



1 SAMUEL SUMMARIZED in a word or phrase: "Monarchy"

THE BASICS

Who: anonymous, perhaps Samuel **When:** lifetime of Samuel; post Solomonic **Where:** unknown

Why: "... the specific purpose of 1 & 2 Samuel is to show that [God's] sovereignty was delegated to the nation Israel, especially through its line of divinely elected Davidic kings. David and his dynasty demonstrate what it means to rule under God." –Eugene Merrill

THE BOOK OF SAMUEL

A time at the close of the period of the Judges

Complacency and compromise are rampant

Spiritual lethargy and anarchy are pervasive

Defeat is everywhere

A time of transition

From "no king" to "our king" to "God's king"

A time for new leadership

2 lives; 2 lifestyles; Eli and Samuel

Devotion not position; obedience not appearance

LESSON THEME: A life worth following

Samuel's Lifestyle

The impact of godly parents (ch. 1-2)

A godly father, Elkanah (1:1, 3-7; 1 Chron 6:25)

A praying mother, Hannah (1:9-11; 2:1-10)

They gave God their best (1:28; 2:11)

The growing influence of a dedicated life (ch. 3)

Samuel's attentive spiritual ear (3:1-9)

His obedient will (3:10-14)

His humble heart (3:15-18)

His godly walk (3:19-4:1a and 2:26)

Eli's Lifestyle

He judged for 40 years; a "curator of relics"

His self-indulgence; couldn't lead himself (4:18)

The fact of his neglect

Toward his sons, Hophni and Phinehas (2:12-17, 22)

Toward the truth about the Ark (4:1-5)

The fruit of his neglect

His sons don't honor or respect him (2:22-25)

The Lord is going to overthrow his house (2:27-36)

The resulting lack of spiritual influence (ch. 4)

Eli's Leadership Left ...

A compromising people

A superstitious people (4:1-5)

An "abandoned" people ("Ichabod" 4:19-22)

An unchanged people (4; 6:14, 19-20; 7:1-2)

The Israelites were living as they pleased, yet believing God would favor them anyway

1 Samuel 2:30

A defeated people

Samuel's Leadership Left ...

A repentant people (7:3-4)

They confronted and rejected their idols

They renewed their allegiance to the Lord

A consecrated people (7:5-9)

They prayed

They sacrificed drink and burnt offerings

A victorious people (7:10-14)

A spiritually wise people (7:15-17)

APPLICATION: A life worth following

A Life Worth Following ...

Leaves behind it repentant people

Who confront their idols and "Canaanites"

Who renew their allegiance to the Lord alone

Leaves behind it consecrated people

Who pray to the Lord

Who worship Him in spirit and in truth

Leaves behind it victorious people

Leaves behind it spiritually wise people

Is a steward of its time

Are you regularly deepening your relationship with the Lord through the Word and prayer?

Is a steward of its talent

What's your SHAPE? How're you serving others?

A life not given away is a life squandered

Is a steward of its treasure

Are you striving to be a faithful steward of the resources God has entrusted to you?

Is a steward of its tongue

What you're saying to, and about, others

Has become a bond-servant of the living God

Have you given up both the control and the destination of your life to God?

And, like Samuel ...

A life worth following is involved in the lives of others

You Are Already A Leader!

You're leading yourself

You'll never lead anyone farther than you've led yourself

Husbands, you're leading your wives

Parents, you're leading your children

Employers, you're leading your employees

Home Group leaders, those in your group

And every Christian should have at least one Timothy ...

You are living lives worth following. Lead someone tomorrow!

1 SAMUEL

Decline of Judges			Rise of Kings		
Eli	Samuel		Saul	David	
Leadership transition: Eli to Samuel	Journeys of the Ark	Commentary on Samuel's judgeship	Leadership transition: Saul to David	Reign of Saul	Leadership transition: Saul to David
1:1 3:21	4:1 7:1	7:2 7:17	8:1 12:25	13:1 15:35	16:1 2 Sam 1:27

FOR NEXT TIME: _____

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YOUTUBE VIDEOS (No handouts. Private link; page is not searchable): https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGhFjfAlhYpQC2XYXZJXiwut_8g7P3qhF

