



PRECEPT
UPON
PRECEPT®

English Standard Version

1 Samuel

GOD'S SEARCH
FOR A MAN
AFTER HIS OWN
HEART

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English Standard Version

1 SAMUEL

GOD'S SEARCH FOR A MAN
AFTER HIS OWN HEART

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PAGE **L E S S O N S**

1	LESSON ONE: Chapters 1–3
21	LESSON TWO: Chapters 4–7
33	LESSON THREE: Chapters 8–12
43	LESSON FOUR: Chapters 13–15
53	LESSON FIVE: Chapters 16–20
61	LESSON SIX: Chapters 21–23
77	LESSON SEVEN: Chapters 24–26
89	LESSON EIGHT: Chapters 27–31

A P P E N D I X

104	Explanations of the English Standard Version Bible Text Format
105	Observation Worksheets
203	Israel in the Days of Samuel, Saul, and David
205	Israel's Territories: Ancient and Modern
207	David's Journeys
209	I Samuel at a Glance
211	Saul's Family Tree



HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

How to Study Your Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994/2010

The New Inductive Study Bible—English Standard Version

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2013

Hebrew Word Study Tools

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

HUGHES, ROBERT B. AND LANEY, J. CARL

Tyndale Concise Bible Commentary

Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., 1990

GAEBELEIN, FRANK E., ED.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Vol. 3

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1992

EDERSHEIM, ALFRED

Old Testament Bible History

Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1984

RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

Logos Bible Software

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at www.logos.com.



LESSON ONE

Chapters One through Three

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES The following located in the Appendix:
Observation Worksheets of 1 Samuel 1–3
“Israel in the Days of Samuel, Saul, and David”
“1 Samuel at a Glance”
Word Studies

Asked of God

When was the last time you poured out your soul to God? Laid before Him the longing of your heart, wept over the anguish of your disappointment and then in childlike trust left it all with Him?

The book of 1 Samuel begins with an anguished heart in the midst of a nation in angst because they didn’t know God as they ought to have known Him, nor did they worship Him in spirit and truth. First Samuel begins this way but it doesn’t end this way! The book of 1 Samuel takes God’s people out of a cycle of darkness and defeat and moves them forward in His purpose and plan.

As you watch Israel move on, you’ll learn how it is possible for you to move on, possible for you and for others to grasp the lessons God ordained for His people in this account of Israel’s history.

The next eight weeks can be transforming if you will do your part and do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling God’s Word (2 Timothy 2:15).

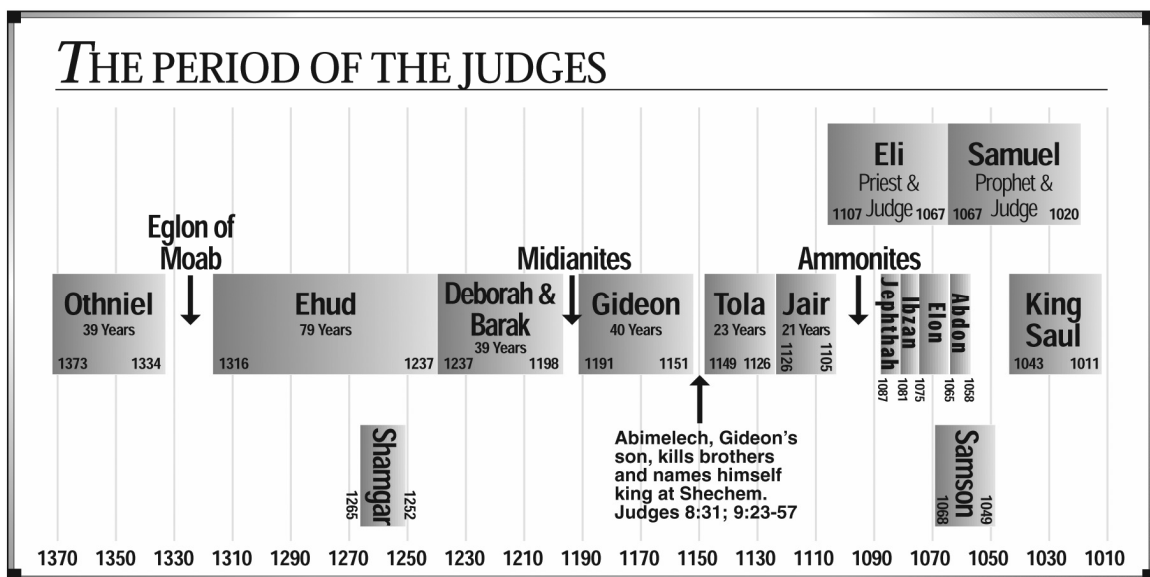
DAY ONE

You are about to study the very Word of God! What a duty! What a privilege! What a responsibility! Why don’t you begin the way we should begin any study of God’s book—in prayer asking Him to help you understand His Word and to live in light of it.

1. In the Appendix of this workbook you will find the text of 1 Samuel. Read 1 Samuel 1–3 to get the setting of this book. Double underline all geographical locations in green.



- c. Considering what you've observed in the above Scriptures, what makes 1 Samuel a significant book in Israel's history? What transition occurs in the course of this nation in 1 Samuel?
5. Look up the following references in Judges and note what you learn about these times:
- a. Judges 17:6; 18:1; 19:1; and 21:25
 - b. Judges 2:11-19
 - c. Is there anything you read in the first three chapters of 1 Samuel that demonstrates what the times were like?
6. You will find a historical chart on the days of the Judges below. Study it carefully so you can put the first segment of 1 Samuel in context. You'll find it's quite an interesting fit.





