

## ISRAEL'S FIRST KING

I Samuel 9:15 to 10:24



The years went on, and Samuel grew to be an old man. He was a very wonderful and wise leader for Israel, but by and by the people began to want a king such as other nations had—a king who would have a golden crown, and many servants, and a palace. They wanted a king to show. So Samuel went to God with this hard question. God said that it would be best to let them have a king, and he told Samuel how to choose the king.

He was to be a young man named Saul, who was very tall and handsome. Saul went on a journey, hunting for his father's donkeys which were lost, and God led him to Samuel to ask the prophet's help in finding them. Before Saul knew who Samuel was, Samuel said: "I am the prophet. Your donkeys are found, so you need not worry about them." Samuel was on his way to a feast, and Saul went with him.

Saul planned to hurry back because his father was worrying about him. But he stayed for the feast, where Samuel gave him the king's piece of meat and the place of highest honor. Then the next day, Samuel told Saul that God had