

## **The literary structure of 1 Samuel 10:17-26**

### **Saul chosen by lot**

**A. Samuel gathers the people:** 17 Now Samuel called the people together to the Lord at Mizpah.

**B. Rejection of divine kingship:** 18 And he said to the people of Israel, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and I delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all the kingdoms that were oppressing you.' 19 But today you have rejected your God, who saves you from all your calamities and your distresses, and you have said to him, 'Set a king over us.' Now therefore present yourselves before the Lord by your tribes and by your thousands."

**C. Saul chosen:** 20 Then Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel near, and the tribe of Benjamin was taken by lot. 21 He brought the tribe of Benjamin near by its clans, and the clan of the Matrites was taken by lot; and Saul the son of Kish was taken by lot.

**D. Seeking Saul:** But when they sought him, he could not be found.

**E. Word of the Lord:** 22 So they inquired again of the Lord, "Is there a man still to come?" and the Lord said, "Behold, he has hidden himself among the baggage."

**D1. Finding Saul:** 23 Then they ran and took him from there.

**C1. Saul chosen:** And when he stood among the people, he was taller than any of the people from his shoulders upward. 24 And Samuel said to all the people, "Do you see him whom the Lord has chosen? There is none like him among all the people." And all the people shouted, "Long live the king!"

**B1. The terms of human kingship:** 25 Then Samuel told the people the rights and duties of the kingship, and he wrote them in a book and laid it up before the Lord.

**A1. Samuel sends the people home:** Then Samuel sent all the people away, each one to his home. 26 Saul also went to his home at Gibeah, and with him went men of valor whose hearts God had touched.

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