# I SAMUEL

<u> 1 Samuel 1</u>	1 Samuel 2	<u> 1 Samuel 3</u>	<u> 1 Samuel 4</u>	<u> 1 Samuel 5</u>	<u> 1 Samuel 6</u>
<u> 1 Samuel 7</u>	<u> 1 Samuel 8</u>	<u> 1 Samuel 9</u>	1 Samuel 10	1 Samuel 12	1 Samuel 13
1 Samuel 14	1 Samuel 15	1 Samuel 16	1 Samuel 17	1 Samuel 19	

1 SAMUEL1:1-28

NEXT 2:1-10, 22, 27-36

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

1st Samuel 1:1-11 1 There was a man whose name was Elkanah. He lived in a town called Ramah. He had two wives. 2 One named Peninnah who was able to have children, and Hannah who did not have any children. 3 He would go to the city, the holy place at Shiloh every year to worship and sacrifice to the Lord to fulfill the outward requirements of the law. He worshiped from the heart inspite of the two sons of Eli the priest-- Hophni and Phinehas. 4 He shared of the meat to Peninnah and her sons and daughters, but 5 gave double to Hannah, the one he loved. But God had prevented her from having children. 6 Peninnah taunted, upset, and disrespected Hannah for not having children, and 7 she would begin to cry and not eat. 8 Elkinah told her that he was better to her than ten sons. 9 One day they were at Shiloh and had finished eating and drinking, and Hannah went to the temple to pray and Eli, the priest saw her. 10 She was very sad as she cried and prayed to the Lord. 11 She made a promise; a vow to God. First, she was His servant, so remember her. Second, the Lord would give her a son, and she would give him back to the Lord all of his life. Third, no razor will come upon his head.

1st Samuel 1:12-19
12 Hannah kept praying to the Lord. Eli watched her mouth moving.
13 Her lips moved, but Eli couldn't hear her voice as she prayed. He thought that she had drunk too much wine. 14 He asked her, "How long will you be drunk like that? Throw away your wine." 15 Hannah told Eli that she was a woman of a sorrowful spirit, and had not been drinking wine or strong drink, but has poured out her soul unto the Lord. 16 She asked him not to think of her as a wicked woman, but just a very sad and upset woman. 17 Eli gave his blessing. "May the God of Israel give you what you have asked Him for." 18 She said "Let thine handmaid find grace in thy sight." Hannah was no longer sad. 19 Elkanah and his family got up early the next morning; worshipped God, and went home to Ramah their home. Elkinah made love with his wife and God remembered her.

1st Samuel 1:20 Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the Lord. God was faithful to the cry of Hannah and in the process of time He presented this time of conception. And Hannah conceived and God gave her a son which she called Samuel because she asked the Lord for Him. God's blessings does not come ahead of time, but right on time!

1st Samuel 1:21 And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer unto the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and his vow. Each seasonal visit by Elkanah was his persistent and continuing response to his own vow to the Lord. He went up to offer his vow, meaning the animal he had promised to sacrifice to the Lord.

1st Samuel 1:22 But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband, I will not go up until the child be

weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may appear before the Lord, and there abide for ever. This was really a sacrifice for Hannah because her last words indicated that her son would abide at the temple forever. So Hannah was giving her son time to be weaned from his feeding before she would bring him to the temple. In Palestine in this era was about two or three years of age. So she did not accompany her husband Elkanah on his yearly family pilgrimage.

1st Samuel 1:23 And Elkanah her husband said unto her, Do what seemeth thee good; tarry until thou have weaned him; only the Lord establish his word. So the woman abode, and gave her son suck until she weaned him. Elkanah and Hannah were in agreement for her to stay home which seemed the best thing to do until their son was weaned and the Lord's Will to be done. So Hannah nursed her son until the time to wean (take him from her breast).

1st Samuel 1:24 And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of the Lord in Shiloh: and the child was young. Time had come when Hannah had weaned her son who was young and presented him unto the Lord, fulfilling her vow to God—(If God gave her a son, she would give him back to Him). She brought him to the House of the Lord in Shiloh along with three bullocks, one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine.

1st Samuel 1:25 And they slew a bullock, and brought the child to Ell. The bullock that was brought for sacrifice was slain, and Hannah's son was brought to the priest Eli.

1st Samuel 1:26 And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the Lord. Hannah speaks to Eli to remind him of her prayer prayed 3 yrs. ago (customary age of weaning). She reminds him that she's the woman who stood praying unto God in her barren time.

1st Samuel 1:27 For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him:— She prayed to God and He had granted her petition in which she asked for. She had asked for a son and God gave exactly what she asked. How many of us give testimony of the goodness of God. She returns to tell Eli of the goodness of God. She gives glory to God Almighty!

1st Samuel 1:28 Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord. And he worshipped the Lord there. And Hannah comes back to give back; dedicate her son; return the son God had given her, for as long as he lives because of her vow unto God. So, Hannah and Elkanah offer their child to Eli to be trained in the priesthood. And it says: "And he worshipped the Lord there." Some translations say "he" and some say "they." So if it's "he", it's talking about Samuel. If it's "they", it's talking about the family. When you don't take time to worship God, you proceed without His presence and blessings. The song says "My Worship Is For Real" as it should be from beginning, and even in the end. Hannah did not forget about Samuel. Each year she visited Samuel, and brought him a linen robe just like Eli's (2:19). God would protect him even though Eli's sons were evil. She truly submitted her child to God's purpose.

- **Dedicate** means to set apart or sanctify things or people for God's use. This is much like our Baby Dedications we do now where they are anointed with oil, prayed over, and blessings are spoken over them.
  - "...Consecrate yourselves (which means to dedicate completely) for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you" NIV.
  - Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them ESV
- Worship--bow down, prostrate; adore, obey, and reverence (private and public).

## **SUMMARY:**

1 Sam. 1:20 God was faithful to the cry of Hannah. She conceived and God gave her a son which she called Samuel because she asked the Lord for Him. God's blessings does not come ahead of time, but right on time! Hannah has dedicated her son Samuel to the Lord. 1 Sam. 1:26 Hannah speaks to Eli to remind him of her prayer prayed 3 yrs. ago. She reminds him that she's the woman who stood praying unto God in her barren time. 1 Sam. 1:27 She prayed to God and He had granted her petition in which she asked for. She returns to tell Eli of the goodness of God. She gives glory to God Almighty! She had asked for a son and God gave exactly what she asked. 1 Sam. 1:28 And Hannah gives back; dedicates her son; return the son God had given her, for as long as he lives because of her vow unto God. So, Hannah and Elkanah offer their child to Eli, and Samuel worships there before the Lord (1 Sam. 1:20-28).

# 1 SAMUEL 2:1-10, 22, 27-36

**NEXT 3:1-21** 

1st Samuel **2:1** And Hannah prayed, and sald, My heart rejoiceth in the Lord, mine horn is exalted in the Lord: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation. This is Hannah's prayer of thanksgiving and praise to God. This was also revealed to Mary in Luke 1:46 called, "The Magnificat": Mary's poetic song of praise after meeting with Elizabeth and Elizabeth's babe leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost (Lk.1:41b). "And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord" (Lk.1:46). Here Hannah's heart is rejoicing in this poetic song of praise for her strength is exalted; lifted in the Lord of deliverance; her mouth speaks loudly over her enemies for she speaks of the Lord's salvation. She was no longer barren, but delivered; saved from, because of Samuel's birth! And later we will see of a spiritual and eternal interpretation of God's ultimate deliverance of His people from sin through Jesus Christ!

1st Samuel **2:2** There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our **God.** As we see that Hannah cannot stop talking about God and giving praise to Him because He had given her a son.

- She praises <u>His Holiness</u>: "There is none who is holy...
- She praises <u>His Uniqueness</u>; none can conquer Him: ...there is none beside the Lord...
- She praises His Strength: ... There is neither a rock like our God."

Praises keep exhuming from Hannah's heart and mouth. Have you ever done what Hannah is doing because of the goodness of God? It just comes from the inside out! You just can't keep it to yourself. You've got to tell it! Yes, God is the One who did this; answered her prayer about a child, and after having him, she didn't put him above the Lord.

1st Samuel **2:3** Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. Even in this song or prayer, she talks about her hater to not talk anymore because proud talk will get you nowhere (mainly Peninnah, who had many children, while Hannah had been barren.). Prideful people think they have it all together, and not be accountable to anyone. Proud people are arrogant. So Hannah speaks so that arrogance would not even come out of her hater's mouth anymore. Why? For the Omniscient God knows everything and there are consequences to your actions. Peninnah didn't care how she made Hannah feel, but God does, because by Him actions are accounted and judged.

1st Samuel **2:4** The bows of the mighty men are broken, and they that stumbled are girded with strength. While the bow was a symbol of strength for mighty men, it will be broken. But, the ones that stumbled through their circumstances will be girded with strength, and that strength comes from the Lord. God reverses human conditions, bringing low the wicked, and raising up the righteous.

1st Samuel **2:5** They that were full have hired out themselves for bread; and they that were hungry ceased: so that the barren hath born seven; and she that hath many children is waxed feeble. The people who had plenty of food, now have to work to get food. But the people who were hungry are not hungry any more. The woman who could not have any children, now has seven. But the woman who had many children is now very weak. When you're on God's side, you will always win!

1st Samuel **2:6** The Lord killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. Hannah is saying that God is so Omnipotent that He can allow you to die and bring you back to life. He can allow you to be in the grave and yet bring you out of the grave. We know that death and life are in our tongues, but God has the final say!

1st Samuel **2:7** The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up. Whatever God allows, He can reverse it, and that includes allowing you to be poor, and then make you rich; allowing you to be low, and still lift you up.

1st Samuel 2:8 He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and he hath set the world upon them. This comes from the psalmist in Psalm 113:7-9 speaks of the greatness of the God of Israel. The authorship is unknown. Even in verse 1 of Psalm 113—"Praise ye the Lord, Praise O servants of the Lord, Praise the Name of the Lord" - The "Hallel" which means praise in Hebrew, and is used in three of the great feasts of the Jews. So this example that Hannah uses shows the uniqueness of her Mighty God; what she had been saying all alone. We are made from dust, but He can lift the poor from dust. The dust can't keep you down when God is in it. The dust can't keep you in disarray when God is in it. You can be a beggar in the dunghill, and He can lift you out of the rubbish when God is in it. You can be friends with princes, and then you can be put in places of honor, for the pillars; the foundations of the earth belong to the Lord. He is the One who built the world on them.

1st Samuel **2:9** He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. As God can control the earth, He can also protect His people. God makes everything firm and is able to keep the feet of His saints, while the wicked will be silent in darkness. This is where evil men perish (in darkness) showing us that human strength shall not prevail.

1st Samuel **2:10** The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall he thunder upon them: the Lord shall judge the ends of the earth; and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed. In the end the Lord destroys His enemies. The people who trust God will succeed. When God is against His enemies, it will sound like a noisy storm in heaven. He will judge all the earth. He will give power to His king, and He will anoint a king and make Him strong.

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

2:22, 27-29 22Eli is now old and will be made accountable of the wickedness going on in his house. It also says that 27God revealed Himself to Eli's ancestors 28 and had chosen and assigned them for the priestly work of sacrifices and offerings. 29However, Eli and sons have scorned the sacrifices and offerings, and he has given more honor to his sons than to God. it was always promised that the Tribe of Levi would always be priest. In this chapter 2 we deal with Eli the high priest and the corrupt and evil behavior of his two sons (Hophni and Phinehas) concerning the sacrificial offerings. It is evident, as we read this portion of scripture, that Eli was not just a father who needed to deal with his rebellious sons but, in a more serious vain, he was the high priest who was ignoring the sins of priests who were under his jurisdiction. This was a very serious matter and, as a result, the Lord took the necessary disciplinary action that Eli would not take. Eli was guilty of honoring his sons above God by letting them continue in their sinful ways. As religious leaders, they may have thought they could get away with it but God, who is just, brought judgment.

1st Samuel 2:30 Wherefore the Lord God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the Lord saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed. We find out that in this verse when God speaks of the house of thy father shows that he is a descendant of Aaron and was therefore chosen

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.family-times.net/commentary/the-wicked-sons-of-eli-while-samuel-remains-true/http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html 1 SAMUEL

to offer; to wear an ephod, and to perform the other functions of the priests. The Lord God of Israel said that Eli's house and the house of his father were to walk before Him forever, but... There is a but! The honor and privilege of the office have now been rejected. Only God's high divine law supersedes the conditional promise; His honor supersedes everything. He's saying I will honor those who honor me and I will despise those who despise Me.

1st Samuel **2:31** Behold, the days come, that I will cut off thine arm, and the arm of thy father's house, that there shall not be an old man in thine house. Lo, the days are coming for God's judgment. He will cut off the arm of Eli's father's house. The "arm", in this case, is speaking of descendants. No kinsman of his shall reach old age; days cut off; no one will make it to old age in his house. The fulfillment of this prediction is seen in I Kings 2:26-27.

