

# 1 Samuel

*Samuel, Saul & David*



**The Forum Terrace Church of Christ**  
Adult Bible Class Wednesday Evening – Fall Quarter 2020

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# God Gives a Prophet to Israel

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## 1 Samuel 1, 2

### Questions:

1. Who was Elkanah? Give the names his wives.
2. Why did Elkanah give Hannah a double portion?
3. How did Peninnah treat Hannah? Why?
4. What vow did Hannah make to the Lord?
5. What did Eli the high priest think of Hannah's praying?
6. Why was Hannah no longer sad?
7. Why did Hannah call her son "Samuel"?
8. When did Hannah bring Samuel to Shiloh?

9. How long was Samuel *"lent"* to the Lord? Why?
10. What is Hannah's view of the Lord in 2:1-2?
11. What is God able to do according to 2:5-8?
12. How were the sons of Eli corrupt?
13. What did Hannah bring Samuel every year?
14. What did Eli do for Elkanah and Hannah? How often?
15. What did the Lord do for Hannah?
16. What else were the sons of Eli doing at the tabernacle?
17. What warning did Eli give his sons?
18. What does God accuse Eli of doing against Him?

19. What prophecy is made against Eli?

20. What sign was given to Eli?

### **Application & Discussion:**

1. What problems did polygamy cause?

2. How should mothers of today imitate the actions and attitudes of Hannah?

3. Who is the faithful priest God would raise up to serve Him?

**Homework:** Ask God to help you learn to pray with a broken heart for His will to be done.

# The Ark is Lost

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## 1 Samuel 3 - 5

### Questions:

1. What was rare in the days when Samuel was a boy?
2. What did Samuel do three times when called by the Lord?
3. What did Eli tell Samuel to do after the third time the Lord called him?
4. Why was the Lord going to judge the house of Eli?
5. How did Eli respond to the prophecy of God given to Samuel?
6. What became known in all of Israel?
7. Why did the Israelites bring the ark with them to do battle with the Philistines?
8. Who was with the ark of the covenant?
9. How did the Philistines react when they heard the ark was in the Israelite camp?
10. What were the combined losses of the Israelites in their two battles with the Philistines?



11. What happened to the ark and its two attendants?
12. What happened to Eli when he heard the bad news about the ark and his sons?
13. Why did Eli's daughter-in-law name her son Ichabod?
14. Where did the Philistines take the ark?
15. What happened to the Philistine idol Dagon?
16. What did God do to the people of Ashdod?
17. Where did the Philistines send the ark after Ashdod? What happened in that city?

### **Application & Discussion:**

1. What can we learn from Eli's response to Samuel's first prophecy?
2. How were the Israelites using the ark of the covenant? What is wrong with their use of the ark? How do people make the same type of mistakes today?

**Homework:** When God calls to you through His Word, respond like Samuel did.

# God as King is Rejected

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## 1 Samuel 6 - 8

### Questions:

1. How long did the ark stay in the land of the Philistines?
2. What did the Philistines send back with the ark as a trespass offering?
3. What story did the priests and diviners use to motivate the five lords of the Philistines to act on their plan?
4. What mode of transportation was used to send the ark back?
5. How would the Philistines know if God was behind the plagues upon the Philistines?
6. What did the people of Beth Shemesh do when the ark arrived?
7. Why did the Lord strike the men of Beth Shemesh?
8. Where did they send the ark after this? How long did the ark remain there?

9. What four things did Samuel tell the people to do so the Lord would deliver them from the Philistines?
10. What did Israel do at Mispah?
11. What did God do to the Philistines as Samuel was offering a lamb?
12. What did Samuel call the stone, he set up as a memorial? Why?
13. What was the result of the Lord's defeat of the Philistines?
14. Trace Samuel's circuit on a map.
15. Who were co-judges with Samuel? What three wicked things did they do?
16. What was the reasoning behind the elders of Israel requesting Samuel to give them a king?
17. How had Israel rejected God in asking for a king?
18. What would be the behavior of a king?

19. Why did the people still want a king?

**Application & Discussion:**

1. Both the Philistines and the Israelites are seen repenting in these chapters. What is involved in true repentance?

2. Israel rejected God as King. In what ways do we reject Christ as our King today?

**Homework:** Trust and wait upon God to be your deliverer.

# God Gives Israel a King

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## 1 Samuel 9 - 11

### Questions:

1. How is Saul described?
2. How did Saul end up in Zuph?
3. Why did Saul go to visit Samuel?
4. What did they have to give Samuel?
5. What was a seer?
6. How were they able to find Samuel?
7. According God's words to Samuel what was Saul to do and why?
8. How did Saul express humility to Samuel?

