

Script. - 1 Sam. 16:1-13.

In vs. 7 there is a statement that contains a great deal of important truth. I would like to meditate on some of its aspects this morning. Here we find Sam. coming on the Lord's command to anoint a new king for Israel. Sam. knows that this king is to be one of Jesse's sons, but he does not know which one. As soon as he sees the firstborn he is tremendously attracted by his great strength and attractive appearance. He says surely this is the one that the Lord has chosen, but the Lord said to him, No this is not the one. Man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart. This situation == In this brief statement the Script. summarizes a number of extremely important truths. The first of these is == We shall look first at the fact that man looks on the outward appearance.

How often people are misled because make decisions based purely on superficial considerations. Jesus Christ pointed out the same thing == truth in John 7. There he ~~was~~ was being ~~greatly~~ greatly criticized because He healed a man on the Sabbath day. ~~Peopl~~ People said, This is surely wicked that He breaks the Sabbath. On various occasions Jesus pointed out that the Sabbath is not an end in itself but a means that God had given. It was to give them the rest at regular intervals which their body ~~needed~~ needed. It was to give them a mental rest and change that their ~~needed~~ needed. It was to set apart a part of the week regularly to think == in which to think of the things of God particularly and to stress their relationship to him. It was to point to the fact that there is an end toward which all creation moves just as the wk. moves toward this regular day of rest. This was very important in the life of Israel. People said, Isn't this terrible, he has healed a man on the Sabbath day. Jesus pointed out however, that if a man was to be circumcised on the 7th day if the 7th day came on the Sabbath he would then of course be circumcized on the Sabbath. Now he said, you carry out this which affects a small part of the body on the Sabbath day, yet you are angry with me because I cure a man's whole body on the Sabbath day.