1st Samuel 2:32 And thou shalt see an enemy in my habitation, in all the wealth which God shall give Israel: and there shall not be an old man in thine house for ever. Judgment begins at the house of God! God makes it known that Eli would see trouble in the house of the Lord (my habitation). The first trouble happened in chapter 4. God repeats Himself again, "no one in the family will grow old."

1st Samuel 2:33 And the man of thine, whom I shall not cut off from mine altar, shall be to consume thine eyes, and to grieve thine heart: and all the increase of thine house shall die in the flower of their age. The NASB explains this verse better: "Yet I will not cut off every man of yours from My altar so that your eyes will fail from weeping and your soul grieve, and all the increase of your house will die in the prime of life." Good things will be going on in Israel, but the men not cut off will see it and weep, for no one in your family will live to enjoy it. That person that's left to serve at God's Altar will have a hard life, with many tears.

1st Samuel **2:34** And this shall be a sign unto thee, that shall come upon thy two sons, on Hophni and **Phinehas; in one day they shall die both of them.** God says He'll even give a sign; proof that He is going to do what He says. Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, will die on the same day. It came to past in chapter 4:11, 17. God allowed Eli to hear this message from the messenger.

1st Samuel 2:35 And I will raise me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in mine heart and in my mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before mine anointed for ever. Eli and his sons were not faithful, so God said He would raise up a faithful priest "who will do according to what is in My heart" and "in My mind (soul)." God will build him a "sure" (permanent and enduring house), and "he will walk before God's anointed forever." This prophecy shows that the priesthood did not die with Eli. Historically, after the death of Eli, the priestly functions were taken over by Samuel who had been trained by Eli. However, only gradually was confidence restored to the priesthood. I had to look up the lineage of Samuel just to see how he could perform priestly duties. Elkanah is his father.

<sup>2</sup>Elkanah lived at Ramathaim in the district of Zuph. His genealogy is also found in a pedigree of the Kohathites (1 Chronicles 6:3-15) and in that of Heman, his great-grandson (1 Chronicles 6:18–22). According to the genealogical tables in Chronicles, Elkanah was a Levite - a fact not mentioned in the books of Samuel. (Other References: https://davidskorupa.wordpress.com/2008/01/21/samuels-levitical-ancestry/).

Whomever or whatever God needs at a particular time, He raises them up to do the task. He grew in favour with the Lord and with man (2:26). And he ministered unto the Lord before Eli (3:1). God was getting him ready; raising him up for the proper time to be used in capacity of His doing. But His first duty fell into the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html 1 SAMUEL

capacity of being a prophet. God spoke to Samuel when he was a child in the care of Eli. God gave him a message of judgment for the house of Eli. And all Israel from Dan even to Bersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord (3:20). Upon Elli hearing the death of his two sons and the mention of the Ark of God from the messenger of the Lord, he fell and broke his neck and died. Upon the daughter-in-law hearing that the Ark of God was taken, and her father-in-law and husband were dead, she went into labor pains and bore a son whom she called Ichabod. So, with the Ark of God taken by the Philistines, the priests of Dagon couldn't touch it, for they were destroyed and smote them with emerods. They finally decided to send the Ark of God back to Israel. Going back we knew that Eli was priest, but also in 4:18 we see that Eli had judged Israel forty years. Which brings me to Samuel in chapter 7 when the Philistines came against Israel, Samuel judged the children of Israel (7:6) and the people asked him not to cease crying unto the Lord for them. And Samuel offered a burnt offering. God received the prayers and can say that Samuel acted and ministered he would have been cut down like the to judge for Samuel was old and his sons before all Israel since childhood. And he two kings: Saul (10:1; 15:1) and David include the lineage of David where the as priest, and he served as last judge.

1st Samuel 2:36 And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left in thine house shall come and crouch to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and shall say, Put me, I pray thee, into one of the priests' offices, that I may eat a piece of bread. The message of judgment continues in that it will come to pass that the descendants that are left in Eli's house will come and bow down before Eli begging for money and food saying, "give me a job among the priests so that I may eat a piece of bread; have enough to eat."

#### **SUMMARY:**

1<sup>sam.</sup>2:1 This is Hannah's prayer of thanksgiving and praise to God. This was also revealed to Mary in Luke 1:46 called, "The Magnificat": Mary's poetic song of praise. Here Hannah's heart is rejoicing in this poetic song of praise for her strength is exalted; lifted in the Lord of deliverance; her mouth speaks loudly over her enemies for she speaks of the Lord's salvation. She was no longer barren, but delivered; saved from because of Samuel's birth! 1<sup>sam.</sup>2:2 Hannah cannot stop talking about God and giving praise to Him because He had given her a son.

- She praises His Holiness: "There is none who is holy...
- She praises <u>His Uniqueness</u>; none can conquer Him: ...there is none beside the Lord...
- She praises <u>His Strength</u>: ...There is neither a rock like our God."

1<sup>sam.</sup>2:3 Even in this song or prayer, Hannah talks about her hater to not talk anymore because proud talk will get you nowhere nor arrogance coming out of their mouth, because the Omniscient God knows everything and there are consequences to your actions. 1<sup>sam.</sup>2:4 While the bow was a symbol of strength for mighty men, it will be broken. But, the ones that stumbled through their circumstances will be girded with strength, and that strength comes from the Lord. God reverses human conditions, bringing low the wicked, and raising up the righteous. 1<sup>sam.</sup>2:5 The people who had plenty of food, now have to work to get food. But the people who were hungry are not hungry any more. The woman who could not have any children, now has seven. But the woman who had many children is now very weak. When you're on God's side, you will always win! 1<sup>sam.</sup>2:6 Hannah is saying that God is so Omnipotent that He can allow you to die and bring you back to life. He can allow you to be in the grave and yet bring you out of the grave. We know that death and life are in our tongues, but God has the final say! 1<sup>sam.</sup>2:7 Whatever God allows, He can reverse it, and that includes allowing you to be poor, and then make you rich; allowing you to be low, and still lift you up. 1<sup>sam.</sup>2:8 We are made from dust, but He can even lift the poor from dust and even a beggar in the dunghill out of the rubbish when God is in it. You can be friends with princes, and then you can be put in places of honor, for the pillars; the foundations of the earth belong to the Lord. He is the One who built the world on them. 1<sup>sam.</sup>2:9 As God can control the earth, He can also protect His people. He makes

everything firm and is able to keep the feet of His saints, while the wicked will be silent in darkness. This is where evil men perish (in darkness) showing us that human strength shall not prevail. 1<sup>sam.</sup>2:10 In the end the Lord destroys His enemies. The people who trust God will succeed. When God is against His enemies, it will sound like a noisy storm in heaven. He will judge all the earth. He will give power to His king, and He will anoint a king and make Him strong (1 Sam.2:1-10).

The Lord God of Israel makes mention of Eli's house and the house of his father. They were to walk before Him forever, but it's ridiculous to think that what they're doing can continue. God goes on to say that He will honor those who honor Him, and will despise those who despise Him. No kinsman in Eli's house will reach old age. God makes it known that Eli would see trouble in God's house. But the man that will not be cut off will serve at God's Altar and will see it and weep. God says He'll even give a sign; proof that He is going to do what He says. It will be that Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, will die on the same day (2:30-34).

God will raise up a faithful priest, that will do according to His heart and His mind and God will build him a sure house and that priest will walk before His anointed forever. After a while, everyone that's left (children, grand-children and grand-children's children) in Eli's house will come and bow down and become beggars for money and food, asking for a job among the priests, so that they will have enough to eat (2:35-36).

# **I SAMUEL 3:1-21**

**NEXT 4:1-22** 

1st Samuel 3:1 And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision. Eli's sons were wicked and reckless, for they didn't do anything God commanded and had no respect for God, but God always has a ram in the bush. And that child was Samuel, the son Hannah had prayed for because she had been barren. Then God answered, and then she gave him back to the Lord. We see in the second chapter of 1st Samuel verse 18 that Samuel ministered before the Lord as a child. Although a child, he was faithful in his continuous ministry to the Lord! Also the 26st verse "The child Samuel grew on and was in favor both with the Lord and also with men." Eli probably trained his sons as priests when they were young, but when they got older, they strayed and did the opposite. But here Samuel is still ministering unto the Lord before Eli. He did not stray from God. And in those days a message from the Lord was a rare treasure, and no frequent vision; no Prophetic Word. Why? Corrupt leaders and people. Do we think it will come a time that we cannot hear God speak? That it will get so corrupt that God will stop speaking?

1st Samuel **3:2** And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see;—So, as time passes, Eli is almost blind; blind spiritually to direct God's people, and his physical eyesight is dim that he could not see, nor perceive what's about to happen. So, he lays down to sleep. This may be the time for us to pray and not so much to sleep. I think this is what the lesson is about to show us.

1st Samuel **3:3** And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep;— This should never happen that the lamp in the temple suddenly goes out where the Ark of God rests. The Ark of God is in the Holy of Holies. This is significant: Why? Samuel also had laid down to sleep, but it's his job to see to it that the candlestick in the temple stay lit. and if God is not speaking to him, then he's in darkness and don't even know it.

Revelation 2:5 says *I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.* It's like one season of time has ended and another is developing, for God is now about to speak to the one who had been ministering unto Him in the temple. Are we ministering unto God or to self needs?

1st Samuel **3:4** That the Lord called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I. just as Samuel is about to go to sleep, the Lord Himself called Samuel by name and Samuel answers Here am I. Mind you we see that God did not call Eli.

1st Samuel **3:5** And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down. Samuel thought it was Eli who called him, so he ran to Eli to see what he could do to help Eli, and said Here am I. But Eli didn't call for him, and he went back and laid down.

1st Samuel **3:6** And the Lord called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again. Well, the same thing happened again for he had heard the voice called him by name. and Samuel ran to Eli again and said Here am I. and again Eli said I didn't call you my son, lie down again.

1st Samuel **3:7** Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, neither was the word of the Lord yet revealed unto him. God is getting Samuel ready to know His voice, for "Samuel does not know the voice of the Lord, for

God had not ever reveal Himself to him." He knew how to serve in the temple, but had no encounter with God. Our relationship has to mature.

Tst Samuel **3:8** And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the Lord had called the child. Now, this is the third time the Lord calls Samuel's name. Samuel again gets up and goes to Eli and says Here am I, for I know you called me. So, now it dons on Eli, he perceives that this is the Lord calling Samuel.

1st Samuel **3:9** Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place. So, Eli then tells Samuel to go lay down and if you hear the voice again speaking to you, I want you to say **Speak, Lord, thy servant heareth.** With our Holy Ghost filled selves, do we know how to take counsel from someone else when it comes to God? And Samuel goes back to lay down waiting for the next time the voice will speak.

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

1st Samuel **3:10-18** As before, **10**the Lord called out saying Samuel, Samuel, and Samuel responded by saying **Speak, thy servant heareth.** That means Samuel was ready because God has his ears and heart. **11**The Lord tells Samuel that He's going to do a shocking thing in Israel, that will cause the ears of every one that hear will tingle, **12**for He will fulfill the things He had warned and spoken of concerning the house of Eli. When God begins, He will also make an end to it **13**forever for the iniquity which Eli knows of because his sons made themselves vile, and he didn't restrain them. Whatever God revealed meant he was to obey. God is revealing His holiness. **14**Therefore, He has sworn unto the house of Eli, that he evil of Eli's family can never be wiped out by sacrifice or offering. **15**Samuel stayed in bed until morning, and then he opened the doors of the temple as usual, but he was afraid to tell Eli the vision the Lord had spoken of. **16**But Eli calls Samuel to him, and Samuel answers, **Here am I. 17**And Eli inquires as to what the Lord had said to him and don't hide anything. **18**Samuel told Eli everything the Lord told him and hid nothing from him.

1st Samuel **3:19** And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him. It's not all about growing in height, but growing in maturity. The Lord made sure that all of Samuel's messages from Him came true. None of his messages fell to the ground.

1st Samuel **3:20** And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a **prophet of the Lord.** All the people who lived in Israel knew that Samuel was a true prophet from the Lord. They knew this from the north of the country to the south. Everyone from Dan to Beersheba knew God had established Samuel as a prophet of the Lord. Samuel did not have to tell anyone.

1st Samuel **3:21** And the Lord appeared again in Shiloh: for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the Lord. The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh and there He revealed Himself to Samuel through His Word. God continued to show up.

