

## Old Testament Survey - **1 Samuel**

**Author:** Samuel, Gad, Nathan (1 Chronicles 29:29)

**Date:** Written c.1067-971

Records period from 1105 -1011 B.C. (Birth of Samuel - 1105 B.C. to death of Saul - 1011 B.C.)

**Theme:** “To present the foundation of the monarchy and the house of David as its legitimate dynasty”

### **Outline:**

- I. Preparation for the monarch.           1 Samuel 1-9
  - A. Transition from Eli to Samuel (1-3)
  - B. Samuel’s Judgeship (4-9)
- II. Saul’s rejected reign.                   1 Samuel 10-31
  - A. Saul’s Reign is Established (10-12)
  - B. Saul’s Failures (13-15)
  - C. The Rise of David (16- 18)
  - D. Saul’s Final Decline (28-31)

### **Key People**

Eli, Samuel, Saul, Jonathan, David, Joab, Absalom

### **Chapters & Verses**

- 1 Sam. 1-4:** Samuel born to Hannah & given to serve the LORD. Ark captured by Philistines & Eli dies.
- 1 Sam. 8:** Israel demands a king “like all the nations”
- 1 Sam. 9,10:** Saul is chosen as first king of Israel.
- 1 Sam. 13:** Saul’s sin in assuming priestly office. God rejects his dynasty.
- 1 Sam. 13:14 - Yahweh seeks a man “after His own heart”
- 1 Sam.15 Saul disobeys the LORD by taking spoil from Amalek (Agag) & the LORD rejects him as king.
- 1 Sam. 15:20-23** - “*It is better to obey than sacrifice*” Saul is rejected as king
- 1 Sam. 16** - God chooses David (vs. 7) God looks at the heart.
- 1 Sam. 17:** David and Goliath.
- 1 Sam. 18:** Jonathan & David become fast friends. Saul turns against David, David marries Michal.
- 1 Sam. 19:9 - Saul is tormented by an evil spirit from the Lord. David plays harp to soothe him.
- 1 Sam. 20:17 - Jonathan & David’s vow.
- 1 Sam. 24:** David Spares Saul’s life in a cave at Engedi.
- 1 Sam. 25: Death of Samuel, Abigail & Nabal.
- 1 Sam. 28:** Saul & the medium at Endor.
- 1 Sam. 31:** Saul & 3 sons die in battle on Mt. Gilboa.

## 1 Samuel - Old Testament Survey

In the Hebrew Bible both 1 & 2 Samuel are combined and known as either “The Book of Samuel” or “Samuel.” The division was made in the Septuagint. The Vulgate and later transitions followed this division.

Judges teaches what happens when people “*do what is right in their own eyes.*” The theocracy failed because the people did not keep God’s laws on their own. Ignorance led to violating God’s commands even by those trying to worship Him. The resulting cycle produced by this failure was: Incomplete obedience → disobedience → idolatry → chastening → oppression → repentance → deliverance. Out of that failure came a demand for a king “like all the nations” (1 Sam. 8:5), but this was in God’s plan as seen from the laws concerning a king in Deut. 17.

First Samuel covers the period from Samuel’s birth (c. 1105 B.C.) through Saul’s death (1011 B.C.). It records the transition from the period of the judges to the establishment of the united Kingdom and demonstrated David to be the rightful dynasty.

Second Samuel covers the period of David’s reign (1011 B.C.) until his death (971 B.C.). It further established the Davidic line as the rightful dynasty (esp. chapter 7), though it also reveals David’s failures and the early division between the kingdoms of Judah and Israel which later split again after Solomon’s death.

Another theme that runs through 1 & 2 Samuel is that obedience brings blessings, but disobedience brings curses.

Impudence

### ***Detailed Outline***

I. Preparation for the monarch. 1 Samuel 1-9

A. Transition from Eli to Samuel (1-3)

1. Birth of Samuel (1:1-2:11)

2. The Failure of Eli (2:12-36)

3. The Establishment of Samuel (3)

B. Samuel’s Judgeship

1. Defeat by Philistines (4-6)

a. Capture of the Ark (4)

b. The God of the Ark (5)

- c. The Return of the Ark (6)
- 2. Victory over the Philistines (7)
- 3. Israel's Demand for a King (8 - 9)
  - a. Rejection of the Theocracy (8)
  - b. Finding a King (9)
- II. Saul's rejected reign. 1 Samuel 10-31
  - A. Saul's Reign is Established (10-12)
    - 1. Saul is Made King (10)
    - 2. Saul Defeats the Ammonites (11)
    - 3. Saul is Confirmed (12)
  - B. Saul's Failures (13-15)
    - 1. Saul's Impatience - A Rejected Dynasty (13)
    - 2. Jonathan's Victory & Saul's Rashness (14)
      - a. Jonathan's Victory (14:1-23)
      - b. Saul's Rash Curse (14:24-46)
      - c. Continued War (14:47-52)
    - 3. Saul's Incomplete Obedience - A Rejected Reign (15)

C. The Rise of David (16-21)

1. Samuel Anoints David (16)

2. David & Goliath (17)

a. Goliath's Challenge (17:1-11)

b. David Takes up the Challenge (17:12-40)

c. David Kills Goliath (17:41-58)

d. David & Jonathan Become Friends (18:1-5)

3. David Protected from Saul (19-21)

a. Saul's Jealousy (18:6-19)

b. David Wins Michal (18:20-30)

c. Protected by Jonathan (19:1-7)

d. Protected by Michal (19:8-17)

e. Protected by Samuel (19:18-24)

f. The Covenant of Jonathan & David (20)

g. David's Flight (21)

i. Provision from the Priests at Nob (21:1-9)

ii. Feigned Madness before Achish (21:10-15)

4. David Builds an Army (22- 27)

a. Initial Formation (22:1-5)

b. Saul Slays the Priests (22:6-23)

c. David Delivers Keilah (23:1-5)

d. Saul Pursues David (23:6-29)

- e. David Spares Saul (24)
- f. Samuel Dies (25:1)
- g. David Marries Abigail (25:2-44)
- h. David Spares Saul Again (26)
- i. David Joins the Philistines (27)
- D. Saul's Final Decline (28-31)
  - 1. Saul and the Medium (28)
  - 2. David Spared from Fighting Israel (29-30)
    - a. Philistine Mistrust (29)
    - b. David Defeats Amalekites (30)
      - i. Ziklag Raided (30:1-6)
      - ii. David Pursues Amalekites (30:7-15)
      - iii. David Defeats Amalekites (30:16-20)
      - iv. The Spoils are Divided (30:21-31)
  - 3. Saul & Sons Slain (31)

### ***David's Family Tree***

#### *Patriarchs*

**Abraham - Isaac - Jacob - Judah**

*In Egypt*

**- Perez- Hezron - Ram - Amminadab - Nahshon**

*Conquest & Judges*

**- Salmon - Boaz - Obed - Jesse - David**

#### Children of Jesse

Sons: Eliab, Abinadab, Shamah, Nethanel, Raddai, Ozem, David

Daughters: Zeruah (mother of Joab, Abishai, Asahel), Abigail (mother of Amassa)