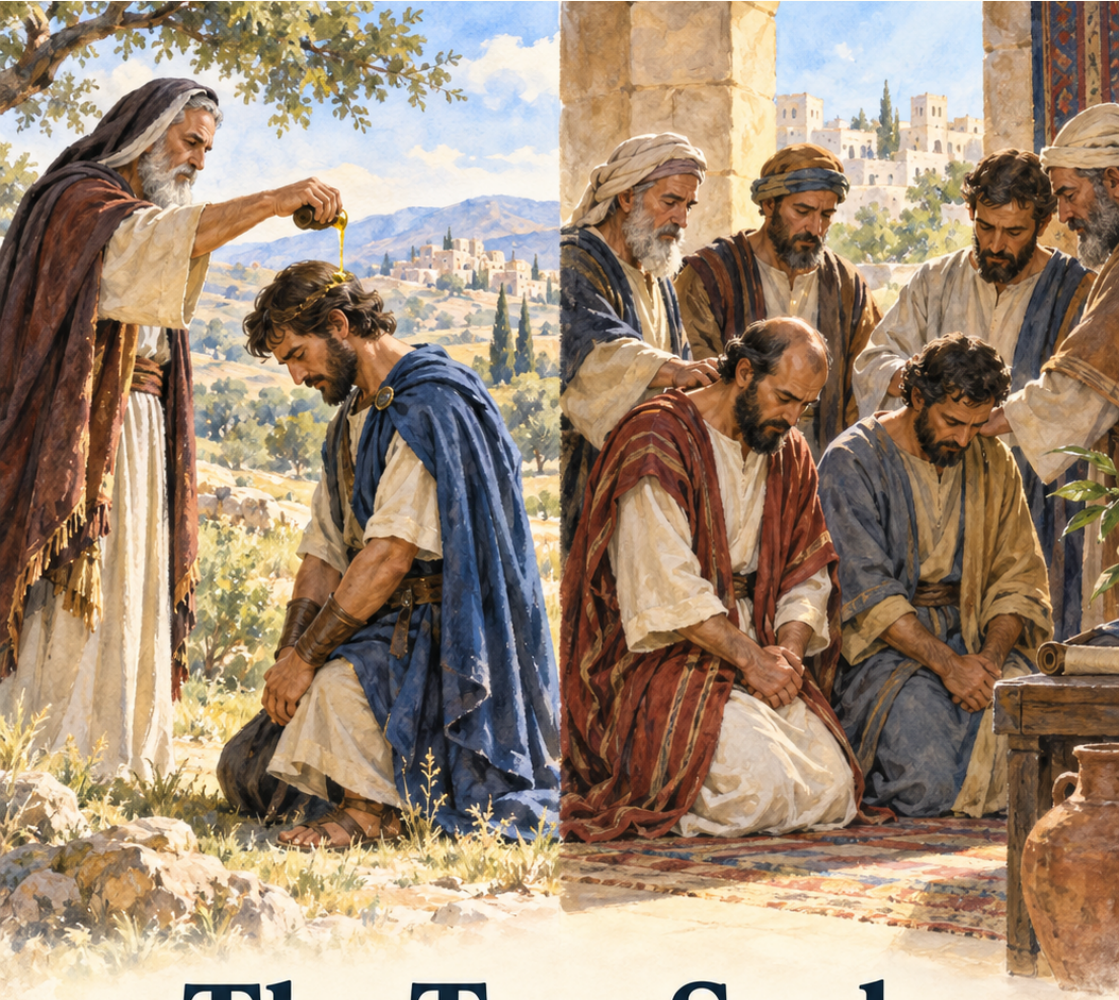


The Two Sauls

Amrit Nathan

King Saul was anointed to lead Israel. Centuries later, the Holy Spirit set apart Saul of Tarsus for his work. Both were Benjaminites. Both began with a calling. To understand what followed, we must first remember that each was entrusted with a real task.

1 Samuel 10:1–10; Acts 13:2–4; Philippians 3:5

The command and the spoil



Through Samuel, God commanded King Saul to destroy Amalek and all its possessions. Saul spared Agag and the best livestock. Samuel asked why the animals could still be heard. Saul defended his choice, but Samuel told him that obedience mattered more than sacrifice. A king who had truly been anointed had turned aside from the command entrusted to him.

1 Samuel 15:1–23

The road to Jerusalem



Paul said he was going to Jerusalem “bound in the spirit.” The Holy Spirit warned him of chains ahead. At Tyre, disciples told him through the Spirit not to go. Agabus foretold his binding, and his companions pleaded with him. Paul continued. In Jerusalem he was seized, and his free travels gave way to custody.

Acts 20:22–23; 21:4, 10–14, 27–33

The unbroken net



After Saul's forty years, David the shepherd received the kingdom. Could forty jubilees of Pauline influence likewise give way to the shepherding Yahshua entrusted to Peter? This is an expectation to examine, not a date Scripture gives. At the second fishing, Peter brought ashore a great catch, yet the net did not tear. What might Yahshua be showing us about the gathering still to come?

Acts 13:21; John 21:6, 11, 15–17; Leviticus 25:8–10