

1 Samuel 9:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Bid the servant pass on before us, (and he passed on,) but stand thou still a while, that I may shew thee the word of God.

Analysis

And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Bid the servant pass on before us, (and he passed on,) but stand thou still a while, that I may shew thee the word of God.

The chapter concludes with pregnant anticipation as Samuel prepares to reveal 'the word of God' (davar Elohim) to Saul. The dismissal of the servant ensures privacy for what will be Israel's first royal anointing. The command to 'stand thou still' (amod kayom) echoes other moments of divine encounter where stillness precedes revelation (cf. Exodus 14:13; Psalm 46:10). Samuel's phrase 'the word of God' elevates the coming communication beyond personal opinion or political arrangement to divine pronouncement. This servant who had guided Saul throughout the journey must now step aside: what follows is between God, His prophet, and His chosen king alone. The verse ends suspended, pointing forward to chapter 10's anointing, leaving readers with the understanding that everything in chapter 9 has been preparatory for the revelation about to unfold.

Historical Context

The edge of the city provided semi-private space away from the activity of town life while still technically within city limits. The servant's dismissal follows ancient

protocol for confidential communications between superiors. 'The word of God' as a technical term would become increasingly significant in prophetic literature, denoting authoritative divine communication that demanded obedience.

Related Passages

James 2:17 – Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 – Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What might God be asking you to 'stand still' to receive from Him?
2. How does the dismissal of the servant remind us that our ultimate calling comes from God alone?

Interlinear Text

אָמַר וְשָׁמַא לְבַקְעָצָה בַּעֲיר בְּקַצְצָה יְהוּדִים וְפָה הִנֵּה H1992 And as they were going down to the end of the city Samuel Bid H3381 H7097 H5892 H8050 H559

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|-----|-------|------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------|---------|---------|-------|----------|------|
| אָל | H413 | לִיעַבְרָה | לִפְגִּיָּנוּ | לִיעַבְרָה | לִפְגִּיָּנוּ | אָמָר | לְעֵבָר | לְעֵבָר | אָמָר | שָׁאָוֶל | אָל |
| | | to Saul | Bid | the servant | pass on | before | | | | | |
| | H7526 | | H559 | H5288 | H5674 | H6440 | | | | | H859 |

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