

**Welcome to**

# Journey through the Bible

Book by book Bible study




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## 1 Samuel

**Israel's King Maker:  
The transition from the Judges to the Monarchy**

**The Rise of David  
A Man after God's Own Heart**

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### Overview of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles

**1 & 2 Samuel: Rise of the Monarchy**  
**1 & 2 Kings: Division, decline of monarchy**  
**1 & 2 Chronicles: Temple, religious history**  
**Begins with Israel's greatness and glory**  
**Ends with Israel in poverty and prison**  
**Role of God's prophets is paramount**

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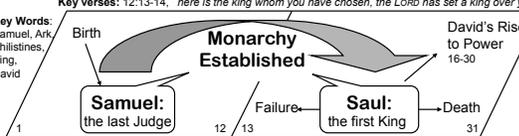
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### 1 SAMUEL: Israel's Monarchy Established

Key verses: 12:13-14, "here is the king whom you have chosen, the LORD has set a king over you"

**Key Words:** Samuel, Ark, Philistines, King, David



	Theocracy- Tribal: God ruling	Monarchy- National: King ruling	
	Transitions: Eli to Samuel	Samuel to Saul → Saul to David	
<b>Samuel's:</b>	1 -birth 2 -preparation 3 -call 4-12 <b>Ministry</b> 4-7 -vs. Philistines 8-11 -anointing Saul 12 -in retirement	<b>Saul's:</b> <b>Rejection by God</b> -reasons 13-15 -results 16 <b>Rebellion ag. God</b> -self interest 17 -jealousy 18 -derangement 19-28 -decline/death 29-31	<b>David's Rise to Power</b> 16-30

Circa 1100 to 1011 B.C.

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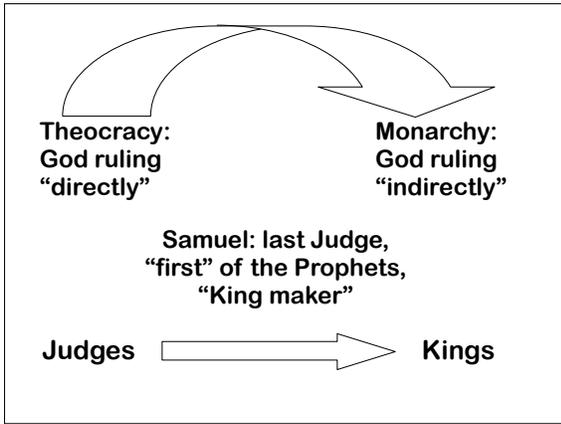
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**Theme of 1 Samuel**

☆The primary message of 1 Samuel is David's rise to power as "*a man after God's own heart*" and God's providential leading to the throne. (1 Samuel 13:14; 15:26-29; 16:7).

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**Hannah's anguished prayer**

In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the LORD, weeping bitterly. And she made a vow, saying, "LORD Almighty, if you will only look on your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head." (1 Samuel 1:10-11)

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**Samuel, God's answer to prayer**

So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, "Because I asked the LORD for him." ... After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, they brought the boy to Eli, and she said to him, "Pardon me, my lord. As surely as you live, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the LORD. I prayed for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the LORD. For his whole life he will be given over to the LORD." And he worshiped the LORD there. (1 Samuel 1:20-28)

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## United Kingdom – 1050-931 B.C. “Age of greatness”

Rise of the Monarchy: Samuel – 1100-1025  
Internal conditions under the Judges–  
Spiritually- Idolatry, spiritual decay  
Socially- Immorality, violence, individualism  
Nationally- Tribalism, disunity & anarchy  
Politically- Oppression by stronger neighbors  
Leadership- vacuum, no king = Priests fail,  
judges come and go with no lasting impact

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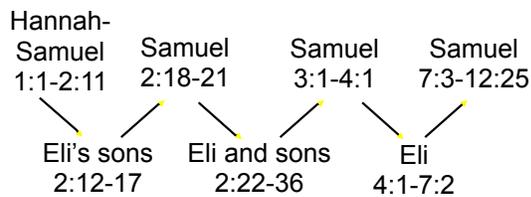
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## Samuel contrasted with Eli’s sons



Faithfulness vs. covenant failure

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## Israel’s failure, Loss of the Ark

- ☆The LORD does not fight for Israel against the Philistines, as He, Israel’s glory, departs from them (4:1-22).
- ☆The LORD, nevertheless, demonstrates that the Philistine victory was His work (5:1–7:2).
- ☆The LORD’s prophet Samuel leads Israel in covenant renewal and defeat of the Philistines at Ebenezer as he carried out his ministry of judging Israel (7:3-17).

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## Israel requests a King (8-14)

### Causes of the change to the monarchy

Samuel’s age and declining influence-  
Samuel’s sons, moral derelicts, unfit to lead  
Israel’s envy/infatuation of other nations  
Israel’s longing for peace and prosperity  
Immediate threat of antagonistic neighbors  
Ultimately- Israel’s rejection of the LORD as  
their sovereign, protector & provider.