#### **SUMMARY:**

1st Samuel is about a child ministering unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was a rare treasure, and there was no frequent vision from God. 2So, as time passes, Eli is almost blind, and he lays down to sleep. 3It just so happens that the lamp in the temple goes out where the Ark of God rests, and Samuel also had laid down to sleep. 4Just as Samuel is about to go to sleep, the Lord Himself called Samuel by name and Samuel http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html 1 SAMUEL 10

answers Here am I. 5Samuel thought it was Eli who called him, so he ran to Eli and said Here am I. But Eli didn't call for him, and he went back and laid down. 6Well, the same thing happened again for he had heard the voice call him by name. And Samuel ran to Eli again and said Here am I. And again Eli said I didn't call you my son, lie down again. 7God is getting Samuel ready to know His voice, for Samuel does not yet know the voice of the Lord, for God had not ever revealed Himself to him. 8Now, this is the third time the Lord calls Samuel's name. This time God speaks Samuel, Samuel, and Samuel again gets up and goes to Eli and says Here am I, for I know you called me. So, now it dons on Eli, that this is the Lord calling Samuel. 9So, Eli then tells Samuel to go lay down and if you hear the voice again speaking to you, I want you to say Speak Lord, thy servant heareth. And Samuel goes back to lay down waiting for the next time the voice will speak (1 Sam. 3:1-9).

As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and He made sure that all of Samuel's messages from Him came true. All the people who lived in Israel knew that Samuel was a true prophet from the Lord. They knew this from the north of the country to the south. The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh and there He revealed Himself to Samuel through His Word (1 Sam. 3:19-21).

#### **APPLICATION:**

God has His man in place to administer justice, but God makes all things possible for the rescue of His people when they return to Him. God's call... (by Daniel Batarseh)

- 1. Is inconvenient to the flesh.
- 2. Needs a heart that's eager to serve.
- 3. Is known to a sensitive spirit.
- 4. Given from a merciful confirmation.
- 5. Will always come with a cost.
- 6. Should always keep us humble.
- 7. Will be recognized by others.

# I SAMUEL 4:1-22

**NEXT 5:1-12** 

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Samuel was Israel's last judge. The book begins in the days of the judges and describes Israel's transition from a theocracy (led by God) to a monarchy (led by a king). <sup>3</sup>The story concerning the ark falls into three sections that correspond closely to the three chapters in the biblical text: the loss of the ark (4:1b-22), the ark with the Philistines (5:1-6:1), and the ark returns to Israel (6:2-7:2).

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

In the first section, (**Chapter4**) Israel's defeat at the hands of the Philistines is determined to be the result of their proceeding into battle without the ark, the symbol of God's presence, which housed the tablets of the covenant and was carried into battle ahead of the troops in the wilderness and during the conquest of Canaan (4:1-4). This plan, however, apparently treated the ark as an idol, because this time Israel experienced even greater casualties, Eli's sons died, and the ark was captured (4:10-11). News of the loss of the ark resulted in the death of Eli (4:12-18) as well his daughter-in-law, the wife of Phinehas. The devastating news brought early labor upon Phinehas's pregnant wife, and the premature birth of the child resulted in her death. She named the child "Ichabod," meaning "No Glory?" (if it is derived from Hebrew) or "Where is the Glory?" (if it is derived from Ugaritic), that is, "The glory has departed from Israel" (4:19-22).

# <u>I SAMUEL 5:1-12</u>

**NEXT** 6:1-21

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

The middle section, (**Chapter 5**) describes the fate of the ark among the Philistines, or better, the fate of the Philistines, since they experienced nothing but trouble after bringing their hard-won spoil to the temple in Ashdod (5:1-2). The next morning the Philistines found their god, Dagon, face down, "worshiping" before the ark. This time his head and hands had been cut off. And to this day the priests of Dagon and worshipers to the Dagon shrine in Ashdod avoid stepping on the threshold of that temple (5: 3-5). To make matters worse, the Lord began to destroy the people with plagues, mice, and tumors. Wherever the Ark was moved throughout its seven-month sojourn among the Philistines, they all realized that they couldn't keep it, for they would be killed by the plaques wherever it stayed (5:6-12).

# <u>I SAMUEL 6:1-21</u>

**NEXT 7:1-17** 

## **SYNOPSIS:**

The final section, (**Chapter 6**) describes the return of the ark to Israel. The Philistines came up with an ingenious plan to rid themselves of the dangerous ark without admitting that their troubles were the result of God's judgment. They placed the ark and a guilt offering of golden tumors on a cart drawn by two milch cows and claimed that God's responsibility would be indicated only if these cows chose to return the ark to Israel (fat chance!) rather than return to their own calves (6:1-11). That God was, in fact, responsible is unambiguously indicated by the cows' unswerving march into Israelite territory, much to the joy of the residents of Beth-shemesh (6:12-18). God struck some of the men of Bethshemesh because they looked into the Ark of the Lord. And some 50,062 men were slaughtered. Their question was who could stand before this holy God? And who could take the Ark off their hands? So, messengers of Bethshemesh were sent to Kirjathjearim saying "the Philistines have returned the Ark of the Lord, come and get it." (6:21).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> http://www.enterthebible.org/oldtestament.aspx?rid=29 http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html 1 SAMUEL

# **I SAMUEL** 7:1-17

**NEXT** 8:1-11, 18-22

1st Samuel 7:1 And the men of Kirjath-jearim came, and fetched up the Ark of the Lord, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the Ark of the Lord. The Philistines are trying to return the Ark of the Lord in chapter 6 back to Israel. The Ark was being delivered to the Israelite town of Beth-shemesh, however 70 Israelite men were killed by God after looking inside the Ark. People who sin, cannot touch anything holy. They were disobedient for even trying to touch, let alone see, for Numbers 4:20 says "But they shall not go in to see when the holy things are covered, lest they die." So, the people were afraid of God. Afterwards the people of Beth-shemesh asks the people of Kirjathjearim (a town of the Gibeonites on the boundary of Judah and Benjamin) to come take the Ark away. So, the men of Kirjathjearim came, and retrieved the Ark of the Lord, and they brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar, his son to keep the Ark of the Lord.

1st Samuel **7:2** And it came to pass, while the Ark abode in Kirjath-jearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the House of Israel lamented after the Lord. Well, it came to pass, that the Ark remained in Kirjathjearim, for as long as twenty years, and during that time all the house of Israel were sorrowful after the Lord because the Lord had seemingly abandoned them. But, it was the fact that Israel had placed and worshiped all these foreign gods and idols before the only true God. So, where is Samuel, the prophet for 20yrs.? He had been standing in the gap for Israel; praying for mercy instead of judgment before God, for he had always ministered unto God. Verse 8 says "Don't stop crying out to the LORD our God for us.

1st Samuel 7:3 And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do return unto the Lord with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the Lord, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines. Samuel is the one who is recognized as a judge of the Lord during this time. His main task in life was to bring the people back to the Lord. His work is revival and unification of the people under God's chosen ruler. This is the time for the house of Israel to make a decision, for sorrow had gripped Israel for 20yrs. When Samuel spoke to them, he tells them if they will do something, then this will happen. They have to be willing vessels for God's help. In order for God to help, they had to consider their ways and determine to trust God; they had to do what Samuel had spoken.

- 1. **They had to return to the Lord with all their heart**. God wanted His people to worship Him from the heart, but they had been influenced by the outward and visible form of Canaanite religion. People are not won to the Lord by the route of intellectualism, but rather by appealing to their hearts.
- 2. They were to put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth. He speaks as a prophet when he tells them to put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth. The people had backslidden into idolatry. The Astaroth (a Hebrew plural form) were statues of an almost universal goddess of sex and fertility. Whatever holds first place in our lives or controls us becomes our god. If we have foreign gods in our lives we need to ask God to help us dethrone them, making the true God our first priority.
- 3. They were to prepare their hearts unto the Lord. They had to determine to only obey the Lord. "To determine" means to set your mind on a course of action. This kind of commitment means that you don't back out, but you work toward the goal you have set. If you have made a decision to follow God, don't allow excuses, distractions, or second thoughts to deter you from your goal.
  - 4. They were to only serve the Lord. That is, direct your hearts to Him while in His service.

It seems that there was an opposition of "if." "If ye do return unto the Lord..." The conditions of returning to the Lord here is the act of repentance which is returning to; a change of direction back to the Lord. By preparing their hearts to serve the Lord, then the outcome would be that the Lord will deliver them out of the hand of the

Philistines. Either you're in or out; you repent, or you stay stuck. Repentance is always the way to God. "Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen." 1 John 5:21. God will then be their Deliverer!

1st Samuel **7:4** Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the Lord only. These were not two particular deities, but two genera of idols; the one masculine, Baalim; the other feminine, Ashtaroth. Baalim is the plural of Baal. Baal was the chief Canaanite god, the son of Dagan, and the god of agriculture. Basically, Ba'al was the storm god, the bringer of rain, and thus fertility, to the land.

1st Samuel **7:5** And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the Lord. Now it's time to come before the Lord's presence. We all have to back up what we commit to. Samuel intercedes for Israel and Samuel said, "Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the Lord." Mizpeh had special significance for the Israelite nation. It was at Mizpeh where the Israelites had earlier gathered to mobilize against the tribe of Benjamin (Jdgs.20:1). Samuel was appointed to judge there (7:6), and Saul, Israel's first king was crowned there (10:7). And this is the place Samuel gathers them together to pray for the Israelites. Samuel was known as an intercessor. He planned to lead the people in a time of worship and intercession as they gathered to Mizpeh for deliverance from their enemies, but if they had iniquity in their hearts, the Lord would not hear them.

1st Samuel **7:6** And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured it out before the Lord, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have sinned against the Lord. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh. First, they had to pour out water before the Lord which became a practice at the Feast of Tabernacles, commemorating the times the Lord provided water in the wilderness (Jh.7:37-39). Pouring water "before the Lord" was a sign of repentance for sin; turning from idols and determining to obey the Lord alone was what the Israelites needed to do. **Second**, the people fasted, and this was required only on the annual Day of Atonement, which preceded the Feast of Tabernacles. The key activity that day was their confession: "We have sinned against the Lord." God's covenant promise to Israel was that He would forgive their sins if they sincerely confessed them to Him (Lev.26:40-45), for no amount of sacrifices or rituals could wash away their sins. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh. They outwardly showed a sign of repentance and surrender.

1st Samuel 7:7 And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines. 4Notice what happens immediately after they are restored before God, the enemy rises up to confront them. As soon as you become a threat to the enemy, he will be right there ready to destroy you. <sup>5</sup>The Philistines have not yet learned their lesson from the heavy hand of God. They assumed that the nation of Israel has gathered at Mizpeh for war. The Philistines have been victorious in waging war with the Israelites before, and so they assume they will be successful once again. The five Philistine lords (the mobilized army) went up against the Israelites. However, Israel is now afraid of what the Philistines might do to them. They do not have the Ark to take to war with them, so all they can do is cast themselves upon God and trust in Him. But, they have to remember that they had just repented and fasted unto the Lord that day. Surely, the Lord is on their side! He is their greatest weapon! He is their battleaxe! He is their armor!

1st Samuel 7:8 And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Cease not to cry unto the Lord our God for us, that he will save us out of the hand of the Philistines. Samuel was a man of prayer and God answered him

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> http://www.ccmanitowoc.org/Library/Guglielmo-Joe/Studies/TH/09-1SA/TH1019.HTM

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> http://bible.org/seriespage/hands-dagon-and-hand-god-1-samuel-51-717

that day. He was a strong spiritual leader set there to intercede unto God for the people. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" Jam.5:16c. That's why we should never cease to cry out to the Lord. Jesus, our great Intercessor never ceases, is never silent, for He's always appearing in the presence of God for us. There is power in prayer! The salvation here is purely physical deliverance from the Philistines, but it is typical of spiritual salvation; and both the word "save" (Heb. yasha'), and the concept of salvation are very prominent in this book. The name "Joshua" in the Old Testament and the name "Jesus" in the New Testament come from this word and mean "Jehovah is salvation." When we cry out to the Lord to save us from our sins, He will also deliver us.

1st Samuel 7:9 And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a burnt offering wholly unto the Lord: and Samuel cried unto the Lord for Israel; and the Lord heard him. Samuel did what the people asked and offered a lamb for a burnt offering; and the Lord accepted the sacrifice, answered the prayer for deliverance, and again saved His people. The whole Burnt Offering was a type of Christ giving His Perfection to imperfect people, at least to those who will believe. Samuel was a Levite and accordingly (1Chron.23:27-32), he could offer a Burnt Offering. He could not enter the Tabernacle, though, not being a son of Aaron; in fact, the Tabernacle, at this time, was useless as a center of worship; for the Throne of God, that is, the Ark, had been removed from it.

1st Samuel 7:10 And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the Lord thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel. Getting right with God may cause the enemy to attack, but it also gives you great help from God for He's right on time. The Philistines didn't want to give the Israelites a chance to get their army together, and they began to draw near to battle against Israel while Samuel is in the middle of offering up his sacrifice unto the Lord. With Samuel's prayer and his sacrifice, it was not an empty shadow, for God accepted it and thundered with a great thunder! He moved noisily and confused the Philistines, therefore making it easy for the Israelites to win. They were struck down and defeated before Israel. God showed His allegiance to Israel in no uncertain terms.

