORD, and He will sustain you; He will never permit the righteous to be moved' (Psalm 55:22). 'Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad' (Proverbs 12:25). 'Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you' (1 Peter 5:6-7).*
  - God's common graces: "*And whenever the harmful spirit from God was upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand. So Saul was refreshed and was well, and the harmful spirit departed from him' (1 Samuel 16:23).* God's common graces can bring us temporary relief and comfort, but they don't lead to eternal relief and comfort or God-glorifying relief and comfort.
    - "*...For He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?' (Matthew 5:45-46). 'But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for He is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.' (Luke 6:35; cf. Romans 12:20-21; Romans 2:4).*
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**Announcements:**

★**HOUSEWARMING POTLUCK AND BONFIRE:** On Saturday, October 15th, at 3pm everyone is invited to the housewarming potluck and bonfire at Frank and Kira Carter's residence (8855 Township Road 57 NE; Roseville). Hotdogs will be provided, please bring a food item to share and your own lawn chair! Please RSVP to Kira (740) 475-9935.

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner THIS Sunday, October 9th, immediately following the worship service. There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring something. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us.