9. Why did Samuel have Saul's servant sent ahead while Samuel kept Saul back with him?
10. Who will Saul meet at Rachel's tomb? What will they tell Saul?
11. Who will Saul meet at the terebinth tree of Tabor? What will they give him?
12. What will happen when Saul goes to the city where he meets the prophets?
13. How long is Saul to wait for Samuel at Gilgal?
14. What proverb came on the day the three signs were fulfilled by God concerning Saul?
15. Where was Saul when he was selected to be king?
16. Who chose Saul to be king?
17. How did the people respond to Saul being their king?
18. Who went home with Saul and why?

19. What were the terms for a treaty with Nahash the Ammonite and the people of Jabesh Gilead?
20. Why did Saul cut up the yoke of oxen and send it out to all Israel?
21. What was the size of Saul's army?
22. Why did Samuel gather the people to Gilgal?

### **Application & Discussion:**

1. How was it that Saul was able to find Samuel? Was it as coincidence? Can God work in our lives today to bring about His will?
2. Negotiating a treaty with the enemies of God can be very costly. How do we “make treaties” with evil to our own demise today?

**Homework:** When facing your foes place your faith in the King of kings instead of negotiating with the enemy.

# God is the Deliverer

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## 1 Samuel 12 - 14:23

### Questions:

1. Why did Samuel make a speech to all Israel asking them the various questions in verse three?
2. How did the people respond to him?
3. List the enemies of Israel from whom God delivered Israel?
4. Who were the saviors God sent to Israel?
5. What are the conditions for God to continue to bless them?
6. What wickedness had Israel done against God?
7. What did the people request of Samuel when God sent thunder and rain?
8. What did Samuel promise to do for the people?
9. Why did the people join Saul at Gilgal?



10. How did Israel respond to the size of the Philistine forces?
11. Why did Saul make a burnt offering at Gilgal?
12. According to Samuel why were Saul's actions foolish? What were the consequences?
13. Why did Israel lack blacksmiths? What was the result of this?
14. Where was Saul when Jonathan attacked the Philistine garrison?
15. Why did Jonathan trust the Lord to be with him in his attack?
16. What was to be a sign according to Jonathan?
17. How many philistines were killed by Jonathan and his armor bearer?
18. What happened to cause Saul and his men to be alerted?
19. What things transpired to help Israel rout the Philistines on that day?
20. How far is Beth Aven from Michmash?

## **Application & Discussion:**

1. Do we sin against God in failing to pray for one another? Explain.
  
2. List other Bible stories where God saved by few against the many. Why does God so often chose to bring victories about in this manner?

**Homework:** Do not let the small number of God's people be a consideration in your fight with the enemies of God.

# King Rejected & King Anointed

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*1 Samuel 14:24 - 16:13*

## Questions:

1. What rash oath did Saul make?
2. Why didn't the people eat the honey?
3. Why did Jonathan eat the honeycomb?
4. Why did Jonathan disagree with his father's oath?
5. How were the people sinning against the Lord?
6. Why did Saul build an altar to the Lord?
7. How did Saul find out that Jonathan had violated his oath?
8. How did the people save Jonathan?
9. List the enemies of God's people whom Saul attacked?

10. Why was Amalek to be totally destroyed?
11. Who and what did Saul and the people spare among the Amalekites?
12. According to Saul why were the animals of the Amalekites spared?
13. How does Samuel describe Saul's disobedience?
14. Why was Saul rejected as king of Israel?
15. What did the tearing of Samuel's garment signify?
16. What did Samuel do to Agag? Why?
17. Where and to whom did God send Samuel to anoint a new king?
18. What criteria was God using to choose the next king?
19. How is young David described?

## **Application & Discussion:**

1. What problems were caused by Saul's rash oath? What should we do when making a promise?
2. Why is partial obedience still disobedience and why does the motive for disobedience not justify our actions before God?
3. Contrast man's criteria in choosing leaders with the traits God looks for in a leader.