1st Samuel 7:11 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Bethcar. This had given the men of Israel courage, for it says, "...the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh"; went out and pursued the Philistines. They were no longer afraid. They rise-up and push them all the way to "Bethcar", which means "house of the lamb." They literally had the advantage, rushing out and chasing after, and pursuing the Philistines, and eventually striking them down, killing them until they came to "house of the lamb." 'There are going to be times that God will bring about the victory all by Himself. But there are also going to be times that we have a part in the victory, in "chasing those Philistines" out of our lives. Samuel had sacrificed a lamb. Now they pursued the Philistines as far as the "house of the lamb." You see, their victory was assured with the sacrifice of the lamb, but it was not completed until they entered the house of the lamb. Our victory over the enemy began with the sacrifice of the Lamb, Jesus Christ, but the battles will continue until we go to be with Him, and enter the house of the Lamb. God gave Israel the victory, and they stood strong.

 $1_{\rm st}$  Samuel 7:12 Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us. 8 In order to commemorate God's help in defeating the Philistines, Samuel set up a stone between Mizpeh and Shen and called it Ebenezer, which means "stone of help." This stone would become a visible reminder that God is the "Helper" of Israel.

<sup>6</sup> http://www.calvaryfullerton.org/Bstudy/09%201Sa/2002/091Sa07-09.htm

http://www.ccmanitowoc.org/Library/Guglielmo-Joe/Studies/TH/09-1SA/TH1019.HTM

<sup>8</sup> http://tomhogsed.com/

1st Samuel 7:13 So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the coast of Israel: and the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. The Philistines' reign was over, and they were not to come near or invade the coast of Israel again. God continued to bless the nation of Israel. The hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.

1st Samuel 7:14 And the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even unto Gath; and the coasts thereof did Israel deliver out of the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites. Even the cities in which the Philistines had taken were restored to Israel and peace was gained with the Amorites; they became allies.

1st Samuel **7:15** And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. Samuel was considered to be God's appointed leader. Mizpeh marked the beginning of Samuel's public ministry to the whole nation of Israel. He judged Israel all the days of his life. (Samuel is supposed to have lived one hundred years; he did not begin to judge Israel till he was about forty years of age; and if he was one hundred years of age when he died, he must have been a judge sixty years, and consequently filled that office during the whole of Saul's reign).

1st Samuel **7:16** And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places. This was about a 50 mile circuit that Samuel traveled as he instructed the people in the things of God and judged them. When he was at Beth-el, the tribe of Ephraim, and all the northern parts of the country, could attend him; when at Gilgal, the tribe of Benjamin, and those beyond Jordan might have easy access to him; and when at Mizpeh, he was within reach of Judah, Simeon, and Gad.

1st Samuel **7:17** And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar unto the Lord. But Ramah was the place of his ordinary abode; and there he held his court, for there he judged Israel. The altar at Ramah, although it was in violation of the technical points of the law (Deut.12:5, 13), was permitted because of the need for revival and unification of the nation. It was better than having no sacrifices at all.

#### **SUMMARY:**

The people of Beth-shemesh asks the people of Kirjathjearim to come take the Ark away. So, the men of Kirjathjearim came, and retrieved the Ark of the Lord, and they brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar, his son to keep the Ark of the Lord. Well, it came to pass, that the Ark remained in Kirjathjearim, for as long as twenty years, and during that time all the house of Israel were sorrowful after the Lord because the Lord had seemingly abandoned them. But, it was the fact that Israel had placed and worshiped all these foreign gods and idols before the only true God (7:1-2). The story is about the repentance of Israel and God hears their cry. Samuel is set as a judge, prophet and priest with authority. We begin with Israel gathering to ask God's forgiveness. If they return unto the Lord with all their hearts; put away the strange gods, and prepare their hearts for Him, He will deliver them out of the hand of the Philistines (7:3-

**4**). Obviously, this was long in coming, and Samuel initiated the place of meeting (**7:5**). When Israel gathered, Samuel offered up a young whole lamb on behalf of Israel as they drew and poured water out before the Lord and fasted. When the Philistines heard about the gathering, they had assumed that Israel was gathering

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> http://bible.cc/1\_samuel/7-16.htm http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html 1 SAMUEL

to revolt against Philistine oppression (**7:6-7**). What they didn't know was that Israel was afraid. Samuel did not cease to cry out to the Lord. The Philistines swiftly moved against Israel during this time of repentance and God showed His allegiance to Israel in no uncertain terms. The Philistines drew near, but the Lord thundered with a great thunder upon the Philistines, confusing them and therefore the Israelites chased and killed the Philistines back to Beth-car territory (**7:8-11**). Samuel set up a stone between Mizpeh and Shen and called it Ebenezer, which means "stone of help." The Philistines' reign was over, and they were not to come near or invade the coast of Israel again. God continued to bless the nation of Israel, even the cities in which the Philistines had taken were restored to Israel and peace was gained with the Amorites; they became allies. Samuel was considered to be God's appointed leader. This chapter concludes with a note on Samuel's circuit, indicating that his authority was well-established, and that it continued throughout his life. He abode in Ramah and there he built an altar unto the Lord (**1 Sam.7:1-17**).

#### **APPLICATION:**

God has His man in place to administer justice but God makes all things possible for the rescue of His people when they return to Him.

# SAMUEL 8:1-11, 18-22

**NEXT** 9:1-2, 18-27

- 1st Samuel 8:1 And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel. Samuel judged Israel well, but now he has gotten old and he wanted to pass the torch, so, he appointed his sons to be judges over Israel.
- 1st Samuel 8:2 Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba. Samuel had two sons to judge Israel in his place. Joel was the firstborn and Abiah was his second son. "10 Joel" means Jehovah is God. "Abiah" means the LORD is my father.
- 1<sub>st</sub> Samuel **8:3** And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment. However, placing his sons in such powerful positions did not work, for they refused to walk in the manner of God. They walked in their own ways and not in Samuel or God's ways. They were greedy after money, took bribes, and corrupted the administration of justice.
- 1<sub>st</sub> Samuel **8:4** Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, Things had become so corrupted that it was time for others to step in. It says all the elders of Israel got together and came straight to Samuel in Ramah.
- 1st Samuel 8:5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. The elders began to tell Samuel that his age has gotten in the way; too old. And his sons are walking all over him, for his sons were not walking in his ways. So, the answer they suggest for their situation is for Samuel to make them a king to judge like all the other nations. Samuel's sons were not good judge material. Now the elders want their own king in power; never mind consulting God or what He wants to be in their lives as a nation.
- 1<sub>st</sub> Samuel **8:6** But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. Aha, now Samuel is displeased! So, they don't want Samuel's choice anymore, they want their own choice—a king. Samuel now goes to God to pray.
- 1st Samuel 8:7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. And what do you know, God is mad, not at Samuel but at the people. God tells Samuel to listen to the voice of the people (they have spoken) for they know what they want, and it wasn't God. So Samuel is not to get angry or mad because God tells him that it wasn't him (Samuel) that the people had rejected, but it was God Himself that they have rejected. They didn't want God to reign as King any longer over them. They rather have a man like other nations, one they can see like them; one in the flesh and not of the Spirit! And one that's an earthly and not a heavenly King!
- 1st Samuel 8:8 According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee. And God says as they have done from the day He brought them out of Egypt, they are still doing it today, that is: they have forsaken Him, and served other gods. And so they are behaving in a similar fashion with Samuel. They're forgetting all he's done for them when he goes to God on their behalf, and it's so funny and very disturbing how they so quickly forgot what God had done for them.
- 1<sub>st</sub> Samuel **8:9** Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them. God tells Samuel to listen as they voice what they want, but solemnly (seriously) warn them of your disapproval; show them the procedure and ways of the king who will rule over them; what rights their king will have over them, for they have never had a king before. Warn them of the consequences, so they would have full knowledge of their actions when they don't take your advice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>http://www.lovethelord.com/books/1samuel/08.html http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html 1 SAMUEL

1st Samuel 8:10 And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king. Samuel was very specific in telling them all the words of the Lord.

- 1st Samuel 8:11 And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. Samuel began to instruct them in specific details of the manner of the king. The king will conscript; literally take their sons and appoint them for himself, for his chariots and to be his horsemen, and make their sons run before his chariots. Samuel carefully explained all the negative consequences of having a king (Read 12-17).
- 1st Samuel 8:18 And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day. Samuel makes it very plain to the people, telling them that they will have bitter tears because of this king they are demanding, but the Lord will not help them in that day. God knows they would get into trouble and want to call upon the Lord to save them, but Samuel tells them He won't help them! This means that this is not what God had chosen for them, but, this is what they had chosen!
- 1<sub>st</sub> Samuel **8:19** Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us;—Any way, the people refused to obey the warning of Samuel's voice; they refused to adhere; they said "No." When the heart is set on doing a thing, it will override all caution (throw caution to the wind) and the Spirit's leading. The matter is settled! They want a king over them.
- 1st Samuel 8:20 That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles. Why? Why do they want what they want? Because they want to be like all the other nations, and that their king would judge them and fight for them in battle. They want earthly strength instead of spiritual strength.
- 1<sub>st</sub> Samuel **8:21-22** Samuel told the Lord what the people said, and the Lord tells Samuel to do as they said and give them a king. Samuel agreed and sent the men home (to their city).

#### **SUMMARY:**

Samuel judged Israel well, but now he has gotten old and he wanted to pass the torch to his sons to be judges over Israel: Joel was the firstborn and Abiah was his second son. However, they refused to walk in the manner of God. They walked in their own ways of being greedy after money, taking bribes, and corrupting justice. All the elders of Israel went to Samuel in Ramah, telling him that he's gotten too old, and they wanted a king to rule over them. Samuel goes to God in prayer (1 Sam.8:1-6).

God tells Samuel to listen to them don't get angry because it wasn't him (Samuel) that the people rejected, it was God Himself that they have rejected. They have done this from the day He brought them out of Egypt, and they are still forsaking Him today, by serving other gods. God tells Samuel to listen to them, but seriously warn them of his disapproval; show them the ways and rights of the king who will rule over them. Warn them of the consequences, so they would have full knowledge of their actions in not taking your advice. Samuel was very specific in telling them all the words of the Lord. The king will literally take their sons and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen, and make them run before his chariots. Samuel carefully explained all the negative consequences of having a king (1 Sam.8:7-11).

And in the day they have bitter tears because of this king they are demanding, the Lord will not help them. The people refused to obey the warning of Samuel's voice. They said no, they want a king over them. Why? Because they want to be like all the other nations, and that their king would judge them, and fight for them in battle. They want earthly strength instead of spiritual strength (1 Sam. 8:18-20).

# I SAMUEL 9:1-2, 18-27

**NEXT** 10:1-16

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

1st Samuel **9:1** Now here was a man of Benjamin, whose name was Kish, the soon of Abiel, the son of **Zeror**, the son of Bechorath, the son of Aphlah, a Benjamite, a mighty man of power. Kish was a rich influential; a mighty man of power from the tribe of Benjamin. He was the son of Abiel, grandson of Zeror, great-grandson of Bekorath, and the great-great-grandson of Aphlah.

1st Samuel 9:2 And he had a son whose name was Saul, choice young man, and a goodly: and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he: from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people. Kish had a son named Saul, as handsome a young man as could be found anywhere in Israel. He was a choice and goodly man; a man of great stature and comely appearance and a head taller than anyone else (10:23; about 6ft.). No one could be compared to him. He is to be the first king of Israel. He reigned 42yrs.

1st Samuel **9:18-24** Saul approaches Samuel and asks him if he knew the location of the seer's house. Samuel answered "I am the seer. Go up before me and we'll eat together and in the morning I'll tell you what you want and send you on your way." And Samuel told him not to worry about the donkeys that were lost three days ago, for they were found. Samuel comments: "And anyway you own all the wealth in Israel now—meaning you and all your family is the focus of all Israel's hopes." Saul thinks he and his family are least in the families of tribes because Benjamin is the smallest of tribes and why is Samuel talking like this. When Saul and the servant got to the parlour (the hall) to eat, Samuel seated them at the head of the table; the chiefest place, honoring them above the 30 special guests. This was really a well-organized surprise celebration for the anointing of Saul that Saul didn't even know about. The cook had already been instructed to hold out; set aside the best meat (the shoulder...), for Samuel had been expecting Saul before he was invited. And it was brought and placed before Saul, and he ate with Samuel that day.

1<sub>st</sub> Samuel **9:25** And when they were come down from the high place into the city, Samuel communed with Saul upon the top of the house. After a surprise feast, Saul and Samuel and the servant came down from the high place and returned to the city. And Samuel took Saul up to the porch on the roof of the house and talked with him there alone.

