

The Last Shall Be First

Description

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1 Samuel 16:1-13

“The LORD said to Samuel . . . ‘I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king’” (v. 1). This is almost déjà vu for Samuel, who had once before anointed a reluctant and handsome young man to become Israel’s king. God’s plan was clear: “You are to anoint for me the one I indicate” (v. 3).

God clarified that this was not a beauty pageant. Samuel was impressed by the looks of the eldest, Eliab; but he was not the one. More sons came: Abinadab, Shammah—seven in all, but each one rejected (v. 10). Did Samuel know how many sons Jesse had when he asked, “Are these all the sons you have?” (v. 11).

Let’s picture David in the field watching the sheep. Jesse sent for him to come immediately. No time to get cleaned up. Maybe he smelled the sacrificial meal being prepared. There stood his seven brothers. Next thing he knew, Samuel was pouring olive oil on his head!

With this anointing, the Spirit of Yahweh gave him great power. What a change in his life! God had prepared and equipped David.

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