General Church Education



Family Lesson: I Samuel 16 The Anointing of David

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The Anointing of David I Samuel 16

Family Talk: The Anointing of David

Rev. Donald Rose

The place where David was born, and the place where he was anointed to be king were one and the same. (See *Apocalypse Explained* 449:3.) He was born in Bethlehem and later was anointed in Bethlehem on the day when Samuel went there to pour anointing oil on the head of the Lord's chosen one. The name "Bethlehem" means "house of bread," and it came to be known as the City of David.

Here are two different meanings of the name David. First, David means the Lord Himself. That is why David was born in Bethlehem, and that is why things are said in the Word about him that feel to us as if they are being said about the Lord. For example: "I will raise up one shepherd over them who shall feed them; My servant David, he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd" (*Ezekiel* 34:23, *Doctrine of the Lord* 43). And when David wrote Psalms as he led sheep in the hills near Bethlehem, those Psalms were not just about David, but were in the highest sense about the Lord (*Doctrine of the Lord* 44).

But David in the story can also be about you. When David speaks of needing the Lord's help or being thankful for the Lord's protection, it is picturing your life. The name "David" means "beloved," and it is right for us to know down deeply that the Lord loves us.

That is such a good thought – that the Lord loves us. Sometimes we feel as if we have been forgotten and that the Lord does not know or care about us. Is that one of the reasons the story is so delightful, the story of the day that a young shepherd boy had to be called in from the field? When the fine, proud sons of Jesse (David's brothers) walked before Samuel so that he could single out one to be king, no one thought they should ask the youngest one to come too. Samuel looked at the sons one by one, and he asked whether that was all of them. Then they told him of the youngest. Yes, he was out there caring for the sheep. And Samuel said, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here" (I Samuel 16:11).

Remember that Samuel was sent to find the one chosen to be king, but that by himself he could not know who it was. In fact, when the sons of Jesse stood before him, he thought it must be one of them. First he saw the young man named Eliab, and as he looked at him, Samuel thought he was the one to become king. Eliab must have been quite tall and very fine to look at, but the

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Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature. . . ." Then Samuel looked at Abinadab and then Shammah, and then at the others, until he had seen seven young men. But the Lord does not look at the outward appearance. He looks at the heart.

Let us notice something about David's eyes, and what is said about him in that verse in this chapter when the Lord said to Samuel, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one" (I Samuel 16:12).

When David came in from the field, he also was good to look at, and it seems that there was something striking about his eyes. What does Verse 12 actually say? The Hebrew word *Ayin* is translated "eyes" hundreds of times, but in this one verse some have translated it "countenance." That is not a wrong translation, but it is good to be aware that it is speaking about the eyes (as most translations show). The Writings tell us that the eye is the noblest organ of the face. The eyes have been called the "windows of the soul." Not just the outer feelings, but the inner feelings can be seen in the eyes (*Arcana Coelestia* 4407).

The Lord looks into our hearts and souls. He sees our inner feelings, and leads us just as He did a shepherd boy named David (or "beloved"), who was anointed to be king.

NOTE: In this chapter is the saying:

"Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (verse 7)

Here a truth shines forth from the Word, a truth that the mind receives quickly and gladly. The Lord looks on the heart.

The Lord looks on the use of raising children far more deeply than we do. We often get preoccupied with the outward necessities. But when we are teaching the Word we try to look more deeply with a longer perspective of what life is all about.

The Anointing of David, I Samuel 16 LEVEL 1 – DAVID CHOSEN AS FUTURE KING



Color the picture. Then you may pour a little oil on David. If you rub it around the picture with a paper towel, the picture will be see-through, and you can hang it in the window.

The Anointing of David I Samuel 16 LEVEL 2 – THE TWENTY-THIRD PSALM

The 23rd Psalm



The 23rd psalm is a poem that David wrote. It is about the Lord anointing him king.



- 1. Ask an adult to help you read the 23^{rd} Psalm from the Lord's Word.
- Cut out each box on the bottom of the page. (Be careful not to lose the little pictures. Spread them out carefully so you can see all of them.)
- Read the psalm on the next page. You may need some help. Think about which word is missing for each box. Find the right pictures to go with missing words. Glue each picture in the correct empty box.

We hope this project will help you to remember the beautiful 23rd Psalm.

















The 23rd Psalm



The Anointing of David I Samuel 16 LEVEL 3 – ANOINTING: RITUAL AND CUSTOM

Materials Needed Pen or pencil



The story you have read tells of the anointing of David. Anointing was a very special custom, or ritual.

Anointing with oil has come from Ancient times and is still in use today. (See *Arcana Coelestia* 9954.)

Did you know that in ancient and Biblical times *many* things were anointed with oil, such as:

stones set up for statues weapons of war all the beautiful things in the tabernacle priests and their garments prophets and kings (Arcana Coelestia 9954 tells why each of these things were anointed with oil)

A Crossword Puzzle about Anointing

Use the clues below to do the crossword puzzle on page 2.

