

Southern Israel while Saul's son reigned over the Northern part. David did not lift a hand in order to bring to himself the pride and the strength and the glory that God had promised him. God was going to do this. David was not looking for his own interests. David was seeking to accomplish the work of God and do what God wanted him to do. And then God worked it out so that the N. tribes came and asked David to come and be their king, and he became the king. And in point after point we see the heart of David. God saw that heart of David ~~of David~~ God looked at the outward appearance but God looked at the heart. David was no paragon. He was no saint. He was a man and he fell into sin. He fell into grievous sin. You remember he fell into the terrible sin of adultery, and then in order to cover it up he had Uriah put into the forefront of the battle. You remember? And where Uriah was killed, David was really guilty of Uriah's murder even though <sup>would not be called that in</sup> it was not to be called that in ~~of David~~ ordinary terms. But God sent Nathan his prophet to David and Nathan said, Thou art the man. What did David do then. Most dictator's if you rebuke them they throw you in prison. They make them helpless. They become angry against them. David saw that he was wrong. He had fallen into sin. He turned unto God. He repented in sackcloth and ashes. He wrote that wonderful 51st Psalm. O Lord create a clean heart within me he said, Restore unto me the joy of my <sup>thy</sup> salvation. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. In the eyes of the world Saul was in many ways a more attractive character than David. Saul had -- held a certain standard of morality, and he maintained it, he never slipped below it. Saul in many ways seemed to be a higher character than David, but David was a man whose heart was tender, a man who if he slipped away from the right path he hunted to find a way to get back to God's favor, to bring himself back in line with God's purposes. Man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart.

This is the tendency of man. In the Heb. we find that it does not use the ordinary word for man. It uses Adam which means mankind. This is the tendency of mankind in general, to look at the outward appearance. You will find many disappointments as a result of this. You will find that in life people will overlook the fine things you have done in the Lord's service. They will look at the external things. They will look at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart.

When I was a young fellow I was connected with various churches at various times when they had to call a new minister. I was much impressed with the fact that somebody would come to candidate and someone would say, O my look at that little shrimp, we don't want a minister like that.