

A.D.

The Different Ways of Judging

1 Sam. 16:1-13. There are many important truths taught in this passage. I wish this morning to concentrate simply on one of them which is given in the later part of vs. 7. "The Lord seeth not as man seeth, for man looketh on the outward appearance but the Lord looketh on the heart."

I wish to call your attention to three very important lessons to be derived from this verse, but first let us briefly glance again at the context. God has ordered Samuel to anoint the one who is eventually to replace Saul who has proved unfaithful == unsatisfactory as king. The people had demanded that they have a king like the other nations round about them. God had granted their request, and had given them the sort of king they wanted, one who was tall, strong, whose very appearance would make people feel that he was worthy to command. The people had the sort of king they desired but the king was proving unfaithful to the Lord, and his unfaithfulness to God would eventually bring terrible misery to the nation. When the crisis would come it was necessary that a new king == this time one of God's choosing should be prepared and ready to take over the leadership. God therefore sent Sam. secretly to anoint the one who should eventually replace Saul. God wished to teach Sam. a lesson, and through him to teach us the lesson also. He merely told him that it would be one of the sons of Jesse, the Bethlehemite who would be anointed as king. Thus Jesse brought his eldest son before Sam. Sam. saw him tall, attractive. He said surely this is the one whom the Lord has chosen, but the Lord said to Sam. Don't look on his countenance or on the height of his stature because I have refused him for the Lord does not look as man looks. Man looks on the outward appearance but the Lord looks on the heart. We at Biblical School wish to prepare in you those == to develop in you those qualities that will be pleasing to the Lord. We are not interested simply in sending out men who will be attractive and who will carry people along with their fine manners, their attractive