

# 1 SAMUEL

## The Early Kingdom

### I. PREPARING TO STUDY

#### A. Authorship

First and Second Samuel are the first of the three “double books” of the Old Testament. In the Hebrew canon, each of these pairs was a \_\_\_\_\_ book. 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, and 1 and 2 Chronicles give the history of Israel from the rise to the fall of the monarchy. The Holy Spirit inspired this history of Israel which was probably recorded by Samuel, Nathan, and/or Gad. (1 Chron. 29:29)

#### B. Relationship to the Other Books of the Bible

Together these six books cover both the brightest and darkest periods of the history of Israel. They also tell the story of God’s people inhabiting the land given them as a consequence of the \_\_\_\_\_ Covenant, to the greatest extent they ever have to this day. But it also tells of them having to relinquish the land because of their \_\_\_\_\_ and the judgment of God.

### II. EXAMINING THE TEXT

First Samuel takes us from the birth of last judge of Israel to the death of its first king. It should be noted that Samuel was not only a \_\_\_\_\_, but also a prophet, and priest.

### III. SAMUEL, THE LAST JUDGE (1-8)

#### A. Birth and dedication to the Lord (1)

#### B. Contrast with \_\_\_\_\_ wicked sons (2)

#### C. Call of Samuel and beginning of the prophetic office (3)

#### D. Fulfillment of first prophecy and the capture of the Ark of the Covenant (4)

#### E. Lessons on God’s laws

1. Among the Philistines (5)
2. Among the Israelites (6)

The violation of the principles of God’s law brings certain judgment.

**F. The \_\_\_\_\_ repentance that never came under Samson or Eli finally came during the ministry of Samuel. (7:3-6)**

God responded by delivering Israel from their Philistine oppressors.

**G. Samuel judged Israel (7:15-17), but the elders rejected his sons because of their dishonesty. (8:1-5)**

**H. Israel asks for a king (8)** In asking for a king, they were not merely rejecting rule by judges whom God raised up, but they were rejecting rule by the \_\_\_\_\_ Himself.

1 Sam. 8:6-9 6 But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." So Samuel prayed to the LORD. 7 And the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for **they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them....**"

**IV. \_\_\_\_\_, THE FIRST KING (9-15)**

**A. The selection of Saul (9-10)**

**B. Saul's first military exploit against the Ammonites at Jabesh Gilead leads to his popular acceptance. (11)**

**C. Samuel's final public \_\_\_\_\_ concerning a king. He warns them to be faithful to the Lord and obedient to His commands. (12)**

**D. The decline of Saul (13-31)**

13:12-13	Self-will, impatience
14:24-30, 43-46	Impetuous actions
15:2-3, 19-23	Disobedience
15:12	Pride
16:2, 18:7-9	Jealousy and hatred
16:14	Holy Spirit _____
18:10-11	Attempted murder
26:21	_____ without repentance
28:7-20	Witchcraft
31:4	Suicide

A key passage of instruction for us is **1 Sam. 15:22-23** **22** So Samuel said: “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. **23** For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry.

## V. DAVID, GOD’S CHOSEN SUCCESSOR (16-31)

- A. The Lord sends Samuel to privately anoint God’s choice for king. (16)** Even Samuel would have chosen the more kingly looking of Jesse’s sons, but none of them was God’s choice. God picked David, the youngest, apparently still a young teen, who had to be summoned from his chores of sheep keeping for the family. In the midst of this account is another great verse about God’s principles for memorization and meditation.

**1 Sam. 16:7** But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For *the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.*”

To understand the next events of the accounts of David and Saul we must remember that this selection and anointing of David was \_\_\_\_\_. David knew he had been selected to become king; he did not know when God would give to him the throne.

Saul did not even know David at this point and did not know that anyone had been selected as his replacement, even though God had told him through Samuel that he would indeed be replaced.

We see in these events a glimpse of David’s character and faith. While he knew God would make him king, he was content to wait for the Lord to do it. He would not make it happen or even attempt to accelerate the process.

Finally we might ask, “Why did God select David?” The answer is in 1 Sam. 13:14. David was a man after God’s \_\_\_\_\_!

- B. David is invited to play \_\_\_\_\_ for Saul at his court because Saul was troubled after the Spirit of God departed from him.** David went back and forth from Saul to his home in Bethlehem, while his three older brothers served in Israel’s army under King Saul’s command. (17:16)
- C. David returns from a trip home to find Israel and the Philistines positioned for battle. (17)** The enemy has made a giant named Goliath (one of the descendants of the Anakim) their champion, and he has issued a “winner take all” challenge to any soldier of Israel. In fact he has issued that challenge morning and evening for \_\_\_\_\_ days in a row, and no man in God’s army has been willing to accept it.

Goliath stands over \_\_\_\_\_ feet tall. His coat of mail weighed more than 150 pounds. The shaft of his spear was like a 4x4. We cannot be too terribly surprised that none of the soldiers, or even Saul, who himself was a large man, wanted to do battle with this monster.

But when David sees the situation, he offers to accept the challenge. He is discouraged by others because of his size, age, and inexperience; and then he is given the armor of Saul to try to “help him out.” But David needs none of these things. He has a secret weapon.

**1 Sam. 17:37** Moreover David said, “The LORD, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “Go, and the LORD be with you!”

One man plus God always makes a \_\_\_\_\_! David put off the oversized armor, selected five stones from the brook and went to meet Goliath with a sling and the Lord. Everybody else looked at this giant of a man and said, “This guy’s too big to hit.” David went with confidence in the Lord and said, “This guy’s too big to \_\_\_\_\_!” The Lord directed the rock out of the sling like a guided missile to penetrate the forehead of Goliath who fell on his face and died. David cut off his head and led Israel in a great victory over the Philistine army.