1st Samuel **9:26** And they arose early: and it came to pass about the spring of the day, that Samuel called Saul to the top of the house, saying, Up, that I may send thee away. And Saul arose, and they went out both of them, he and Samuel, abroad. The next day they arose early from sleep in the dawn; break of day and Samuel called Saul to the top of the house saying "Get up it is time for you to be on your way." And they went out into the street.

1st Samuel **9:27** And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Bid the servant pass on before us, (and he passed on,) but stand thou still a while, that I may shew thee the word of God. Samuel and Saul approaches the edge of the city (city walls) and Samuel tells Saul to send his servant on ahead of them, and Saul was to stay awhile so Samuel could give a special message; a Word from God to him.



The people of Israel wanted a king like the other nations. The selection came out of the tribe of Benjamin, of the family of Kish. Kish was a mighty man of power in Israel, and there was a son of Kish named Saul. The chapter described Saul as a choice young man, goodly, handsome (1 Sam.9:1-2).

After a surprise feast, Saul and Samuel and the servant came down from the high place and returned to the city. And Samuel took Saul up to the porch on the roof of the house and talked with him there alone. The next day it was time to leave. Samuel and Saul talked as the servant went ahead. Samuel needed to give a special message; a Word from God to Saul. (1 Sam. 9:25-27)

# I SAMUEL 10:1-26

**NEXT 12:1-24** 

1st Samuel 10:1 Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?— Samuel takes a vial of oil and begins to pour it upon Saul's head, and kissed him saying: "Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?"

When an Israelite king took office he was not only crowned, he was anointed. The coronation was the political act of establishing the king as ruler; the anointing was the religious act of making the king God's representative to the people. A king was always anointed by a priest or prophet. The special anointing oil was a mixture of olive oil, myrrh, and other expensive spices. It was poured over the king's head to symbolize the presence and power of the Holy Spirit of God in his life. The anointing ceremony was to remind the king of his great responsibility to lead his people by God's wisdom and not his own.

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

Samuel gives three signs or prophecies to authenticate the anointing:

1st Samuel 10:2 When you leave me today, you will see two men beside Rachel's tomb at Zelzah, on the border of Benjamin. They will tell you that the donkeys have been found and that your father has stopped worrying about them and is now worried about you. He is asking, 'Have you seen my son?'

1st Samuel 10:3"When you get to the oak of Tabor, you will see three men coming toward you who are on their way to worship God at Bethel. One will be bringing three young goats, another will have three loaves of bread, and the third will be carrying a wineskin full of wine. 10:4 They will greet you and offer you two of the loaves, which you are to accept.

1st Samuel **10:5** "When you arrive at Gibeah of God, where the garrison of the Philistines is located, you will meet <u>a band of prophets</u> coming down from the place of worship. They will be playing a harp, a tambourine, a flute, and a lyre, and they <u>will be prophesying</u>.

1st Samuel 10:6 And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man. Samuel explains that the Spirit of the Lord will come mightily upon him and he will prophesy with these prophets, turning him into another man, meaning his spirt will be empowered and transformed; he will feel and act like a different person—becoming God's anointed king—a person the Lord can use, for God's Spirit will do the leading and guiding.

1st Samuel 10:7 And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee. Samuel lets Saul know that whenever he experiences these signs; when they come upon him, do whatever his hands finds him to do; whatever job, do it, for God will be and is with him.

1st Samuel 10:8 And thou shalt go down before me to Gilgal; and, behold, I will come down unto thee, to offer burnt offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days shalt thou tarry, till I come to thee, and shew thee what thou shalt do. Samuel says go on down to Gilgal ahead him. He's coming afterwards to offer burnt offerings, and sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings. However, Saul is to wait seven days for Samuel, and he will give further information when he arrives.

1s Samuel 10:9 And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day. As soon as Samuel ended the conversation and Saul turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave Saul a new heart; a changed heart. This means that his former lack of courage and dedication was gone, and in its place was the desire to do great things for God. It was this inner drive which enabled Saul to be used by God for the deliverance of His people from the Philistines. And all of what Samuel had told Saul—those signs were fulfilled that day.

1st Samuel 10:10 And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them. Saul and the servant arrived at the hill and saw a band of prophets coming right in front of him. "And the Spirit of God came upon Saul, and Saul prophesized right along with them." This one act of prophesy on the part of Saul served two purposes: 1.) It gave Saul confidence in himself, for he was able to see what Samuel had said was true. 2.) And it became proverbial (familiar saying) among the people, so that they could trust Saul as their king and know that God had in fact chosen him.

1st Samuel 10:11 And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, What is this that is come unto the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?—Those who had previously known Saul were really surprised at what they were seeing, him prophesying with the prophets. They began to ask: "Is this the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?" A "prophet" is someone sent by God to predict; utter divine revelations. Although many prophets predicted events, they also inspire people to live in faithfulness to God. When Saul's friends heard inspired words coming from Saul, they exclaimed, "What? Saul a prophet?" This was an expression of surprise at worldly Saul becoming religious

1st Samuel 10:12 And one of the same place answered and said, But who is their father? Therefore it became a proverb, is Saul also among the prophets?—The people talking among themselves (v.11) as they heard and had seen Saul prophesying were compelled to ask what is Kish's son Saul doing prophesying with the prophets (v.11)? So, one of them answers and say: "But who is their father?", meaning who instructs and inspires them; who can find out the identity of the leader or father of the prophetic band that now includes Saul. So they would say: "Is Saul also among the prophets?" So, it became a proverb, "1 used when any strange or unexpected thing happened.

1st Samuel **10:13** And when he had made an end of prophesying, he came to the high place. When Saul had finished prophesying, he climbed to the hill of the high place (altar).

1st Samuel 10:14 And Saul's uncle said unto him and to his servant, Whither went ye? And he said, To seek the asses: and when we saw that they were no where, we came to Samuel. Saul's uncle began to question where he and his servant had been. Saul begins to explain that they were looking for the lost donkeys, and weren't able to find them, so they went to Samuel to ask him.

1<sub>st</sub> Samuel **10:15** And Saul's uncle said, Tell me, I pray thee, what Samuel said unto you. Saul tells of his encounter with Samuel.

1st Samuel 10:16 And Saul said unto his uncle, He told us plainly that the asses were found. But of the matter of the kingdom, whereof Samuel spake, he told him not. Saul tells his uncle that Samuel said: he was

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 11 https://biblehub.com/commentaries/1\_samuel/10-12.htm http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html 1 SAMUEL

not to worry because the donkeys were found, but Saul didn't give out any information to his uncle concerning the matter of the kingdom or him becoming king.

1st Samuel 10:17 And Samuel called the people together unto the Lord to Mizpeh;— At Mizpeh is where the Prophet Samuel call the people together for the public declaration and announcement of Saul as king of Israel, for his anointing had been private (9:27-10:1).

1st Samuel 10:18 And said unto the children of Israel, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms, and of them that oppressed you:— Samuel gives acknowledgement of who God is and what He has done for the children of Israel. just because of what they asked for, they are not to forget who God is and the He was the One who has brought Israel out of Egypt and delivered them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms who oppressed them. He has been their Protector and Deliverer before they needed a king.

1st Samuel 10:19 And ye have this day rejected your God, who himself saved you out of all your adversities and your tribulations; and ye have said unto him, Nay, but set a king over us. Now therefore present your-selves before the Lord by your tribes, and by your thousands. Samuel lets them know that this day the children of Israel has rejected their King; their One True God; the One who've saved them out of all their adversities and tribulations. Now they've said unto the One True God that they don't need Him anymore, they need another king to be set over them. Samuel tells all of them to present themselves before the Lord by their tribes and by their thousands (clans).

1st Samuel 10:20 And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin was taken. All the tribes of Israel came near before Samuel, and the tribe of Benjamin was selected; chosen by lot. <sup>12</sup>This process was deliberately chosen to show all Israel that the tribe of Benjamin was chosen by God. God was in charge of the selection of Israel's first human king.

1<sub>st</sub> Samuel **10:21** When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was taken, and Saul the son of Kish was taken: and when they sought him, he could not be found. Then each family of the tribe of Benjamin was brought near, and the family of Matri was chosen. And finally the sacred lot chose Saul, the son of Kish, but when they looked for him, he had disappeared. When it came time for being used by God, Saul was nowhere to be found!

1st Samuel 10:22 Therefore they enquired of the Lord further, if the man should yet come thither. And the Lord answered, Behold he hath hid himself among the stuff. Oh now they'll inquiring of the Lord: "Has he been found?" Of course the Lord knows just where Saul is. But the lord says he has hid himself among the stuff. Even after God had equipped him, he was hiding. You can't hide from God! You remember the words used to describe Saul in 9:2—choice young man, and a goodly; a goodlier person; higher than any of the people. No he can't be hiding. But he was!

What are we hiding from? Maybe the baggage of failing to trust God; the baggage of the fear of man; the baggage of self-negativism; the baggage of religiosity; the baggage of unforgiveness; the baggage of unconfessed sin; the baggage of complacency; the baggage of self-absorption. Maybe its just hiding in busyness!

God knew how to bring Saul in from taking care of donkeys to moving into his destiny, no matter where he hid.

https://www.preceptaustin.org/1-samuel-10-commentaryhttp://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html 1 SAMUEL

1st Samuel 10:23 And they ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the people, he was higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward. Yes, they found Saul among the stuff; in the baggage or suitcase hiding, but that didn't seem to matter, because when he stood up among the people, he was higher; taller than any of the people from their shoulders and upward. Saul had height in his favor, thus he was warmly received...because he looked like a king! It was his height that was impressive!

But really, it identified him with "the other nations". The Canaanites were known for being tall (Nu.13:32,33); The Anakites (Dt.2:10); a Philistines (1Sa17:4); an Egyptian (1Ch.11:23); the Sabeans (Is 45:14); an Amorite (Amos 2:9); were all known for being tall but no other Israelite in the Bible besides Saul is referred to as "tall"!

It's not where you start; it's where God can take you! He took Joseph from the pit to the prison, to the palace. Saul began his kingship before the people, not on a throne, but in a suitcase! The people paid no attention that he had just climbed out of a suitcase, for they were so overjoyed to have a human king. Saul had everything in his favor: (1) a strong body, 10:23; (2) a humble mind, 9:21; (3) a new heart, 10:9; (4) spiritual power, 10:10; (5) loyal friends, 10:26; and most of all, (6) the guidance and prayers of Samuel.

1<sub>st</sub> Samuel **10:24** And Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the Lord hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king. The people might think they had chosen their king, but Samuel lets them know that it was the Lord who has chosen their king. Samuel had already anointed Saul privately and tells him of the many signs that will demonstrate that he had indeed been chosen as Israel's king. These signs were fulfilled after Saul leaves Samuel. **The proofs:** 

- 1. The message of two men (10:2). Two men will tell Saul that the donkeys have been found, and that his father is worried about him. (Saul had been looking for his father's donkey for 3days.)
- 2. The meal of three men (10:3-4). Three men will offer Saul two loaves of bread.
- 3. The music of some prophets (10:5). Saul will meet some prophets coming down from a hill playing music.
- 4. The ministry of the Spirit (10:6). The Spirit of the Lord will come upon Saul, and cause him to prophesy with the prophets.

Samuel emphasizes that Saul is the LORD's choice. He also gives him an honorable introduction stating no one else was like him. Yes, the reason is because it is of the Lord's doing! And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king—that he may live long and prosperous. "If God be for you, who can be against you" (Rom.8:31)!

1st Samuel 10:25 Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote it in a book, and laid it up before the Lord. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house. Samuel writes the king's responsibilities in a book and deposits it in the Tabernacle before the Lord. 1Sam.8:11-18 presents Samuel's warnings regarding a king, but were not strictly speaking ordinances. And all the people were sent back to their own house by Samuel.

1st Samuel 10:26 And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched. Saul did not immediately take up his throne (there was no palace, no capital city) but nevertheless the LORD provided valiant men to go with him, but moving in their hearts, presumably further evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament. Clearly God was not a passive bystander, but was actively supporting Israel's choice of a human king. This speaks volumes about the mercy and forbearance of God who had been rejected.

## **SUMMARY:**

Samuel takes a vial of oil and begins to pour it upon Saul's head, and kissed him saying: "Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?" (1 Sam. 10:1)

Samuel lets Saul know that whenever he experiences these signs; when they come upon him, do whatever his hands finds him to do; whatever job, do it, for God will be and is with him. He tells him to go to Gilgal and wait seven days for him, for he's coming to offer burnt offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings and will give further information when he arrives (1 Sam. 10:6-8).

