

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

וְהָמָּה	וְיֹרְדִים	בְּקֶצֶה	הָעִיר	לְשִׁמוּאֵל	אָמַר
H1992					
	And as they were going down	to the end	of the city	Samuel	Bid
	H3381	H7097	H5892	H8050	H559
אֶל	אָמַר רַ	לְנֶעֱבֹר	לִפְנֵי יְנוּ	נֶעֱבֹר רַ	וְאֶתָּה
H413					
to Saul	Bid	the servant	pass on	before	pass on
H7586	H559	H5288	H5674	H6440	H5674
עָמַד	כִּי וְ	וְאֶשְׁמִיעֶךָ	אֶת	דְּבַר רַ	אֱלֹהִים:
but stand	thou still a while	that I may shew	H853	thee the word	of God
H5975	H3117	H8085		H1697	H430
