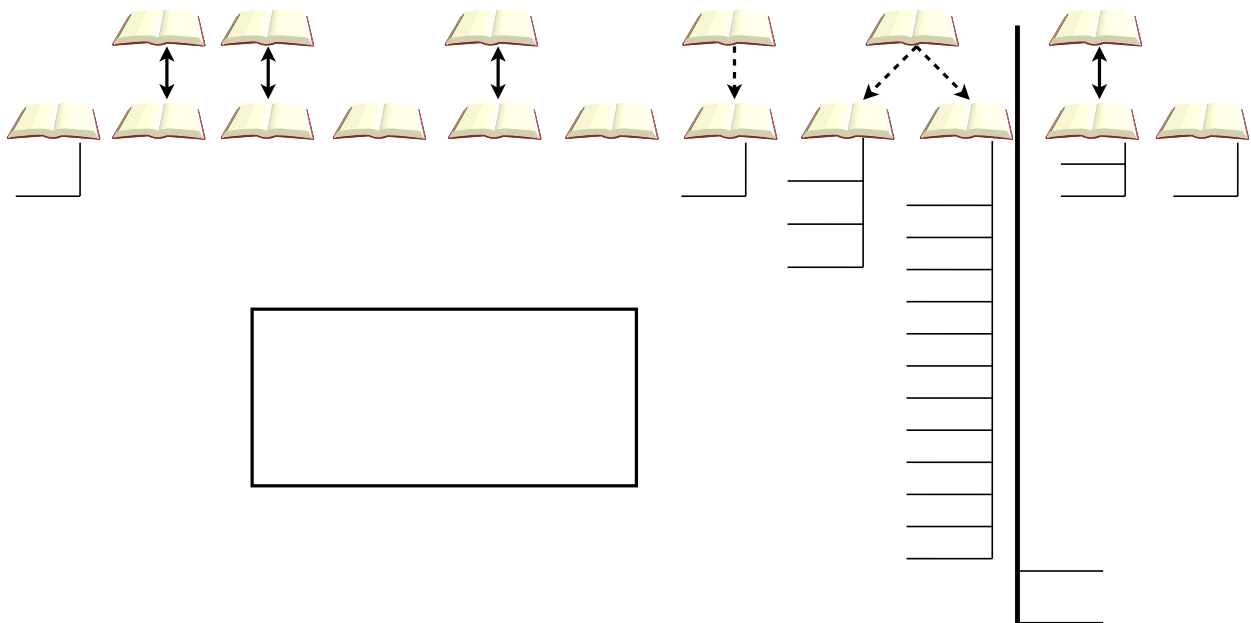


XI. UNIT 11: “Give us a king!” - The Book of First Samuel

I. LOOKING BACK

# THE OLD TESTAMENT IN ORDER



II. THE BOOK OF 1<sup>st</sup> SAMUEL

A. “God in a Box” – A Major But Hidden Theme

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the major “hidden” themes in the Books of Samuel.
  - a. It is mentioned \_\_\_\_\_ times in 1 Samuel, more than any other book in the Old Testament.
  - b. Over \_\_\_\_\_ of the references to it in the Old Testament appear in the Books of Samuel and 1 Chronicles.
  - c. Even when it is captured by the Philistines, it is *never* under anyone’s \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. The Ark has a greater sense of austerity and fierceness in the books of Samuel than it does even in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - e. The Ark may be a “\_\_\_\_\_” but Yahweh will *not* be manipulated.

B. Three Men – Three Destinies

1. Samuel the \_\_\_\_\_ vs Samson the Judge: A Study of Contrasts (chapters 1-19).
  - a. Both accounts begin, “*There was a man named...*”