As soon as Samuel ended the conversation and Saul turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave Saul a new heart; a changed heart. And all of what Samuel had told Saul—those signs were fulfilled that day. Saul and the servant arrived at the hill, and saw a band of prophets coming right in front of him. "And the Spirit of God came upon Saul, and he prophesized right along with them." Those who had previously known Saul saw him prophesying with the prophets and were really surprised at what they were seeing. They began to ask: "Is this the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?" And one of them answers: "But who is their father?", meaning who instructs and inspires this band of prophets. It became a proverb "Is Saul also among the prophets?" When Saul had finished prophesying, he climbed to the hill of the high place (altar) (1 Sam. 10:9-13).

Now, Saul's uncle sees him and began to question where he and his servant had been. Saul begins to explain that they were looking for the lost donkeys, and weren't able to find them, so they went to Samuel to ask him. Saul tells of his encounter with Samuel. Samuel said not to worry because the donkeys were found, but Saul didn't give out any information to his uncle concerning the matter of the kingdom or him becoming king (1 Sam. 10:14-16).

After the Israelites insisted upon having a king to rule them, the Lord revealed to Samuel that Saul was to be king. 17Samuel call the people together for the public declaration and announcement of Saul as king of Israel. 18However, he gives acknowledgement of who God is and what He has done for the children of Israel. 19Samuel lets them know that this day the children of Israel has rejected their King; their One True God; the One who've saved them out of all their adversities and tribulations. 20And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin was chosen. 21Saul the son of Kish was chosen, and when they sought him, he could not be found. 22They enquired of the Lord, and the Lord says he has hid himself among the stuff. 23They ran and fetched him thence: and when he stood among the people. 24Samuel said to all the people, See ye him whom the Lord hath chosen, that there is none like him among all the people? And all the people shouted, and said, God save the king. 25Samuel writes the king's responsibilities in a book and deposits it in the Tabernacle before the Lord. 26And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched (1 Sam. 10:17-26).

# I SAMUEL 12:1-24

**NEXT 13:1-22** 

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

Samuel 12:1-24 Samuel has anointed and officially presented Saul as their king (10:1, 24). He has transferred leadership from himself to Saul. Samuel's role was priest (trained by Eli), judge (the last judge of Israel), and prophet of God. So, Samuel wanted it to be made known publicly in front of many witnesses. And he tells them that he has done what they asked, and has given them a king, and asks if he has ever defrauded, oppressed, or taken a bribe, and they said no. Then Samuel reminds them of God's goodness and blessings appointed Moses and Aaron, and brought them out of the land of Egypt. Then Samuel reminds them of the blessing of their ancestors when they cried out to the Lord, and as soon as He sent help, they soon forgot. He lets them know that "the Lord your God was already your king, and now here's the king you've chosen—look him over—you've asked for him, and the Lord answered your request." He places some ifs in the front of them: If you follow...it will be well. If you rebel...His hand will be heavy upon them as it was upon their ancestors. Samuel says he's going to pray for God to send rain and thunder which is not supposed to come at wheat harvest, just so they can see the great miracles of the Lord, and realize the extent of their wickedness in asking for a king. Samuel called upon the Lord in prayer and God did just what Samuel asked. The people began to ask Samuel to pray to God for them that God don't kill them, for they were very much afraid, and they now realized they had added to their sins for asking for a king. Samuel still reassures them and tells them "don't be afraid even though you have done wrong. But this is the time to worship God enthusiastically!" Samuel really gives them a really touching and inspiring speech of how special they are; how he will continue to pray and help them. But he also ends with a warning that if they continue to sin, they and their king will be destroyed!

# I SANUEL 13:1-22

**NEXT 14:1-13** 

1st Samuel 13:1 Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel,—There is a lot of controversy about Saul's age and how long his reign. This scripture is saying Saul had reigned for two years over Israel but by this time (13:1) he had reigned only one year.

1st Samuel 13:2 Saul chose him three thousand men of Israel; whereof two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in mount Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin: and the rest of the people he sent every man to his tent. King Saul didn't waste any time assembling his army. He chose 3,000 men in Israel. However, he split them up and had 2,000 men spread within Michmash (located about 7mi. e of Jerusalem) and Mount Bethel with him. And the other 1,000 were with Jonathan, Saul's son in Gibeah of Benjamin (located 3 mi. N of Jerusalem). So, the other people were sent to their own tent.

1st Samuel 13:3 And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, Let the Hebrews hear. "The garrison" is the military base, stronghold or outpost. So, Jonathan struck and overcame the outpost of the Philistines in Geba located about 5 mi. NNE of Jerusalem and 1½ mi. SW of Michmash. The Philistines heard the news that one of their outpost was overcame by the Israelites. While Jonathan attacked the post, Saul blew the trumpet throughout the land saying "Let the Hebrews hear."

1st Samuel 13:4 And all Israel heard say that Saul had smitten a garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel also was had in abomination with the Philistines. And the people were called together after Saul to Gilgal. All of Israel began to chant: "Saul had attacked the Philistine outpost and Israel has become obnoxious (an abomination) to the Philistines." Of course King Saul had gotten all the credit for the battle that destroyed the Philistines. The people (Israelites) were summoned to join the regular army in Gilgal, and they waited with great anxiety for Samuel, and growing more and more fearful of the vastly superior army of the Philistines, for the Israelites knew the Philistines were coming.

1st Samuel 13:5 And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the sea shore in multitude: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Bethaven. The Philistines had gathered together 30,000 chariots (KJV) (some books have 3,000 chariots probably to correspond to the horsemen—two horsemen per chariot) and 6,000 horsemen; and other soldiers too numerous and thick as sand along the seashore, coming up together and pitching their tents in Michmast east of Bethaven getting ready to fight Israel.

1st Samuel 13:6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait, (for the people were distressed,) then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits. Well, the time has come and now the men of Israel sees the danger of them being hedged in by the Philistines, and their troops began to be troubled and they panicked. The Israelites began to hide themselves in caves, in thickets, in rocks, in high places, and in pits. They forgot that God was on their side. They forgot God gave them that first battle instead of Saul.

1st Samuel 13:7 And some of the Hebrews went over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling. Well, they were still running and some ran as far as the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead, but Saul was still in Gilgal with all the trembling people following him.

1st Samuel 13:8 And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. This was the time that Samuel had told Saul to tarry for 7 days in Gilgal (10:8). The people were so scattered and scare, but Saul was there waiting on Samuel, who was to come and offer burnt offerings, and sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings. However, he had not showed up yet.

1st Samuel 13:9 And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering. Oh Oh, Saul had become impatient because he says bring him the burnt offerings and peace offerings. He was not supposed to move on his own, but he did. He offered the burnt offering. So, rather than wait for Samuel who had done it before (7:9-10), Saul offered the sacrifice unto God by himself. If God would have told him to offer sacrifices, then he would be operating under the direct order of God to fulfill this, however according to 10:8 "and (I'II) shew thee what thou shalt do", he was operating under the Prophet of God, Samuel who gave him the charge from the Lord in 12:14-15, and who would be there to oversee him. Under pressure from the approaching Philistines, he took matters into his own hands and disobeyed God. Offering a sacrifice to God before a crucial battle was a good thing, but he did it at the wrong time and in the wrong way. Our true spiritual character is revealed under pressure as was Saul's. The methods we use to accomplish our goals are as important as is the attainment of those goals. Neither Saul nor we can work independently of God's laws, priests, or prophets.

1st Samuel 13:10 And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. And as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel arrives; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. Can you imagine that Saul is happy, going out to greet and meet Saul, cause he thinks he's done a good thing?

1st Samuel 13:11 And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;—Samuel arrives and asked "what have you done?" This expression shows that Samuel is disappointed. Saul saw a problem; he handled it the best he knew. 1.) His people were scattered, 2.) Samuel had not arrived within the days appointed, 3) and the Philistines were mobilized in Michmash (located about 7mi. e of Jerusalem) to come against them. God could see through all these excuses.

1st Samuel 13:12 Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the LORD: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering. So, this is what Saul thought as he's relaying the message that was going on in his head to Samuel. So, he had to react first to the Philistines before they came down from Gilgal on him. He hadn't made supplication (request in prayer) unto the Lord. Then he says he had to force himself to offer the burn offering.

1st Samuel 13:13 And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever. Samuel didn't have any compassion upon Saul. He tells Saul that he had acted foolishly. He had not kept the commandment of the Lord his God which he was commanded to do. This was Saul's sin, disobedience. His sin was a sin against God, for Samuel was the prophet of God and spoke the Word of God to him! When you're faced with a difficult decision, make sure that impatience does not drive you to do what is not in agreement with God's Word. When you know what God wants, don't go against that plan regardless of the circumstances. God often uses delays to test our obedience and patience. Saul had plenty of excuses, but Samuel zeroed in on the real issue: "You have disobeyed the commandment of the Lord your God." If Saul would have done what Samuel had said; and not rebelled against the Lord's commandment, the Lord would have

established the reign of Saul's kingdom upon Israel forever.

13:14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee. God knows our hearts and motives of things. He forgives, restores, and blesses only when we are honest about our sins. By lying to hide his sins behind excuses, Saul lost his kingship. God had already sought a man that operates after His own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be ruler over His people, because Saul had not kept that which the LORD commanded of him.

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

1st Samuel 13:15-22 Then Samuel arose and went up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul assembled his 600 [fighting] men. And the raiding party came from the Philistine camp in three companies: one company turned toward Ophrah, to the land of Shual, another company turned toward Beth-horon, and another toward the border overlooking the Valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness. There were no blacksmiths in the land of Israel. So, the Philistines had said, 'If the Israelites have blacksmiths, they will be able to make swords or spears.' The Israelites used ploughs, hoes, axes, and sickles on their farmland. These tools got blunt. So they had to take them to the Philistines' blacksmiths who made them sharp again. The Israelites had to pay 8 grams of silver to have each plough and hoe made sharp again. They paid 4 grams of silver for each axe, sickle and ox-goad. When the battle began, only Saul and Jonathan had a sword and spear. The other soldiers did not have any swords or spears.

#### **SUMMARY:**

The Philistines had gathered chariots and horsemen, and soldiers too numerous and thick as sand along the seashore; others camping in Michmast east of Bethaven getting ready to fight Israel. The men of Israel saw that they were about to be hedged in, and became distressed going to hide themselves in caves, in thickets, in rocks, in high places, and in pits. Some of the people ran as far as the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead, but Saul was still in Gilgal with all the trembling people following him (1 Sam. 13:5-7).

Samuel had told Saul to tarry for 7 days in Gilgal. He was coming to offer burnt offerings, and sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings, however, he had not arrived yet. Saul had become impatient because he tells the servant to bring him the burnt offerings and peace offerings. Then he offered the burnt offering. And as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel arrives; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. Samuel asked "what have you done?" Saul began to give Samuel every excuse he could think of: His people were scattered, 2.) Samuel had not arrived within the days appointed, 3) and the Philistines were mobilized in Michmash to come against them. Therefore, Samuel says he had to react to the Philistines before they came down from Gilgal. He hadn't made supplication (request in prayer) unto the Lord. Then he says he had to force himself to offer the burn offering (1 Sam.13:8-12).

Samuel tells Saul that he had acted foolishly. He had not kept the commandment of the Lord his God which he was commanded to do. This was Saul's sin, disobedience. If Saul would have done what Samuel had said; and not rebelled against the Lord's commandment, the Lord would have established the reign of Saul's kingdom upon Israel forever. By lying to hide his sins behind excuses, Saul lost his kingship. God had already sought a man that operates after His own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be ruler over His people, because Saul had not kept that which the LORD commanded of him (13:13-14).

# I SAMUEL 14:1-13

**NEXT 15:26-31** 

1st Samuel 14:1 Now it came to pass upon a day, that Jonathan the son of Saul said unto the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over to the Philistines' garrison, that is on the other side. But he told not his father. Jonathan, the son of Saul the king planned a secret reconnaissance (scouting expedition; investigation) to the other side into the garrison camp of the Philistines. So, he told his armor bearer to come and go with him to seek out the Philistine's garrison (outpost). He had not checked this out nor talked about this with his father the king. Either he was trying to prove something or he didn't get all the credit due him for attacking and destroying the garrison of the Philistine army camped at Geba in chapter 13:3, 4. His father took the credit.

1st Samuel 14:2 And Saul tarried in the uttermost part of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree which is in Migron: and the people that were with him were about six hundred men;— Saul didn't receive a message or anything of what Jonathan was about to do. Saul had stayed in the uttermost part of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree in Migron (a town of Benjamin north of Michmash) and remained with his small army of 600 men.

A "pomegranate tree" is about 12 feet high. Its fruit is about the size of an apple, having a red rind and a red pulp enclosing many seeds.