**Homework:** In true obedience seek to worship and serve God.

# Saul Finds a Hero

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**1 Samuel 16:14 - 17:58**

## Questions:

1. What solution was sought for Saul's distressing spirit?
2. Who did they find? How is he described?
3. How did Saul respond to David?
4. How tall was Goliath?
5. How much did Goliath's coat of mail and his iron spear head weigh? What does this tell up about Goliath?
6. What challenge did Goliath make to the Israelites?
7. How did Saul and his army react to Goliath?
8. How many of Jesse's sons were with Saul? Why did David go back home from time to time?
9. How long had Goliath been taunting the Israelites?

10. Why did Jesse send David back to the Israelite camp?
11. What was the reward Saul was going to give the man who killed Goliath?
12. Who rebuked David and why?
13. What were Saul's arguments against David fighting Goliath?
14. What was David's counter-argument?
15. Why did David reject Saul's armor?
16. What weapons did David take to face Goliath?
17. Why did Goliath disdain David?
18. What would David's victory over Goliath prove?
19. How did the Philistines react to David killing Goliath? How did the Israelites respond?

## **Application & Discussion:**

1. What armor should we use when facing the giants in our spiritual warfare?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How can you reconcile Saul knowing David in chapter 16 and having communicated with David's father, Jesse and the end of chapter seventeen where he asks Abner whose son David is?

**Homework:** Have the faith in God David demonstrates here when you face your “giants”. Remember, it is not how big they are, but how big God is.



# Loving & Hating David

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## 1 Samuel 18 - 19

### Questions:

1. How much did Jonathan love David? What did he give to David?
2. What did Saul do in regard to David?
3. What made Saul very angry?
4. How did this change his relationship with David?
5. What else bothered Saul about David?
6. What role does Merab play in this story?
7. Why did Saul give Michal to David?

8. What dowry did Saul request of David? Why do you think Saul made this strange request of David?
9. What did David give as a dowry?
10. What did Jonathan do when he heard of Saul's desire to kill David?
11. What argument did Jonathan make to Saul for not killing David? What was the result?
12. Why did Saul seek to kill David with a spear?
13. How did Michal save David's life?
14. How did Michal explain her deception to Saul?
15. What happened to the messengers Saul had sent after David who was with Samuel?
16. What happened to Saul when he arrived at Naioth in Ramah?
17. How did people react to Saul's actions before Samuel?



# Allies of David

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## 1 Samuel 20 - 21

### Questions:

1. What was the disagreement between David and Jonathan in verse one through three?
2. What was David's plan?
3. What was Jonathan's reassurance to David?
4. What was Jonathan's plan?
5. What kindness did Jonathan seek from David?
6. Where was David to remain on the third day after the New Moon?
7. How was David to determine whether or not there was safety from Saul?
8. How did Saul react to David's empty seat on the first day?

9. How did Saul react to Jonathan's explanation of David's absence on the second day?
10. How did Jonathan react?
11. How did Jonathan let David know he was to flee from Saul?
12. How did David and Jonathan act toward each other after Jonathan sent the lad away?
13. What did David answer Ahimelech as to why he came to Nob?
14. What was the criteria used by Ahimelech to determine if David's men could receive the holy bread?
15. What weapon did Ahimelech give to David?
16. To where did David flee?
17. How did David act before the king of Gath? What was the result?

### **Application & Discussion:**

1. Did David and Jonathan lie to Saul? Did David lie to Ahimelech? Did David lie to the King of Gath? If so, does this prove that God approves of lying? Explain.

2. Some are using the love that Jonathan had for David to mean they had a homosexual relationship. How would you respond to this argument?

**Homework:** Be a friend like Jonathan was to David.

# King Chases After King

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## *1 Samuel 22 - 24*

### Questions:

1. Where did David escape to next? Who came to join him?
2. Where did David take his parents for safety? Considering the book of Ruth why is this ironic?
3. Why did David return to Judah?
4. Why was Saul upset with his servants?
5. What did Doeg the Edomite tell Saul?
6. What was Ahimelech's defense of his actions to Saul?
7. Who did Doeg kill and why?
8. Who told David of this atrocity and how did David respond?

9. How many times did David inquire of the Lord concerning Keilah and what did the Lord say?
10. Why did Saul think God had delivered David into his hand?
11. Through what did David inquire of the Lord concerning Saul's intentions?
12. What two answers did David receive from the Lord?
13. Where did Jonathan meet with David? How did he reassure David?
14. Who did Saul send out to spy on David's location?
15. Where did Saul find David?
16. Why did Saul stop pursuing David?
17. What did David do to Saul in the cave? Why did this cause his heart to be troubled?
18. What proof did David offer Saul that he intended the King of Israel no harm?
19. What did this prove to Saul?



