

Here I Am
God's Sovereignty and My Flaws, Part 2
Pastor Craig Sweeney | June 15, 2025

Thread: God's sovereign equation takes our flaws into consideration.

Text: I Samuel 16:1 – 13 NLT

"So Samuel did as the Lord instructed. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town came trembling to meet him. 'What's wrong?' they asked. 'Do you come in peace?' 'Yes,' Samuel replied. 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.'" **I Samuel 16:4 – 5a NLT**

Not all that God is doing is warm and fuzzy.

- *"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work."*
II Timothy 3:16 – 17 NLT
His work is always "good."
- *"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."*
Hebrews 4:12 – 13 ESV

"When they arrived, Samuel took one look at Eliab and thought, 'Surely this is the Lord's anointed!' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.'" **I Samuel 16:6 – 7 NLT**

Even seasoned warriors find new challenges.

- All of us can be wrong, no matter how seasoned we are.
- Are you available to God for the next task?

God will reveal what He is looking for in His own time.

- Saul is what God was looking for as the first king in Chapter 9.
- Chapter 16 finds God looking for different data points to replace Saul.

"So Jesse sent for him. He was dark and handsome, with beautiful eyes. And the Lord said, 'This is the one; anoint him.' So as David stood there among his brothers, Samuel took the flask of olive oil he had brought and anointed David with the oil." **I Samuel 16:12 – 13a NLT**

The data points that matter to God are heart related.

- Is God playing favorites?
- Whose data points matter to you?
- David's data points did not pass the *look test*.

David was literally everyone's afterthought.

"And the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David from that day on. Then Samuel returned to Ramah." **I Samuel 16:13b NLT**

The Spirit of God fills David's life.

- The result was:
 - How hot is the flame of the Spirit in your life? The answer is: as HOT as YOU decide.

Challenge:

- What work is God waiting on you to do?
- Are you feeling insecure because you were overlooked? Open your heart wider to God, His timing is perfect.
- How deep do you want the Spirit of God to saturate your life?

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