

1 Samuel 10:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Saul's uncle said, Tell me, I pray thee, what Samuel said unto you.

Analysis

And Saul's uncle said, Tell me, I pray thee, what Samuel said unto you.

The uncle's persistent inquiry 'tell me, I pray thee' (haggidah-na li) uses the emphatic particle 'na,' intensifying his request. He presses beyond the journey's itinerary to the substance of Samuel's message. This pressure tested Saul's discretion. Samuel was not merely a local seer but Israel's prophetic leader; any message from him carried national significance. The uncle's curiosity was natural, perhaps even anxious - what counsel had the prophet given his nephew? Yet some matters between God's prophet and God's chosen are not for public disclosure until God's timing reveals them. Jesus similarly instructed disciples to tell no one about certain revelations until the appropriate time (Matthew 17:9). The question also foreshadows how Saul would later be scrutinized: kings live under constant observation, their words and actions publicly evaluated.

Historical Context

In ancient Israel, prophetic words were taken seriously as divine communication. Samuel's prominence made any private consultation significant. The uncle's pressing inquiry reflects the social reality that prophetic messages could affect entire families and clans.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How do you handle pressure from well-meaning people to share what God has privately revealed?
2. What wisdom can we learn about timing in sharing what God has shown us?

Interlinear Text

אָמַר	דִּיד	וְשָׂא וְלֹא	הַגִּידָה	אֵלַי	מָה	אָמַר	לְךָ	
said	uncle	And Saul's	Tell	H4994	H0	H4100	said	H0
H559	H1730	H7586	H5046				H559	

שְׂמוּאֵל:
me I pray thee what Samuel
H8050