- D. Jonathan, Saul’s son, becomes David’s close \_\_\_\_\_.** David becomes a commander in the army and even marries one of Saul’s daughters, Michal; but Saul becomes jealous of David and in fits of rage seeks to kill David. David has to flee for his life. (18-20)
- E. For \_\_\_\_\_ long years David must live as a fugitive. (21-29)** During this time he had two opportunities to kill Saul. (24 and 26) But David refused to raise his hand against the Lord’s anointed. He also prevented his fellow soldiers from taking the life of the king. God had put Saul in power; David would leave it to God to remove him. To finally put an end to Saul’s pursuit, David lived among the Philistines for a brief time and won a victory for Israel over the Amalekites. (30)
- F. Saul’s life ends in battle with the Philistines.** The enemy has killed all of Saul’s sons, including Jonathan and wounded Saul with an arrow. Saul then committed \_\_\_\_\_ by falling on his own sword. (31)

## 2 SAMUEL

### I. PREPARING TO STUDY

#### A. Authorship

2 Samuel can be called “The Book of \_\_\_\_\_ reign” for it begins with the death of Saul and the next book, 1 Kings, opens with David “old and advanced in

years.” The book covers a span of \_\_\_\_ years. The human author was probably Nathan or Gad.

## II. EXAMINING THE TEXT

### A. DAVID’S TRIUMPHS (1-12)

#### 1. David reigns over Judah alone in Hebron (1-4)

- a. David’s \_\_\_\_\_ to Saul to the end (1)
- b. The tribe of \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledges God’s choice for king and anoints David. But the other tribes, collectively called Israel, choose the son of Saul, Ishbosheth, as king. (2)
- c. Civil war begins, and Ishbosheth is killed. (3-4)

#### 2. David reigns over all Israel (5-12)

- a. Publicly anointed (5:1-5)
- b. Captures \_\_\_\_\_ and makes it the capital (5:6-7)
- c. Acknowledges God’s control (5:12)
- d. God gives David victory over Philistines (5:17-25)
- e. The \_\_\_\_\_ is brought to Jerusalem (6)
- f. David desires to build God a house (7:2)
- g. God sends a message through the prophet Nathan called the \_\_\_\_\_ Covenant. (7:12-16) God told him that his son would build God’s house (the temple), and God promised David three things would be established forever:
  - 1) Your \_\_\_\_\_... David will always have living descendants.
  - 2) Your \_\_\_\_\_... Israel will exist forever.
  - 3) Your \_\_\_\_\_... A descendant of David will reign forever.

The prophets later confirmed this promise. **Is. 11:1-5** **1** There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of **Jesse**, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. **2** The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. **3** His delight *is* in the fear of the LORD, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; **4** But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He

shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

Who is Jesse? The father of \_\_\_\_\_. So this Branch is David’s descendant. Study His description. Observe His characteristics. The Spirit of the \_\_\_\_\_ on Him; he has spirit of wisdom, \_\_\_\_\_, council, might, knowledge, and fear of the Lord. He judges in righteousness and \_\_\_\_\_ the earth with equity. He is faithful.

**Matt. 1:1** The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:

Who is the descendant of David? \_\_\_\_\_

John 1:29, 32 29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 32 And John bore witness, saying, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him.

Upon whom did the Spirit of God descend? \_\_\_\_\_

Who alone matches the description of Isaiah 11:1-5? (see scripture above) Jesus Christ

Acts 2:29-31 29 “Men *and* brethren, let *me* speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, 31 he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.

This promise to David is now the fourth promise by way of covenant and prophecy of the coming \_\_\_\_\_.

First to Adam	Gen. 3:15	Promise to a _____	“seed of woman”
Second to Abraham	Gen. 12:3	Promise to a _____	Israel
Third to Jacob	Gen. 49:10	Promise to a _____	Judah
Fourth to David	2 Sam. 7:12-16	Promise to a _____	David’s descendants

- a. Chapters 8-10 record the glorious victories God gave to Israel's greatest king. David defeated all of the neighboring opposition and expanded the \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel. God blessed all he did, and David ruled with justice, tempered by mercy.
- b. Chapter 11 is the most famous and infamous of the whole book, and it makes the transition in David's life from triumph to trouble – David's \_\_\_\_\_ with Bathsheba.
  - 1) The \_\_\_\_\_ came because David was not where he should have been. (11:1)
  - 2) The \_\_\_\_\_ came as he accidentally saw Bathsheba.
  - 3) The \_\_\_\_\_ began when David gazed long enough to notice her great beauty. (11:2)
  - 4) The sin of the \_\_\_\_\_ became a sin of the body. (11:4)
  - 5) David tried to \_\_\_\_\_ his sin, first by deceit (11:5-13) and finally by murder. (11:14-17)

## B. DAVID'S FOURFOLD TROUBLE (12-23)

1. **No one knows... no one except \_\_\_\_\_.** God sends Nathan the prophet to confront the king. (12) But sin has a price. David said the guilty would pay \_\_\_\_\_-fold. And so he did.
  - a. The \_\_\_\_\_ born of adultery dies. (12:15-23)
  - b. David's \_\_\_\_\_ Tamar is raped by her brother Amnon. (13:1-22)
  - c. David's son Absalom kills Amnon in \_\_\_\_\_. (13:23-29)
  - d. Absalom leads a \_\_\_\_\_ against David and is killed. (15-18)

## C. DAVID'S FINAL YEARS (24 and Psalms)

1. **David builds an \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord at the same site that Abraham offered Isaac to God. (24:18 – 25)** This became the site of Solomon's temple.

**Through David's triumphs and tragedies, David developed a \_\_\_\_\_ for God.** The development of his spiritual life shows through in the Psalms he has written. Read Psalm 32 and Psalm 51.