

1 Samuel 9:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they arose early: and it came to pass about the spring of the day, that Samuel called Saul to the top of the house, saying, Up, that I may send thee away. And Saul arose, and they went out both of them, he and Samuel, abroad.

Analysis

And they arose early: and it came to pass about the spring of the day, that Samuel called Saul to the top of the house, saying, Up, that I may send thee away. And Saul arose, and they went out both of them, he and Samuel, abroad.

The early rising 'about the spring of the day' (alot hashachar, the dawning or ascending of dawn) carries symbolic resonance: as a new day dawns, a new era for Israel begins. Samuel's summons 'Up' (qumah) employs the same root used in prophetic commissioning contexts, transforming a morning wake-up call into a call to destiny. The phrase 'that I may send thee away' (va'ashallcheka) uses language of commissioning or dispatch, anticipating the anointing that will formally send Saul forth as king. Their emergence together 'abroad' (hachutsah, 'outside' or 'into the open') moves the narrative toward its climax beyond the confines of the house into the open air where the anointing will occur. The shared rising and walking together symbolizes the prophetic-royal partnership that would define early Israelite monarchy.

Historical Context

Early rising was common practice in the ancient world where daylight determined working hours. Dawn was considered an auspicious time for important undertakings. The 'spring of the day' refers to the moment when morning light first breaks over the horizon. Samuel's practice of early rising for prayer and ministry established patterns later prophets would follow.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What new 'dawn' might God be calling you to arise and embrace?
2. How does the partnership of prophet and king model spiritual oversight of leadership?

Interlinear Text

וַשָּׁכַח מוֹ	וַיְהִי י	כָּעַל וְ	הַשֶּׁחֶר
And they arose early	H1961	and it came to pass about the spring	of the day
H7925		H5927	H7837
וַיִּקְרָא	וַשְׁמוּאֵל ל	אֶל	שָׁא וְ
called	of them he and Samuel	H413	And Saul
H7121	H8050		H7586
		הַגֶּג	לְאִמּוֹ ר
		to the top of the house	saying
		H1406	H559
וַיָּקָם	וַאֲשַׁלְּחֵךְ	וַיָּקָם	שָׁא וְ
Up	that I may send thee away	Up	And Saul
H6965	H7971	H6965	H7586
			וַיֵּצְאוּ
			and they went out
			H3318
			שְׁנֵיהֶם
			both
			H8147
וְ	וַשְׁמוּאֵל ל	הַחוּצָה:	
H1931	of them he and Samuel	abroad	
	H8050	H2351	