20. What promise did David make to Saul?

**Application & Discussion:**

1. David was running for his life. Show from this lesson where David protected the lives of others. How might this attitude apply to the life of a Christian?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. David showed respect to King Saul even though Saul sought his life. How should Christians treat leaders of today even when they are evil?

**Homework:** Remember to show honor to whom honor is due.

# A New Queen for a King

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## 1 Samuel 25

### Questions:

1. Who died?
2. How is Nabal described in verses two and three?
3. How is Abigail described in verse three?
4. What had David and his men done for Nabal?
5. What request did David make of Nabal?
6. How did Nabal respond?
7. How did David react to Nabal's response?
8. How is Nabal described to Abigail by one of the young men who served him?
9. What did Abigail bring to David and his men?

10. How angry was David at Nabal?
11. How did Abigail present herself to David?
12. What did Abigail say about her husband to David?
13. What did she ask David to do?
14. What blessings does Abigail wish upon David?
15. Why did David bless God after Abigail's speech?
16. For what did David bless Abigail?
17. Why didn't Abigail tell Nabal how close he came to destruction?
18. After Abigail told Nabal in the morning what happened?
19. What did David do for Abigail?

20. Who did David also take for a wife?

21. What became of David's first wife?

### **Application & Discussion:**

1. Show from this chapter Abigail's great faith in God?

2. Revenge is dangerous to both parties. Show how Abigail was a peacemaker. How can we deal with vengeance when we feel like a great injustice has been done to us and others?

3. What made Abigail a good wife for Nabal? What would make her a good wife for David?

**Homework:** Let your light shine bright in a world filled with the darkness of fools.

# **The King Spared & Condemned**

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## ***1 Samuel 26 - 29***

### **Questions:**

1. Who told Saul where David was hiding?
2. Where was Saul sleeping?
3. Who went with David down to Saul's camp?
4. What was Abishai's suggestion to David?
5. What was David's response to Abishai?
6. What did they take from Saul?
7. What did David say to Abner?
8. What question did David ask of Saul?
9. What was Saul's response to David?

10. To whom did David give the glory?
11. Where did David go to escape Saul?
12. Where did David and his men stay and for how long?
13. Who did David attack? What spoils did he take?
14. Why did David not leave a man or woman alive?
15. What had Saul done with the mediums and spiritists? What are they? What does the Old Law say about them?
16. How had Saul inquired of the Lord? What was the result?
17. What did Saul require of the witch/medium of En Dor? Why was she hesitant?
18. How did the medium react when Samuel came forth?
19. What prophecy did Samuel make?

20. How did Saul react to Samuel's words?

21. What did the medium do for Saul and his servants?

### **Application & Discussion:**

1. Consider how often Saul has repented in this book. Was his repentance true? Or was his resolve too weak? Explain.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Did the medium actually bring up Samuel from the dead? Explain. How should Christians view and react to medium and spiritists?

**Homework:** Live so has not be being an enemy of God or His people.

# The Death of a King

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## *1 Samuel 29 - 31*

### Questions:

1. What did Achish say about David to the princes of the Philistines?
2. Why did the lords of the Philistines command David not be permitted to go to battle with them?
3. What did Achish do?
4. What did David do?
5. What had happened to Ziklag and its inhabitants?
6. What did the people with David want to do to him?
7. Why did David send for Abiathar?
8. What did the Lord tell David?



9. Who helped David find the Amelekites?
10. What was the result of David's attack on the Amelekites?
11. How did David propose the divided the spoil?
12. To whom did David send some of the spoil they had taken? Why?
13. Who was killed in battle with the Philistines?
14. What did Saul request of his armorbearer? Why?
15. When his armorbearer declined what did Saul do?
16. How did the rest of Israel respond to the news the battle being lost?
17. What did the Philistines do with dead Saul?
18. What did the valiant men of Jabesh Gilead do? What had Saul originally done for them?

## **Application & Discussion:**

1. Why was Saul so envious of David? What problems did envy cause? What problems does envy cause for Christians and the Church today?
2. Did Saul commit suicide? Explain.

**Homework:** Be fair when you share God's blessings.