VIDEO + HANDOUTS ON CCBC WEBSITE: <https://ccbcfamily.org/sermon/old-testament-survey> **PODCAST:** <https://feeds.transistor.fm/old-testament-survey>



"The Ark Sent Away" by James Tissot



"For This Child I Prayed" by Elspeth Young



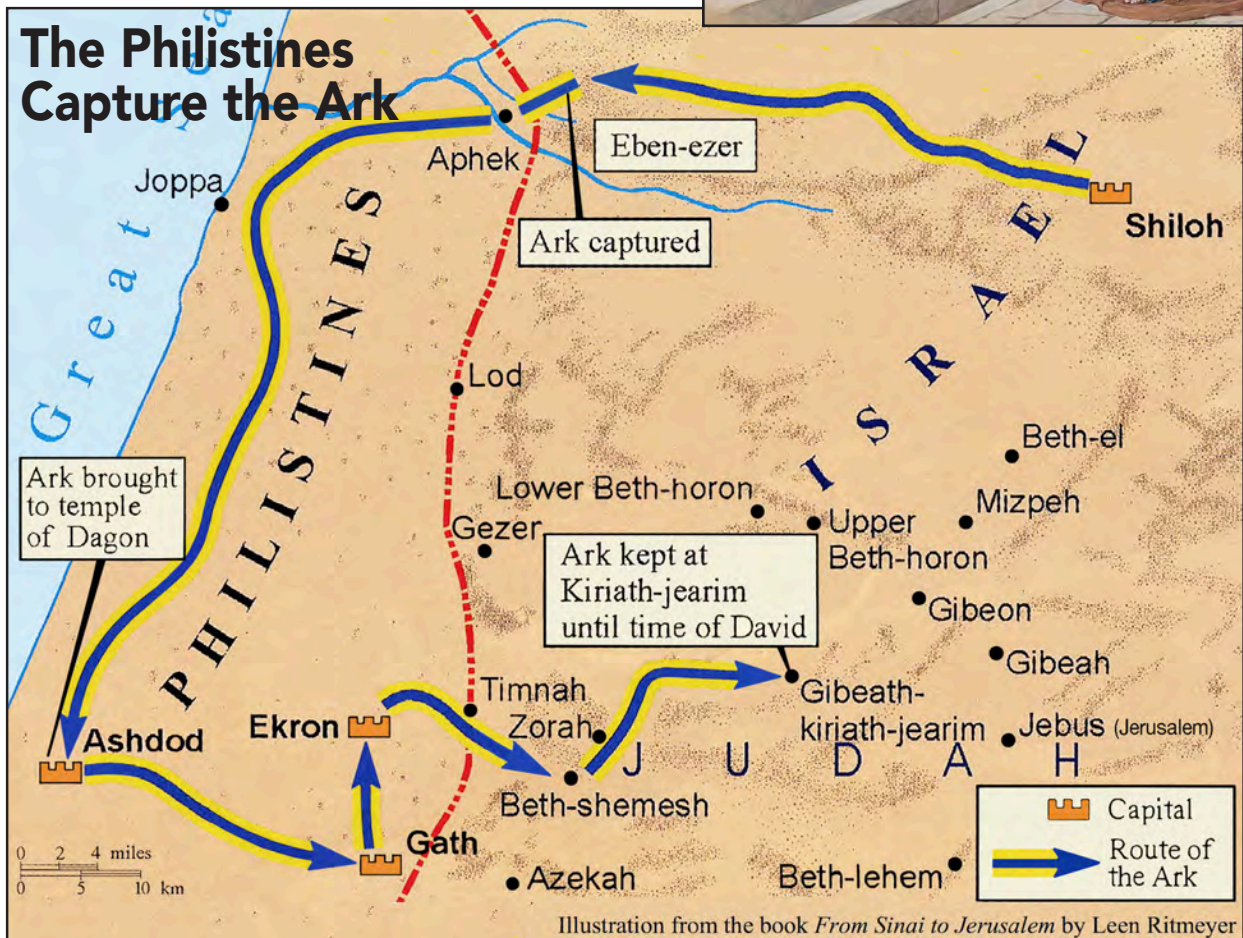
"Hannah Presents Samuel to Eli" by Samuel Topham



"Eli Sends Out Samuel" by James Tissot



"The High Priest and Hannah" by James Tissot



ISRAELITES VERSUS PHILISTINES

The Israelites and Philistines were archenemies and constantly fought. Here are some of their confrontations, found in 1 and 2 Samuel. When the Israelites trusted God for the victory, they always won.

