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Stages of Saul's "inauguration":

1. I Sam 9:15-16
God reveals Saul to Samuel.
2. I Sam 9:27-10:1
Private anointing of Saul.
3. I Sam 10:17-25
Public announcement of Saul.

4

12:2 "and behold my sons are with you"

8:3 "His sons...turned aside after dishonest gain and took bribes and perverted justice."

5

Examples of the righteous acts of the Lord:

- 12:8 The Lord sent Moses and Aaron to deliver them from Egypt.
- 12:9 The cycle of the judges: they failed, and the Lord sold them into the hands of the Philistines and Moabites.
- 12:11 The Lord sent Gideon, Barak, Jephthah, and Samuel.
- 12:12 **But now**, seeing Nahash caused them to want a king.

Their request for a king was both a rejection of the Lord's rule over their lives and a lack of faith in His ability to protect them.

6

“No, but a king shall reign over us”

8:19-20 they refused to listen and said, **“No, but there shall be a king over us.”**

10:19 they rejected God and said, **“No, but set a king over us!”**

12:12 the LORD was their king, but they said, **“No, but a king shall reign over us.”**

7

Ps 106:15 “And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.”

Hosea 13:9-11 **“Where now is your king** that he may save you in all your cities...whom you requested, ‘Give me a king and princes’? **I gave you a king in My anger** and took him away in My wrath.”

8

“If you fear the LORD and serve and obey Him and do not rebel against His commands, **and if both you and the king who reigns over you follow the LORD your God** –good! **But if you do not obey** the LORD, and **if you rebel** against His commands, his hand will be against you....”

I Sam 12:14-15

9

KJV "Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel."

ESV "Saul was ...years old when he began to reign, and he reigned...and two years over Israel."

NIV "Saul was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned over Israel forty-two years."

NAS "Saul was forty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-two years."

10

Possible explanations:

1. Numbers were omitted in later copies by scribes.
 2. “reigned one year” = (10:1) private anointing until the public announcement (10:17) and his kingship is affirmed (11:12-12:13)
- “two years” = gap until the loss of the kingdom in chapter 13.

11

“The main things are the plain things, and the plain things are the main things.”

12

13:4 “The people were then **summoned to Gilgal.**”

7:15-16 Samuel’s circuit: Bethel, **Gilgal**, and Mizpah

11:14 “Then Samuel said to the people, ‘**Come and let us go to Gilgal** and renew the kingdom there.’”

10:7-8 “...do for yourself what the occasion requires...and you shall **go down before me to Gilgal**; and behold, I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings. **You shall wait seven days** until I come to you and show you what you should do.”

13

Why would Saul have usurped Samuel’s authority?

13:11 “I saw that the people were scattering....”

Saul took his eyes off the Lord and focused on his circumstances.

“you did not come within the appointed days”

Saul blames Samuel

“the Philistines were assembling”

Saul focuses on his enemy, rather than on his LORD

14

Why would Saul have usurped Samuel's authority?

13:12 "I have not asked the favor of the LORD"
Saul puts a spiritual spin on his disobedience.

"I forced myself and offered the burnt offering."
Saul blames God for the situation.

15

13:11 Samuel asks, "What have you done?"

Gen 3:13 The LORD asks Eve, "What is this that you have done?"

Gen 4:10 The LORD asks Cain, "What have you done?"

"Accusations harden the heart, but
questions prick the conscience."

16

13:13-14 Samuel's indictment of Saul:

Saul acted foolishly.

Saul did not keep the commandment;
disobeyed.

Saul forfeited an enduring kingdom: a
huge loss!

17

13:14 "The LORD has sought
out for Himself a man after His
own heart...."

18

Lessons from I Samuel 12-13:

1. Samuel's example of leadership
2. When you're facing present troubles, remember God's faithful deliverance in the past. 12:8-11, 24
3. We can sin by failing to pray for those the Lord puts on our hearts. 12:23
4. "...to obey is better than sacrifice...." I Sam 15:22
Don't rationalize or try to put a spiritual spin on your sins! 13:11-12