1st Samuel 14:3 And Ahiah, the son of Ahitub, Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the Lord's priest in Shiloh, wearing an ephod. And the people knew not that Jonathan was gone. The priest by the name of Ahiah remained there with Saul. The priest is Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli. The intriguing thing about this family: Ichabod, 13 a malicious priest at the biblical shrine of Shiloh, was born on the day that the Israelites' Ark of God was taken into Philistine captivity. His mother went into labour due to the shock of hearing that her husband and Eli, her father-in-law, had died and that the Ark had been captured. He is also named later as the brother of Ahitub. He was wearing an ephod. The Lord had rejected Eli's household; his sons were worthless and didn't know anything about the priesthood, yet Eli's great-grandson (Ahiah) is here with Saul. And no one knew Jonathan had left the camp.

1st Samuel 14:4 And between the passages, by which Jonathan sought to go over unto the Philistines' garrison, there was a sharp rock on the one side, and a sharp rock on the other side: and the name of the one was Bozez, and the name of the other Seneh. The path he took to reach the Philistine's garrison was a narrow path over two sharp rocks which had been named Boaz (means the gleaming one) on one side and a shark rock on the other side named Seneth (means the thorny one). This reconnaissance was done secretly.

1sr Samuel 14:5 The forefront of the one was situate northward over against Michmash, and the other southward over against Gibeah. Therefore, the rock on the north had risen on front of Michmash (a town of Benjamin south-east of Bethel), and the southern one was on front of Gibeah (a frontier city of Benjamin near the border of Judah).

1st Samuel 14:6 And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the Lord will work for us: for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few. This was Part 1 of the plan. Jonathan and the young armorbearer (just the two of them) moved boldly using an audacious (daring) plan into the Philistine camp because of

<sup>13 12</sup> https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ichabod

the faith-filled word that came out of Jonathan's mouth. He implied that "it may be that the Lord will work for us, for there was no restraint (restriction) for the Lord to save by many or by few!" While everyone else was afraid to enter into the camp of the uncircumcised, the two trusted God to give Him the victory and act upon that trust, knowing the size of their army had no relationship to God's ability to help them. Do you remember in the early years of your coming to Christ that you made bold moves because of your faith in God? Then continue!

1st Samuel 14:7 And his armourbearer said unto him, Do all that is in thine heart: turn thee; behold, I am with thee according to thy heart. Even the armor-bearer gave Jonathan encouragement, that he was ready to follow him. Whatever was in the heart of Jonathan, the armor-bearer was in accord with him. They were one in heart! Remember we can never do anything for the Lord being divided and expect the victory.

1<sub>ST</sub> Samuel **14:8** Then said Jonathan, Behold, we will pass over unto these men, and we will discover ourselves unto them. Part 2 of the plan. The plan was to cross over where these men are and allow themselves to be seen by the Philistines.

1st Samuel 14:9 If they say thus unto us, Tarry until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them. After allowing themselves to be seen, Jonathan's surprise plan was: "If they say thus unto us, Tarry until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them."

1st Samuel 14:10 But if they say thus, Come up unto us; then we will go up: for the Lord hath delivered them into our hand: and this shall be a sign unto us. This is Part 3 of the plan (verses 9, 10). But is these men say: "Come up unto us; then we will go up: for the Lord hath delivered them into our hand: and this shall be a sign unto us." The plan seemed so simple, and it would be a sign from God to them that it had to be God!

1st Samuel 14:11 And both of them discovered themselves unto the garrison of the Philistines: and the Philistines said, Behold, the Hebrews come forth out of the holes where they had hid themselves. This approach was so sudden that both of them were smack-dab in the garrison of the Philistines and the Philistines begin to say 'look there's the Hebrews (Israelites), coming out of the holes they were hiding in.'

1st Samuel 14:12 And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armourbearer, and said, Come up to us, and we will shew you a thing. And Jonathan said unto his armourbearer, Come up after me: for the Lord hath delivered them into the hand of Israel. What a spectacular moment in the life of a warrior. The Philistine men of the garrison answered Jonathan and the armor-bearer just as they desired them to answer with the signal word—"Come Up!" Come up to us and we'll show you a thing, meaning how to fight. Upon Jonathan hearing this, he knew the Lord was on his side. So, Jonathan told his armor-bearer to "Come up after him for the Lord had delivered the Philistines into the hand of Israel." This victory was not just for him and the armor-bearer, but it was for all of Israel. Whatever victory God allows you to win is not just for you, but for a generation to come!

1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **14:13** And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armourbearer after him: and they fell before Jonathan; and his armourbearer slew after him. So, Jonathan didn't waste any time. He climbed up upon his hands and feet with his armor-bearer coming behind him, and the enemy fell before Jonathan as he and his armor-bearer killed them.

# **SUMMARY:**

Jonathan, the son of Saul the king, planned a secret reconnaissance (scouting expedition; investigation) to the other side into the garrison camp of the Philistines. So, he told his armor bearer to come and go with him. He did not talk about this with his father the king. Saul didn't receive a message or anything of what Jonathan was about to do. Saul had stayed in the uttermost part of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree in Migron and remained with his small army of 600 men. Ahiah the priest remained there with Saul, and no one knew Jonathan had left the camp. The path he took to reach the Philistine's garrison was a narrow path over two sharp rocks which had been named Boaz on one side and a shark rock on the other side named Seneth. This was done secretly. Therefore, the rock on the north was in front of Michmash, and the southern one was in front of Gibeah (15am.14:1-5).

Jonathan and the young armor-bearer (just the two of them) moved boldly using an audacious (daring) plan into the Philistine's camp because of the faith-filled word that came out of Jonathan's mouth. He implied that "it may be that the Lord will work for us, for there was no restraint (restriction) for the Lord to save by many or by few!" Even the armor-bearer gave Jonathan encouragement that he was ready to follow him. Whatever was in the heart of Jonathan, the armor-bearer was in accord with him. The plan was to cross over where these men are and allow themselves to be seen by the Philistines. After allowing themselves to be seen, Jonathan's surprise plan was to hear a certain phrase that the Philistines would say, and he would know that the Lord had given the Philistines into his hands, for it was a sign unto them (1 Sam. 1 4:6-10).

This approach was so sudden that both of them were smack-dab in the garrison of the Philistines and the Philistines begin to say 'look there's the Hebrews (Israelites), coming out of the holes they were hiding in.' This was a spectacular moment in the life of a warrior. The Philistine men of the garrison answered Jonathan and the armor-bearer just as they desired them to answer with the signal word—"Come Up!" "Come up to us and we'll show you a thing, meaning how to fight." Upon Jonathan hearing this, he knew the Lord was on his side. So, Jonathan told his armor-bearer to "Come up after him for the Lord had delivered the Philistines into the hand of Israel." This victory was not just for him and the armor-bearer, but it was for all of Israel. So, Jonathan didn't waste any time. He climbed up upon his hands and feet with his armor-bearer coming behind him, and the enemy fell before Jonathan, as he and his armor-bearer killed them (1 Sam. 1 4:11-13).

<u>TOP</u>

# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE ISAMUEL 15:26-35

**NEXT 16:1-13** 

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

1 SAMUEL 15:26-35 26The Lord had rejected Saul from being king over Israel because he had rejected the Word of the Lord. God's patience had ended with this man who had hardened his heart in disobedience. 27As Samuel turned to go, Saul grabbed the skirt of his mantle and it ripped. 28The accidental tearing of Samuel's mantle provides a parting symbolism of God's tearing away the kingdom of Israel this day, and had given it away to one of their neighbours not his family, but to one who is better than him (and that would be David). 29The Strength of Israel does not lie nor repent. He does not change His decision like man. God took His authority away from Saul. David was better than Saul was, because David obeyed the Lord. 30Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned YET, honour ME NOW in front of the elders; leaders of Israel, and come back with me so that I can worship the Lord your God." That's funny, Saul didn't call God his God, he said "your" God (Samuel's God). Saul was less concerned about the prophecy which he evidently did not believe, but about his public image. 31So Samuel went back with Saul, and Saul worshipped the Lord. 32Samuel told Saul to bring Agag, king of the Amalekites, to him. This is where the disobedience came after hearing the Command of God: "Go smite and destroy ALL the Amalekites" (v.3). This is the same king who is a part of the Amalekites God said destroy, but Saul had disobeyed and kept him alive. "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and stubbonrness is as iniquity and idolatry" (v.23). Samuel is the one to see that God's command is being carried out. So Agag comes daintily, full of smiles, thinking that the worst is over; that the bitterness of death has passed. 33 Samuel told him that since he had killed the sons of many mothers with his sword, and have left them childless, then his mother shall be childless. And Samuel cut Agag into pieces in front of the altar at Gilgal. 34Then Samuel left Gilgal and went to his home in Ramah. But Saul went to his home in Gibeah. 35During the rest of his life Samuel never saw Saul again. And Samuel mourned for Saul, and the Lord repented that He had made Saul king of Israel (1 Sam. 15:26-35).

# I SAMUEL 16:1-13

**NEXT** 17:40-51

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:1** And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons. God asked Samuel a question: "How long will you mourn for Saul, the one I have rejected from reigning over Israel?" Saul's time is up; no going backwards. God has rejected Saul from reigning over Israel. Now, Samuel's new assignment is to fill his horn; vial with oil to anoint a new king. He was to go to the house of Jesse, the Bethlehemite. God had already made the choice, and he would come from one of Jesse's sons. This king would be God's servant. The "horn of oil" represented being filled with the Holy Spirit!
- 1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:2** And Samuel said, How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me. And the LORD said, Take an helfer with thee, and say, I am come to sacrifice to the LORD. Samuel is apprehensive about this move because he says "If Saul hears about it, Saul will kill me." But God's solution to this was for Samuel to take a heifer with him and say that he is going to sacrifice unto the Lord.
- 1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:3** And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will shew thee what thou shalt do: and thou shalt anoint unto me him whom I name unto thee. God has put His Plan in Play! And Samuel is to call Jesse to the sacrifice, and the Lord will tell Samuel what he was to do; instruct him as to whom he was to anoint.
- 1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:4** And Samuel did that which the LORD spake, and came to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, Comest thou peaceably?— Samuel did exactly what the Lord told him to do. He arrived at Bethlehem, and the elders; leaders trembled as they met Samuel asking him, if he came peacefully. They knew him to be a prophet sent by God and would bring judgment.
- 1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:5** And he said, Peaceably: I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD: sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice. And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice. He told the elders that he came in peace and came to sacrifice unto the Lord. He instructed them to sanctify themselves and come with him to the sacrifice. They washed and put clean clothes on. This showed that they had made them-selves holy, for God is holy. And Samuel sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.
- 1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:6** And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. When they arrived at Jessie's house, Samuel saw Jesse's son Eliab. And he thought, "I am sure that the Lord has chosen this son."
- 1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:7** But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart. "But the Lord told Samuel, Do not look

at how handsome or tall Eliab is. I have not chosen him. The Lord does not look at people the way that other people look. People look at the outside of a person. But the Lord looks at their spirit" (inside). It looks like Samuel was looking for another Saul.

1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:8** Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. Then Jesse called his son Abinadab, and told him to walk before Samuel. But Samuel said, "The Lord has not chosen this man."

1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:9** Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said, Neither hath the LORD chosen this. Jesse told his son Shammah to walk pass Samuel. But Samuel said, "The Lord has not chosen this man."

1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:10** Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, The LORD hath not chosen these. Jesse made 7 of his sons walk pass Samuel. But Samuel said, "The Lord has not chosen any of these men."

1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel 16:11 And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither. Samuel asked Jesse, "Do you have any more sons?" Jesse answered, "I have one more son. He's the youngest, looking after the sheep." Samuel calls for the one more son to come before him, and they will not sit down to eat until he arrives.

1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:12** And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he. So Jesse sent for him and took him to Samuel. This young man was handsome and healthy (reddish color tone). He was a shepherd The Lord said to Samuel, "I have chosen this man. Go and anoint him".

1<sup>ST</sup> Samuel **16:13** Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah. The name of the young man was David. Samuel took the horn that was full of oil, anointed him by pouring the oil over his head. And Samuel did this in front of David's brothers. The Spirit of the Lord came upon David in a powerful way, empowering him from that day forward for the rest of his life. After completing the Lord's assignment Samuel went back home to Ramah.

<u>Saul and David were anointed in two different ways</u>. Saul had a <u>vial of oil</u> poured upon him by Samuel. Then after meeting the prophets prophesying, the Spirit of the Lord came upon him <u>on the road</u>, and he began prophesying (1 Sam.10:1, 5-6).

However, for David, Samuel anointed him with a <u>horn of oil at the house</u> of his father and brothers, and the Spirit of the Lord came upon him (1 Sam.16:13).

