

1 Samuel 15:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,

Analysis

Then came the word of the LORD unto Samuel, saying,

The divine word 'came unto Samuel' - not to Saul - underscoring the broken communication between God and king. Samuel receives revelation that will reject the king he anointed. The phrase 'Then came the word of the LORD' introduces solemn prophetic formula typically preceding judgment oracles. God speaks about Saul to His prophet rather than directly to the disobedient king. This mediated communication marks deterioration in divine-royal relationship.

Historical Context

Prophetic reception of divine judgment against kings became a pattern in Israelite history. Samuel's role as intermediary between God and Saul established the prophetic office as conscience to the crown. Later prophets would similarly announce divine verdicts on royal disobedience.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does it mean when God speaks about us to others rather than directly to us?
2. How does prophetic announcement of judgment function differently than direct divine communication?

Interlinear Text

וַיְהִי	דִּבֶּר	יְהוָה	אֶל	שְׁמוּאֵל	לֵאמֹר:
H1961	Then came the word	of the LORD	H413	unto Samuel	saying
	H1697	H3068		H8050	H559

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