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### **Israel has rejected God's rule!**

When they said, "Give us a king to lead us," this displeased Samuel; so he prayed to the LORD. And the LORD told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king. As they have done from the day I brought them up out of Egypt until this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are doing to you. (8:6-8)

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### **Israel has rejected God's rule!**

Samuel summoned the people of Israel to the LORD at Mizpah and said to them, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I brought Israel up out of Egypt, and I delivered you from the power of Egypt and all the kingdoms that oppressed you.' But you have now rejected your God, who saves you out of all your calamities and distresses. And you have said, 'No, set a king over us.' (10:17-19)

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### **God's Standard for Choosing a King**

When you enter the land the LORD your God is giving you and have taken possession of it and settled in it, and you say, "Let us set a king over us like all the nations around us, be sure to appoint over you the king the LORD your God chooses. He must be from among your own brothers. Do not place a foreigner over you, one who is not a brother Israelite.

Deuteronomy 17:14-15

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### **God's Prohibitions for the King**

The king, moreover, must not acquire great numbers of horses for himself or make the people return to Egypt to get more of them, for the LORD has told you, "You are not to go back that way again. He must not take many wives, or his heart will be led astray. He must not accumulate large amounts of silver and gold.

Deuteronomy 17:16-17

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## Code of Conduct for the King

When he takes the throne of his kingdom, he is to write for himself on a scroll a copy of this law, taken from that of the priests, who are Levites. It is to be with him, and he is to read it all the days of his life so that he may learn to revere the LORD his God and follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees and not consider himself better than his brothers and turn from the law to the right or to the left. Then he and his descendants will reign a long time over his kingdom in Israel.  
Deuteronomy 17:18-20

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## Saul, King after their own heart!

There was a Benjamite, a man of standing, whose name was Kish. Kish had a son named Saul, as handsome a young man as could be found anywhere in Israel, and he was a head taller than anyone else. (9:1-2)

“To whom is all the desire of Israel turned, if not to you and your whole family line?” (9:20)

Then Samuel took a flask of olive oil and poured it on Saul’s head and kissed him, saying, “Has not the LORD anointed you ruler over his inheritance?” (10:1)

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## Samuel’s Faithfulness

Samuel said, “As for me, I am old and gray, and my sons are here with you. I have been your leader from my youth until this day. Here I stand. Testify against me in the presence of the LORD and his anointed. Whose ox have I taken? Whose donkey have I taken? Whom have I cheated? Whom have I oppressed? From whose hand have I accepted a bribe to make me shut my eyes? If I have done any of these, I will make it right.” “You have not cheated or oppressed us,” they replied. “You have not taken anything from anyone’s hand.”  
1 Samuel 12:1-4.

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## Samuel’s Farewell

“Do not be afraid,” Samuel replied. “You have done all this evil; yet do not turn away from the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. ... For the sake of his great name the LORD will not reject his people, because the LORD was pleased to make you his own. As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by failing to pray for you. And I will teach you the way that is good and right. But be sure to fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.” (12:20-25)

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### **Saul's Failure & Rejection (13-15)**

**Impatience-** intruding into the priest's office (13)

**Rashness-** his vow undermined victory (14)

**Disobedience-** rejecting God's revelation (15)

Samuel said to him, "I will not go back with you. You have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you as king over Israel!" As Samuel turned to leave, Saul caught hold of the hem of his robe, and it tore. Samuel said to him, "The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to one of your neighbors—to one better than you. (15:26-28)

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### **David's Rise to Prominence! (16-31)**

★ **Anointed as King by Samuel (16:1-22).**

Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one." So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed David in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David.

Now the Spirit of the LORD had departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him. (16:12-14)

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### **David's Faith in Confronting Goliath**

David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the LORD will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down ... the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands." (17:45-47)

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### **Saul's Jealous Rage & Fall (16-31)**

Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with David but had left Saul. (18:12)

Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David. ... Saul tried to pin David to the wall with his spear, but David eluded him. ... He sent men to David's house to kill him in the morning. ... Saul sent men to capture David (19:1-11)

Then the king ordered the guards at his side: "Turn and kill the priests of the LORD, because they too have sided with David. (22:17)

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### David's Rise to Prominence! (16-31)

- 🕒 Anointed as King by Samuel (16:13).
- 🕒 Enlisted as attendant to Saul (16:18-23)
- 🕒 Defeats Philistine champion, Goliath (17)
- 🕒 Praised in song by the people (18)
- 🕒 A fugitive, exiled by Saul's jealousy (18)
- 🕒 Loved and protected by Jonathan (19-20)
- 🕒 Spares Saul's life twice (24, 26)
- 🕒 Seeks refuge among the Philistines (27-30)
- 🕒 Note David's reflection in Psalm 34

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### Lessons gleaned from 1 Samuel

- ★ God's presence is not in rituals or symbols!  
(It is the God of the Ark, not the Ark of God!)
- ★ The power and importance of prayer!  
(Whether a mother's prayer or a prophet's!)
- ★ The sovereignty and sufficiency of God!  
(In a childless home and a leaderless nation)
- ★ God looks at what is in our heart!  
(Character counts in life and leadership)

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### Lessons gleaned from 1 Samuel

- ★ God uses those who trust Him wholly!
- ★ The destructiveness of jealousy & hate!  
(It destroys life, divides families and nations)
- ★ The importance of integrity in leadership!  
(Character is revealed in actions)
- ★ Victory depends on God's ability, not ours!  
(A sling in the hand of a godly youth is greater than a sword in the hand of a giant)

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**See you next week!**

**Read 2 Samuel,  
Triumph turns to Trouble**



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