#### **SUMMARY:**

1God asked Samuel a question: How long will you mourn for Saul, the one I have rejected from reigning over Israel? Saul's time is up; no going backwards. God has rejected Saul from reigning over Israel. Now, Samuel's new assignment is to fill his horn; vial with oil to anoint a new king. He was to go to the house of Jessie, the Bethlehemite, for the Lord has provided a king among Jesse's sons. 2 Samuel says "If Saul hears about it, he will kill me." God's solution to this was for Samuel to take a heifer with him and say that he is going to sacrifice unto the Lord. 3Call Jessie to the sacrifice, then God would instruct him as to whom he should anoint. 4Samuel did exactly what the Lord told him to do. He arrived at Bethlehem, and the elders; leaders trembled as they met Samuel asking him, if he came peacefully. 6 When they arrived at Jessie's house, Samuel saw Jesse's son Eliab. And he thought, surely the Lord's anointed this one. 7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, "don't look upon his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: God sees not as man sees; for man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." 8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And Samuel said, neither has the LORD chosen this. **9** Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And Samuel said, neither hath the LORD chosen this. **10** Again, Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, "The LORD hath not chosen these." 11 Samuel asked Jesse, "Do you have any more sons?" Jesse answered, "I have one more son. He's the youngest, looking after the sheep." And Samuel said unto Jesse, "Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he arrives." 12 So Jesse sent for him and took him to Samuel. He was ruddy, and had a beautiful countenance, and handsome to look at. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him: for this is he." 13 The name of the young man was David. Samuel took the horn that was full of oil, anointed him by pouring the oil over his head. And Samuel did this in front of David's brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord came upon David in a powerful way, empowering him from that day forward for the rest of his life. After completing the Lord's assignment Samuel went back home to Ramah (1 Sam. 16:1-13).

# I SAMUEL 17:40-51

**NEXT** 19:1-17

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

<sup>14</sup>The Philistine army had gathered for war against Israel. The two armies faced each other, camped for battle on opposite sides of a steep valley. A Philistine giant measuring over nine feet tall and wearing full armor came out each day for forty days, mocking and challenging the Israelites to fight. One day David, the youngest son of Jesse, was sent to the battle lines by his father to bring back news of his brothers. David was just a young teenager at the time. While there, David heard Goliath shouting his daily defiance, and he saw the great fear stirred within the men of Israel. David responded, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of God?" So David volunteered to fight Goliath. The king (Saul) had to be persuaded, but he finally agreed to let David oppose the giant. None of the king's armor fitted David.

1st Samuel 17:40 And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine. The tools of the shepherd proved to be appropriate weapons. Dressed in his simple tunic, David grasped in his hand his shepherd's staff and chose 5 smooth stones out of the brook, placing them in his shepherd's bag, with his sling in his hand, and approached Goliath, the Philistine.

1st Samuel 17:41 And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him. Goliath, the Philistine walked out towards David with his shield bearer ahead of him.

1st Samuel 17:42 And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance. When Goliath finally saw David, he began to sneer in contempt at this ruddy youth and good-looking in appearance.

1st Samuel 17:43 And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. Goliath yelled out to David: "Am I a dog, that thou come to me with staves? (sticks)" As we really look at the metaphor of a "dog" would mean that he posed the threat of a wild dog coming toward the sheep that must be chased away with sticks or killed by the shepherd. The giant continued to curse David by his gods, hurling threats and insults.

1st Samuel 17:44 And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field. Goliath continued to yell at David saying "Come to me and I will feed your body to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field."

1st Samuel 17:45 Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. David turned it around on Goliath. He's answering verse 43. He's not coming with some sticks, he's coming with more power than the shield bearer is carrying and more strength than Goliath himself has, and more boldness in his speech than the armies of Israel! When he said "You come to me with a sword and spear, and shield" (carnal weapons), he let Goliath know, "I come in the name of the LORD of hosts,

<sup>14</sup> https://www.learnreligions.com/david-and-goliath-700211 http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html 1 SAMUEL

the God of the armies of Israel, (spiritual weapons) whom he has decided to come up against." Now that's some bold talk! Whatever David spoke he brought with him!

1st Samuel 17:46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcases of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. Goliath will never see it coming. David made a very bold declaration, even using some of the words Goliath said: "This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel." All is to the glory of the Lord!

1st Samuel 17:47 And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands. David is still declaring to Goliath even though this is a lesson for all of Israel, that the Lord does not save (fulfill His plan) with sword and spear. They have to remember that the battle is the Lord's and He can work without regard to human means (sword and spear), for he told Goliath: "He (God) will give you into our hands."

1st Samuel 17:48 And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. This roused Goliath and he kept coming closer to attack David, and David hastily ran in the direction of the army to attack Goliath.

1st Samuel 17:49 And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth. While running, David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone, placed it in the sling that was in his hand, and slung it to where the stone flew perfectly by the wind of God and struck and killed Goliath. The stone penetrated so hard that it sunk right into his forehead, and he fell face down to the earth.

1st Samuel 17:50 So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David. David overcame and conquered Goliath with a sling and a stone which struck and killed him. David had already said that he was going to take his head (17:46), but, he didn't have a sword in his hand.

1st Samuel 17:51 Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled. So, David ran and took Goliath's sword, drew it out of Goliath's sheath, stood upon his body to finish what he started by cutting off his head.

#### **SUMMARY:**

David grasped in his hand his shepherd's staff and chose 5 smooth stones out of the brook. He placed them in his shepherd's bag, and with his sling in his hand, he approached Goliath, the Philistine. Goliath walked out towards David with his shield bearer ahead of him (1 Sam. 17:40-41).

When Goliath finally saw David, he began to sneer in contempt at this ruddy youth, and good-looking in appearance. Then Goliath yelled out to David: "Am I a dog, that thou come to me with staves? (sticks)" He continued to curse David by his gods, hurling threats and insults. And said "Come to me and I will feed your body to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field." Then David said to the Philistine, "Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied." David made a very bold declaration, even using some of the words Goliath said: "This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel". All is to the glory of the Lord! David is still declaring to Goliath even though this is a lesson for all of Israel, that the Lord does not save (fulfill His plan) with sword and spear. They have to remember that the battle is the Lord's and He can work without regard to human means, for he told Goliath: "He (God) will give you into our hands" (1 Sam.17:42-47).

This roused Goliath and he kept coming closer to attack David, but David hastily ran in the direction of the army to attack him. While running David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone, placed it the sling that was in his hand, and slung the stone flew perfectly by the wind of God and struck and killed Goliath. The stone penetrated so hard that it sunk right into his forehead, and he fell face down to the earth. David overcame and conquered Goliath with a sling and a stone which struck and killed him. David had already said that he was going to take his head (17:46), but, he didn't have a sword in his hand, so, David ran and took Goliath's sword, drew it out of Goliath's sheath, stood upon his body to finish what he started by cutting off his head (1 Sam. 17:48-51).

# I SAMUEL 19:1-17

HOME

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

1st Samuel 19:1 And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David. King Saul has gotten sick and tired since the Philistines couldn't kill David, so, he's called a meeting to speak with his son Jonathan and all his servants to urge them to kill David.

1st Samuel 19:2 But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeketh to kill thee: now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself until the morning, and abide in a secret place, and hide thyself:—Well, we know that talk was not going to sit well with Jonathan according to 18:1. Their souls were knit together in unison. So after the meeting, Jonathan communicated with David that his father was out to kill him, so be careful and guard himself until morning. He was to stay in a secret place and keep himself hidden.

1st Samuel 19:3 And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will commune with my father of thee; and what I see, that I will tell thee. You know the saying: keep your friends close, but keep your enemies closer. You want to know what your enemy is up to in order to protect yourself. So Jonathan says he'll go and stand beside his father in the field, meaning, keep an eye on him; see what he's up to. And by speaking to his father, he will see what's going on and will be able to tell David.

1st Samuel 19:4 And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works have been to thee-ward very good:—So, Jonathan is saying good things about David to Saul, his father, and trying to get him not to wrong or be against his servant David because he hasn't wronged him (the king) nor did any harm to him, because his works have been very good toward the king. He's always helped and behaved admirably in any way he could.

1st Samuel 19:5 For he did put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and the LORD wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause?—Jonathan continued to speak for the good of David to his father saying you know you put your life in David's hand when he killed the Philistine (Goliath). What a great victory of salvation for all of Israel, and then exclaiming "you saw it and rejoiced." So point blank Jonathan asks: "Why would you want to murder (shed innocent blood of) an innocent man? There is no reason for it at all!"

1st Samuel 19:6 And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan: and Saul sware, As the LORD liveth, he shall not be slain. So, Saul heard and heeded the voice of Jonathan, and swore as the Lord lives that David shall not be killed. So, something got through to Saul and touched his heart for a moment.

1st Samuel 19:7 And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan shewed him all those things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as in times past. Jonathan was happy to hear that his father had changed his mind, so he calls for David to tell him all the things that Saul had said. Jonathan then brings David before Saul again in his presence, and it was as it had been before (a calm before the storm).

19:8 And there was war again: and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter; and they fled from him. War broke out and David went out to lead his troops against the Philistines. They fought and killed them in great numbers and the Philistines fled from them.

1st Samuel 19:9 And the evil spirit from the LORD was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand. Just as before, the Lord sends the evil spirit upon Saul while he's sitting in his house with a javelin (spear)—carnal weapon in his hand, while David is playing the harp—spiritual weapon with his hand.

1st Samuel 19:10 And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night. So, while the music is playing, Saul's bitterness and rage has reached its point to where he sought to strike David; hurling the javelin (spear) trying to pin David to the wall, but David eluded; slipped away out of Saul's presence. So, Saul drove the javelin (spear) into the wall as David fled, and escaped that night.

1st Samuel 19:11 Saul also sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning: and Michal David's wife told him, saying, If thou save not thy life to night, to morrow thou shalt be slain. Saul had proven where his state of mind was, for he sent messengers to watch David's house; to see when he comes out so they could kill him in the morning. Michal, David's wife warned him that if he doesn't get away tonight to save his life, he would be dead by tomorrow. Michal is far from being a snare (18:21) as her father thought she would be. She became instrumental in saving David's life and displaying a covenantal love and faithfulness similar to her brother Jonathan.

1st Samuel 19:12 So Michal let David down through a window: and he went, and fled, and escaped. Truly Saul did not expect this to happen. Michal helped David escape from the hand of her father Saul. He got down or lowered himself down through a window, stilling away, fleeing, and escaping in the night.

1st Samuel 19:13 And Michal took an image, and laid it in the bed, and put a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster, and covered it with a cloth. Aha talking about a laid out plan coming together! Then Michal took an idol and laid it in the bed where David would have laid, and put a pillow of goats' hair at the head place and covered it with a cloth.

1st Samuel 19:14 And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, He is sick. And the messengers Saul had sent came to take David but Michal said he was sick, meaning he can't be disturbed.

1st Samuel 19:15 And Saul sent the messengers again to see David, saying, Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may slay him. So, evidently they bought that lie, but Saul didn't, so, he again sent messengers to David's house saying, "Bring David and the bed so I can kill him!"

1st Samuel 19:16 And when the messengers were come in, behold, there was an image in the bed, with a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster. By now the messengers should be dumb-founded because they find out that there was only an image in the bed, a pillow of goat's hair for the head place, and no David!

1st Samuel 19:17 And Saul said unto Michal, Why hast thou deceived me so, and sent away mine enemy, that he is escaped? And Michal answered Saul, He said unto me, Let me go; why should I kill thee?—Saul

is disappointed in his daughter Michal and asks why had she deceived him so, for she knew David was her father's enemy and she has sent him away; let him go free; and allowed him to escape. And to answer her father's question she lied by saying "He said unto me, Let me go; why should I kill thee?" Or another translation: "He threatened to kill me if I didn't help!"

#### **SUMMARY:**

War broke out and David went out to lead his troops against the Philistines. They fought and killed them in great numbers and the Philistines fled from them. Just as before, the Lord sends the evil spirit upon Saul while he's sitting in his house with a javelin (spear) in his hand, while David is playing the harp with his hand. While the music is playing, Saul's bitterness and rage has reached its point to where he sought to strike David; hurling the javelin (spear) trying to pin David to the wall, but David eluded; slipped away out of Saul's presence. So, Saul drove the javelin (spear) into the wall as David fled, and escaped that night (1 Sam. 19:8-10).

Saul had proven where his state of mind was, for he sent messengers to watch David's house; to see when he comes out so they could kill him in the morning. Michal, David's wife warned him that if he doesn't get away tonight to save his life, he would be dead by tomorrow. Michal helped David escape from the hand of her father Saul. He got down or lowered himself down through a window, stilling away, fleeing, and escaping in the night (1 Sam. 19:11-12).

Then she took an idol and laid it in the bed where David would have laid, and put a pillow of goats' hair at the head place and covered it with a cloth. And the messengers Saul sent came to take David, but Michal said he was sick, meaning he can't be disturbed. Saul didn't buy that, and sent messengers back to David's house again saying, "Bring David and the bed so I can kill him!" By now the messengers couldn't find David at all. They just found the image and pillow of goat's hair. Saul asked his daughter Michal "why she had deceived him knowing that David was his enemy and let him escape?" And she answered with a lie saying "He threatened to kill me if I didn't help!" (1 Sam. 19:13-17).

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