Across

4. _____ was anointed prophet after Elijah (1 Kings 19:16)

7. This woman has anointed my _____ (Luke 7:46)

9. Anointing oil was made from _____ oil (Ex.30:24,25)

10. Arise you princes, anoint the _____ (Is. 21:5)

13. You anoint my _____ with oil (Ps.23:5)

16. _____ was in charge of the anointing oil (Num.4:16)

17. The _____ wanted to anoint a king over them (Judges 9:8)

18. God has anointed you with the oil of _____ (Ps.45:7)

21. The _____ tree wanted to be anointed king (Judges 9:15)

Down

- **1.** Moses anointed _____ and his sons (Ex.28:41)
- **2.** Take unleavened _____ anointed with oil (Ex.29:2)
- **3.** Mary Magdalene brought _____ to anoint the Lord (Mark 16:1)
- **4.** He anointed the _____ of the blind man (John 9:6)
- **5.** They anointed with oil many who were ____ (Mark 6:13)
- 6. After Saul died, _____ was anointed king (2 Sam 2:5,7)
- **8.** You shall anoint the _____ and all that is in it (Ex.40:9)
- 11. ____ was anointed king over Israel (Kings 9:2,3)
- **12.** This shall be a _____ anointing oil to me (Ex.30:31)
- **14.** The _____ was anointed to sanctify it (Ex.29:36)
- **15.** You were the anointed ____ (Ezek.28:14)
- **19.** I will prepare a _____ for my anointed (Ps. 132:17)
- **20.** The Lord sent Samuel to anoint ____ (I Sam.15:1)

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A Crossword Puzzle about Anointing

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The Anointing of David I Samuel 16 LEVEL 4 – CROSSWORD PUZZLE

To do this crossword puzzle, you will need to have your copy of the Word opened to the 16th chapter of I Samuel to find the answers to the clues on page 2.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE CLUES

ACROSS

- 4. Jesse's second son
- 5. Jesse's first son
- 8. In peace
- 10. Young goat
- 11. Musical instrument
- 13. Smart
- 14. Correspondence of sheep
- 15. The nation
- 17. Bad
- 18. Height
- 21. Jesse's home town
- 24. The hero
- 25. David was Jesse's _____ son
- 26. You
- 29. Staple food
- 30. Brave
- 31. The king
- 33. David's father
- 35. Good looking
- 36. Burdened
- 37. Murder
- 39. Container for oil

DOWN

- 1. Conflict
- 2. Make holy
- 3. Strumming
- 6. A young cow
- 7. Religious observance
- 8. Wise
- 9. See
- 12. Pour oil on
- 16. Samuel's home
- 19. Number of Jesse's sons
- 20. The Lord sees this
- 21. Carrier
- 22. Grieve
- 23. Gentle animals
- 27. Anointing liquid
- 28. The prophet
- 31. Number of David's older brothers
- 32. Wineskin
- 34. Jesse's third son
- 37. Ruler
- 38. A drink

CROSSWORD PUZZLE SOLUTION



The Anointing of David I Samuel 16 LEVEL 5 – MESSIAH AND CHRIST

THE ANOINTING OF DAVID



Your project is to learn something about two words. One is Hebrew and the other is Greek. What you learn will not be difficult, but there are many adults who have not learned it.

The words are "Messiah" and "Christ."

The Hebrew word "Messiah" is used in the story about the *anointing* of David.

The word "anoint" or "anointed" appears many times in the stories of the Word. In the *Arcana Coelestia* 9954 our attention is called to one verse in the Old Testament, *Isaiah* 61:1, where the word "anointed" is used.

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound.

There is an instance in the New Testament where Jesus got up in the synagogue and took the book of *Isaiah* and began to read. What was it that the Lord Jesus Christ read from the book of *Isaiah* on that occasion? Find the answer in *Luke*, chapter 4, verses 18-21 and write the verses below: *Luke* 4:18-21

The Hebrew word for "anointed"

The Hebrew word for anointed in this verse is "Mashach" or "Mashiaach." Our word "Messiah" comes from this Hebrew word. Look at the Hebrew word, then copy it in the box.



The Greek word for anointed

In the English translation of *Luke* you again see the word "anointed." But you know that the New Testament is written in Greek, not Hebrew. What is the Greek word used in Luke for "anointed"? It is "Christos". Look at the Greek word, then copy it in the box.



Our word "Christ" comes from this Greek word.

To help yourself remember this, look carefully at two verses in the Gospel of John. These are chapter 1, verse 41, and chapter 4, verse 25. Write down what you find in these verses about the words "Messiah" and "Christ":

John 1:41

John 4:25

You should not find it hard, after doing this, to remember that Messiah and Christ are words from two different languages, both of which mean "anointed."

Anointing with oil

To "anoint" means to make holy by using oil, which corresponds to love. You can picture oil being poured on the head of David when he was anointed. Jesus was anointed with love—the Divine Love—and became the Christ.



In the book *Apocalypse Revealed* number 779 you will find many references to anointings in the Word. It reads in part:

"Oil signified the good of love, and represented the Lord, who as to His Human is the very and the only Anointed of Jehovah, anointed not with oil, but with the Divine good itself of the Divine love; wherefore also He was called 'the Messiah' in the Old Testament and 'the Christ' in the New."