- b. The opening line is followed by:
- (1) Father's \_\_\_\_\_, tribal affiliation and marital status.
  - (2) Description of a \_\_\_\_\_ wife.
  - (3) Children who will be Nazarites from \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (4) Samuel stands as a stark \_\_\_\_\_ to Samson in the era of judges.
2. Samuel the \_\_\_\_\_:
- a. Perhaps the most important OT \_\_\_\_\_ since Moses.
  - b. God *equates* him with \_\_\_\_\_ in Jeremiah 15:1
  - c. Of the tribe of Levi; he had a \_\_\_\_\_ ancestry.
  - d. He was born into a godly home like \_\_\_\_\_; the third "light" in the dark pages of Scripture.
  - e. Has a "call" to \_\_\_\_\_ that is as remarkable as Moses' burning bush.
  - f. Raised in a \_\_\_\_\_ environment, typical of the "*days when the judges ruled...*"
    - (1) Eli's two sons *were* what he assumed Hannah to be: " \_\_\_\_\_ " (cf. 1:16; 2:12).
    - (2) the \_\_\_\_\_ had been "Canaan-ized"
    - (3) the Ark was seen more as a \_\_\_\_\_ than a tabernacle.
  - g. Samuel was the last of the \_\_\_\_\_ and the first of "the \_\_\_\_\_."
    - (1) The "word of the LORD was \_\_\_\_\_ in those days" (Heb. *yaquar*; means "precious"; used mostly for jewels in the Old Testament; cf. 1 Kings 10:2).
    - (2) With Samuel, Yahweh began " \_\_\_\_\_ " to His people again.
  - h. Two new " \_\_\_\_\_ " are initiated with Samuel: king *and* prophet.
    - (1) We see in Samuel's first act as a prophet, a \_\_\_\_\_ of the prophetic office (a blistering rebuke to Eli).
    - (2) The two sides of the "theocracy coin" are: \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (3) If half of the "coin" became \_\_\_\_\_, the theocracy fell apart and God initiated \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The Place of Kings In The Story of God
- a. God \_\_\_\_\_ planned on His people having a king.
  - b. Abraham was told " \_\_\_\_\_ " would come from Sarah (Gen. 17:6).
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ was told "*the scepter would not depart from his tribe, until it came to him to whom it belonged.*" (Gen. 49:10-11).
4. Kings & Prophets in Israel
- a. In Israel, \_\_\_\_\_ was supreme, not the king!
  - b. Therefore, the \_\_\_\_\_ was more important than the king, because he \_\_\_\_\_ for God.
  - c. The king's job was to carry out what God had spoken; to administer the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d. Kings were to be submitted to the \_\_\_\_\_ *and* those who spoke for God.
5. Saul the \_\_\_\_\_ "King" (chapters 9-31)
- a. The People's Error:
    - (1) The request for a king was not a sin, it was the \_\_\_\_\_ of king they wanted.
    - (2) They wanted a king to lead them in \_\_\_\_\_, not in lead them in covenant faithfulness to Yahweh.

# GETTING THE BIG PICTURE

b. The “King’s” Character:

- (1) Is more characteristic of a \_\_\_\_\_ than a king (strength in the midst of great weakness).
- (2) He is more influenced by the opinion of \_\_\_\_\_ than the Word of God. (1 Samuel 15:24-25)
- (3) Saul *failed* to do the very thing the Israelites “\_\_\_\_\_” him for!

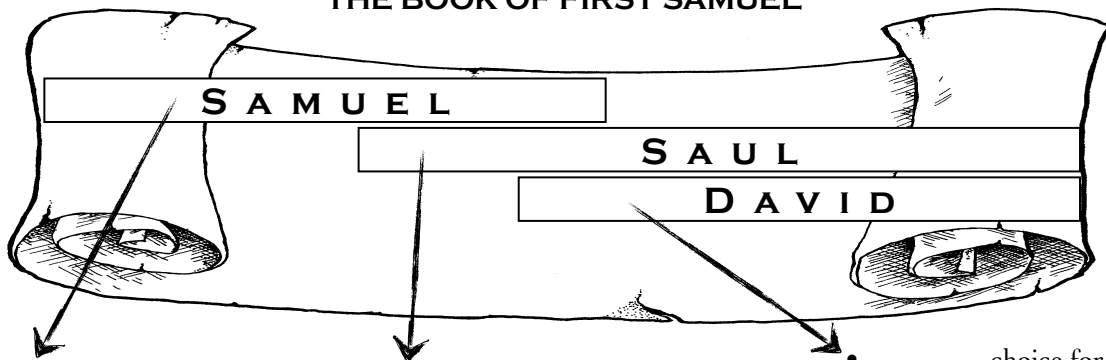
6. David: the \_\_\_\_\_ King (chapters 16-31)

- a. David sought to defend the \_\_\_\_\_ of Yahweh.
- b. He understood \_\_\_\_\_, and what it \_\_\_\_\_ of a king.

C. 1 Samuel and the Christian

1. Obedience to the revealed \_\_\_\_\_ of God always has priority over the subjective “\_\_\_\_\_” of God.
2. For God, the “\_\_\_\_\_” always has priority over one’s resume (cf. 1 Samuel 16:6-7, 11-12).
3. God’s leaders are “\_\_\_\_\_” more than elected.
4. A \_\_\_\_\_ can never be a theocracy. (There will never be a time when the “prophet” has more authority than the “king” in a government “by the people.”)

## THE BOOK OF FIRST SAMUEL



- a \_\_\_\_\_ boy in an \_\_\_\_\_ home.
- Judge, priest & \_\_\_\_\_
- Initiates the “\_\_\_\_\_” of king & prophet in Israel.

- \_\_\_\_\_ choice for king.
- a slave to the \_\_\_\_\_ of others.
- illustrates leadership devoid of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Functioned more as a democracy: the voice of the people \_\_\_\_\_ the voice of Yahweh.

- \_\_\_\_\_ choice for king.
- a \_\_\_\_\_ of Yahweh.
- illustrates the \_\_\_\_\_.
- When Yahweh “spoke” to David through \_\_\_\_\_, he listened.

## Key Information

**Key Word:**

**Key Chapters:**

**Basic Geography:**

**Book summary:**