

1 Samuel

The Transition from Judges
to Kings



The Historical Books of the Old Testament

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6 – 8. Joshua, Judges, Ruth

9. 1 Samuel – The Transition from Judges to Kings

10. 2 Samuel – The Reign of David

11 & 12. 1 & 2 Kings

13 & 14. 1 & 2 Chronicles

15, 16 & 17. Ezra, Nehemiah & Esther

1 Samuel

The Transition from Judges to Kings

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The Transition from Judges to Kings

- The Book of **1 Samuel** gives us the following stories:
 1. The life of **Samuel**, the last of the judges and the first of the prophets.
 2. The reign of **Saul**, the first of the kings.
 3. The rise of **David**, the best of the kings.

1 Samuel

The Transition from Judges to Kings

- The book opens with **the birth of Samuel**, the last judge, and closes with **the death of Saul**, the first king of Israel.
- The word “**prayer**” appears more than **30 times** in this book.

1 Samuel

The Transition from Judges to Kings

- This book give us the story of **David and Goliath** – two famous enemies.
- And the story of **David and Jonathan** – two famous friends.

1 Samuel

The Transition from Judges to Kings

- For the instructions Moses gave in advance concerning kings, we can turn to **Deuteronomy 17:14-20**.

1 Samuel Key Verses

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- Samuel anointed Saul to be Israel's first king, but Saul turned out not to be the best man for the job.
- **1 Samuel 13:14** (ESV)

But now your kingdom shall not continue. The LORD has sought out a man after his own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.

1 Samuel Key Verses

- **1 Samuel 15:22-23** (ESV)

²² And Samuel said, “Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.

²³ For rebellion is as the sin of divination, and presumption is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has also rejected you from being king.”

1 Samuel Key Chapters

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- 1 Samuel 1 The Birth of Samuel
- 1 Samuel 16 The Anointing of David
- 1 Samuel 17 David & Goliath

1 Samuel Key Chapters

[Hannah] saw herself as the Lord's servant, born to fulfil God's pleasure. And so she did not selfishly seek a child purely for her own satisfaction or focus on the need for someone to look after her in her old age. She was willing to dedicate her child to God as a Nazirite, set aside like Samson for God's service (Num 6:2-5; Judg 13:5).

*– Gbile Akanni,
Nigerian Bible Teacher*



1 Samuel Key Chapters

- God used Hannah's need to bring her to a place from which she saw it good to dedicate her child to him.
- What might her prayers have sounded like if her life had always been happy and comfortable?
- God used Samuel to bring Israel out of the chaos of the time of the judges.

1 Samuel Key Chapters

- 1 Samuel 1 The Birth of Samuel
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- 1 Samuel 17 David & Goliath

1 Samuel Key Chapters



It is not to be supposed that David was a perfect man in the natural and moral sense, for we know to the contrary ... With all his sin, David loved God supremely, and his underlying motive was to do his will ... the sense in which he was a man after God's own heart is seen by a comparison of his history with that of Saul.

*– James M. Gray (1851 – 1935),
Past President, Moody Bible Institute*

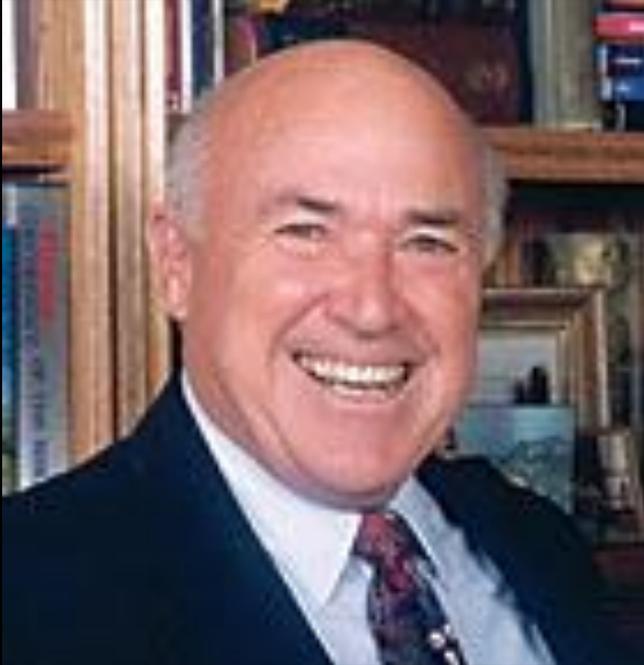
1 Samuel Key Chapters

- David was not the most obvious choice to be the next king.
- God had Samuel anoint him and then allowed circumstances that would bring him to public attention.
- This allowed David and those nearest to him to see his rise as part of the work of God in his life.

1 Samuel Key Chapters

- 1 Samuel 1 The Birth of Samuel
- 1 Samuel 16 The Anointing of David
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1 Samuel Key Chapters



David saw this giant Goliath from the proper perspective. It wasn't David against the giant, but the giant against the God David served. ... David's take on Goliath was that he had "defied the armies of the living God" and didn't have a chance.

*– Chuck Smith (1927 – 2013),
Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa*

1 Samuel Key Chapters

- David did not visit his brothers intending to slay Goliath.
- When we see our lives as part of God's overall plan, it makes it easier to devote ourselves to God's priorities.
- Too often we ask God to help us accomplish our goals, rather than being available to simply serve him.

1 Samuel Conclusions

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- From the life of **Hannah**, Samuel's mother, we learn that the Lord answers prayer.
- From the life of **Samuel**, we learn that God has a plan for each of our lives.
- **Samuel's calling** came when he was just a child.

1 Samuel Conclusions

- From the life of **Saul**, we learn that our lives must be submitted to God. Saul's was not.
- From the life of **David** we learn that the Lord looks at our hearts, not our outward appearance.
- David's life truly provides us with many lessons, but we'll look at him again in the next book, **2 Samuel**.