

# 1 Samuel 10:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.

## Analysis

**And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.**

The Hebrew 'haphak lev acher' (gave him another heart) indicates a genuine divine work of transformation. The verb 'haphak' means to turn, overturn, or transform completely. This is not merely outward change but internal renewal enabling Saul for his calling. Yet this transformation, however real, differs from the regeneration described in Ezekiel 36:26 and the New Testament. Saul received capacity for royal service, not necessarily a new nature in the soteriological sense. The immediate fulfillment of all three signs 'that day' (bayom hahu) validated Samuel's prophetic authority and confirmed God's choice of Saul. This condensed timeline of divine orchestration demonstrates God's complete sovereignty over circumstances and people. The signs were not magic but divine appointments - God arranging His world to communicate His purposes to His chosen servant.

## Historical Context

The concept of God changing hearts appears throughout the Old Testament, both for enabling obedience (as here and with David) and for hardening in judgment (as with Pharaoh). Israel's king was to be fundamentally different from pagan monarchs, transformed by God rather than claiming inherent divine nature.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How does understanding that God can change hearts inform your prayers for others?
2. What is the difference between God's transforming work for service and the new birth unto salvation?

## Interlinear Text

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מִעַם לֹא כִּתְבָּה שְׁכָמוֹן וְכִפְּנַת הַנִּזְבֵּן

H1961 And it was so that when he had turned his back H1980 H5973

H6437 H7926

כָּל יָבֵן אֶל שָׁמֹאָל לְבָב אֱלֹהִים לֹא תִּלְפֹּר

from Samuel gave H0 God heart him another came H3605

H8050 H2015 H430 H3820 H312 H935

פְּקָדָה וְמִזְמָרָה לְהַבְאָתָה וְתִּבְאָתָה

and all those signs to pass that day H1931

H226 H428 H3117

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