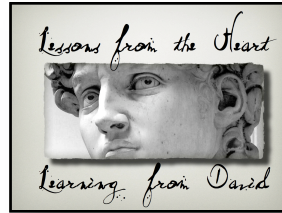


The heart of the matter, is the “heart”.

The LORD does not look at the things people look at. **People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.** - 1 Sam.16:7



The Story tells us...

1. “but they have rejected me as their king” -1 Sam. 16:8
They wanted independence from God.
2. “Then we will be like all the other nations”. -1 Sam. 16:19-20
They wanted to be like everybody else.
3. “The LORD has found a man loyal to Him” -1 Sam. 13:14 (HCSB)
God is always at work !
4. “Is the Lord as delighted with burnt offerings and sacrifices as he would be with your obedience?” -1 Sam. 15:22 (GWT)
God desires our obedience - not our gifts .
5. “Because I was afraid of the people, I obeyed them” -1Sam. 15:24 (HSCB)
People-pleasing is often at the root of poor choices.

Take a “Heart” examine:

- 1) *Examine Your Motives:* Do your actions reflect that you see the world as God does, are you moved in emotion as He is, do you respond in action and speech as He would?
- 2) Are you loyal to God when other people aren’t looking?
- 3) Is it from a love for God that all this flows?

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6. “When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab...”

-1 Sam. 16:6 (HSCB)

Samuel was enamored with external appearances.

7. Samuel: “Are these all the sons you have?”

Jesse: “There is still the youngest...” -1 Sam. 16:11 (NLT)

Even parents can misjudge their children.

8. “People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.” -1 Sam. 16:7 -(TNIV)

God’s measuring stick is not skin deep .

What I’m Learning...

1. Since God is not Superficial - I shouldn’t be! -1 Sam. 16:7
2. Looking beyond “looks” pays off! -Is. 53:2
3. The “spotlight” is where God puts you. -1 Sam. 16;18-19; 17:5

Did you Know: Chapter 16 uses “Look” and “Seeing” 10X. Contrasting Samuel, Jesse and God and how they “See” things.

Notes:

All verse from New International Version (1984), unless otherwise noted.

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