

Respect Spiritual Authorities

David's rise to the throne was influenced by the precious actions of Saul. We are all affected and influenced by the culture of the times, what was done before our birth, and who was in power at the time of our birth. We either flow with what is happening or resist the pull of culture. Think back ten to fifteen years ago. What kind of clothes were you wearing? Were you "hip"? Did you fit in? In the same way, David's life was also influenced by the actions of Samuel. Samuel had great respect for King Saul, even though he had departed from the will of God. The same respect for Saul's position was instilled in David. David developed and maintained an enormous respect for the king, who he often referred to as "the Lord's anointed". [1 Samuel 12:1-3](#); [26:1-12](#) and [2 Samuel 1:1-16](#)

David had great respect for the significance of the anointing. The anointing is not something man-made or given by man. The anointing is the special ability God places on the life of a man or woman to accomplish their spiritual destiny and assignment. The anointing is the God-part of your leadership ability. You show up prepared, but God supplies the anointing. The anointing is His presence working with you and through you to do what He has assigned you to do. The anointing allows you to reach far beyond what you could do by yourself. Under the guidance of and cooperation with the anointing your efforts are multiplied and made effective. Your few fish and few loaves can be made to feed five thousand. Without the anointing you can only have a fish sandwich. The experience of the anointing is truly humbling to the leaders because he or she knows that unless God shows up, the crowd will go away hungry.

We can argue that God never removes His call on a person's life or their ability and talent. But He definitely withdraws His anointing from those who are committed to disobedience. One of the horrors of not obeying the will of God is that you may remain active, yet lack the anointing. You may function as usual, but have no spiritual power. Because of this lack of spiritual power, your heart will never rest. No amount of money or effort can make up for the loss of the anointing. The only remedy is to return to obedience. Plead for mercy and hope that it is not too late to turn around.

King Saul turned around too late. He played the fool with the call of God. He lost the anointing. The spirit of depression took the place of the Spirit of God. Some of Saul's servants knew of David's musical skill and they made arrangements for David to play to soothe the king. David was placed in the presence of the king for hours at a time. He would observe what happens when we disobey. David would also learn that the ability to be king is based on spiritual power not military strength.

[Psalm 51:11](#). David is saying to God- "I know I messed up, but please do not treat me like you treated Saul. Do not take your Holy Spirit away from me". We should pray the same prayer today. Repent of any known sin or disobedience. Submit your heart to God in a new way. Tell Him you are sorry. Cry out to Him for forgiveness. Then, receive a new start. Don't dwell in rebellion. Live in obedience and closeness to God. He wants your attention.

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