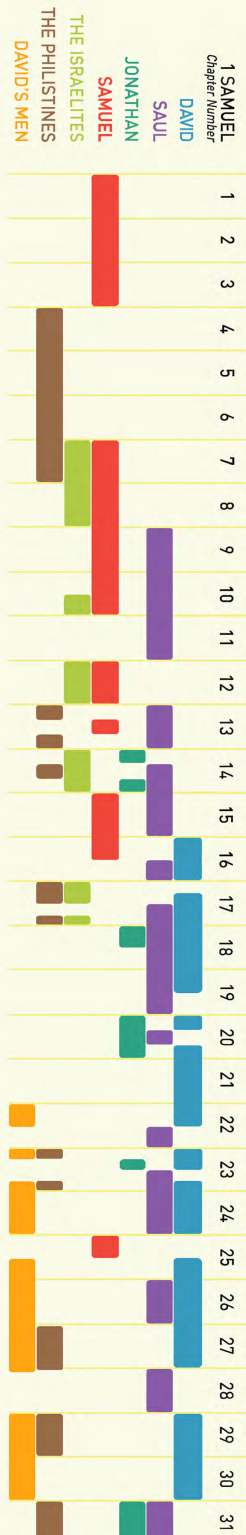
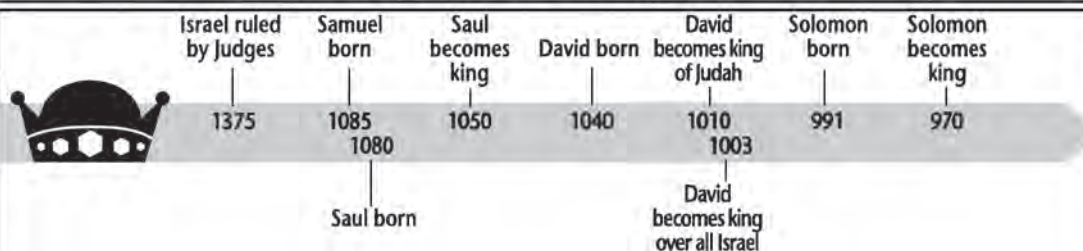
Location of the Battle	Winner	Comments	Reference
Aphek to Ebenezer	Philistines	The Ark was captured and Eli's sons killed	1 Samuel 4:1-11
Mizpah	Israelites	After the Ark was returned, the Philistines planned to attack again, but God confused them. Israel chased the Philistines back to Beth-car	1 Samuel 7:7-14
Geba	Israelites under Jonathan	One detachment destroyed	1 Samuel 13:3, 4
Gilgal	A standoff	The Israelites lost their nerve and hid	1 Samuel 13:6-17
Micmash	Israelites	Jonathan and his armor bearer said it didn't matter how many enemies there were. If God was with them, they would win. They began the battle, and the army completed it	1 Samuel 13:23-14:23
Valley of Elah	Israelites	David and Goliath	1 Samuel 17:1-58
?	Israelites	David killed 200 Philistines to earn a wife	1 Samuel 18:17-30
Keilah	Israelites under David	David protected the threshing floors from Philistine looters	1 Samuel 23:1-5
Aphek, Jezreel, to Mount Gilboa	Philistines	Saul and Jonathan killed	1 Samuel 29:1; 31:1-13
Baal-perazim	Israelites	The Philistines tried to capture King David	2 Samuel 5:17-25
Gath	Israelites	There was very little trouble with the Philistines after this defeat	2 Samuel 8:1
?	Israelites	Abishai saved David from a Philistine giant	2 Samuel 21:15-17
Gob	Israelites	Other giants were killed, including Goliath's brother	2 Samuel 21:18-22

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"Samuel At Ramah"
by James Tissot

TIMELINE OF 1 SAMUEL



1 SAMUEL AT A GLANCE
First Samuel weaves together many different lives. Here are some of the key people and where they appear throughout the story.