- c. At the end of this lesson you'll find a chart on "The Feasts of Israel" (used by permission) from *The New Inductive Study Bible (NISB)* that we strongly recommend for those who want to study the Bible inductively. This will show you when Elkanah went up to worship the Lord as commanded in Exodus.
2. Observe 1 Samuel 1 using the 1 Samuel 1 Observation Worksheet found in the Appendix. Watch for any key repeated words or phrases in this chapter and mark them in a distinctive way.

If you don't know how to do a Chapter Study, you'll find the instructions either in How to Study Your Bible or in the front section of the NISB or see "How to Do a Chapter Study" in the Appendix of this workbook.

Learning to observe the text is one of the most valuable things you can do. It takes time and it takes practice, but the dividends are great. Go for it!

3. In 1 Samuel 1:1 you saw that Elkanah is called an Ephraimite because he lives in the hill country of Ephraim. Now read 1 Chronicles 6:22-28 and 31-38. From which tribe did Elkanah come?
4. What do you learn about Hannah from this chapter? What kind of a woman is she? Review your observations and record what the text tells you about her.



DAY
FOUR

1. Let's begin our study today with an incredible chapter—1 Samuel 2. Use your Observation Worksheets marking key words, etc., and then go right into the next assignment.
2. You've observed Hannah's prayer but let's go a little deeper. Some call this Hannah's song. When you read it, you realize Hannah's heart was filled with praise to her God. It's a very significant prayer—listed with others that stand out as classics in Scripture such as Mary's Magnificat in Luke 1.
 - a. Read her prayer again and if you haven't already done so, mark in a distinctive way every reference to God.
 - b. There is so much to learn in Hannah's prayer and throughout the book of 1 Samuel in general which will broaden your respect of God and greatly increase your faith in Him. In Daniel 11:32b we learn that those who know their God are able to stand firm and take action, so don't miss a thing, faithful one. Awesome! List what you learn about God from 1 Samuel 2.



- c. Do you suppose that Hannah has Peninnah in mind at any point in this prayer? Are there things that apply to a woman such as Peninnah and the way she treated Hannah?

3. As we come to the close of today's study, why don't you spend some time in worship and prayer. Go through your list on God and thank Him for who He is and what He does as God. If what you've learned applies to any current situation in your life, then seek Him in prayer in light of what you've learned. Remember, faith always pleases Him and He is a rewarder of those who seek Him, so believe what you read and live accordingly.

We're going to leave you space to write your prayer or song should you be so inclined, or to journal what has transpired in your heart.

DAY
FIVE

Well, we have come to our final chapter of study this week. How we pray it has been a blessing to your heart. We so long to have you complete this study, for we know what is coming and it will greatly enrich your life. This is a discipline you



will never regret; for as you do these studies you are truly sitting at the feet of God, hearing His Word, learning truth by the power of the Holy Spirit. There is no other book in all the world like the Bible. This is a living book filled with divine words of God's choosing. Study as unto the Master, faithful disciple.

1. Carefully observe 1 Samuel 3 using your Observation Worksheets. Make sure you search out all the who, what, when, where, and why of the characters and events recorded in this chapter. Observe carefully what is happening in this chapter and how it happens.
2. This is Samuel's very first experience with God. What does Samuel hear from God? What does he learn about God in this first encounter? How does this strike you?
3. What insights do you gain about Samuel in this chapter with respect to his character, his calling, and how he handles his situation?



- h. 1 Samuel 3:19-20—Note what confirmed the fact that Samuel was a true prophet of God.
-
6. There are so many today who declare themselves “prophets” or “prophetesses.” Have you learned anything from these verses that will help you discern the validity of what they think of themselves?

You can do a more thorough study on this subject sometime by looking up every reference in the Word of God to prophets, prophesy, prophesying. In light of our times, this is a valuable study, but not for now since your study time is limited.

7. Finally, if you are satisfied with your chapter themes, transfer them to the “1 Samuel at a Glance” chart in the Appendix.
8. As you bring this week to a close, may we suggest that you take a few minutes to think through what you have learned this week.
 - a. How has it enhanced your knowledge of God and of His ways?



- b. Have you learned more about the history of God’s chosen people—His elect nation? What specifically did you learn?
- c. Are there things you can apply to your life in your distress, your relationships, your dealing with children, or your teaching others the importance of disciplining their children? Just remember, God expects you to parent your children. They need child-training and the parameters that go with it. You’re not to be your child’s “buddy”; his playmates can fill that role. Rather, you are to *parent!* This is your God-ordained role.

Now, one final question: Have you ever tried to manipulate God? Can He be manipulated? We’ll look at that next week. Please know we rejoice over your hunger and discipline.



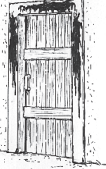
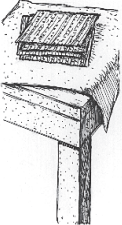








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1 Samuel
Lesson 1, Chapters 1–3



THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL



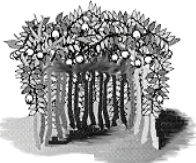

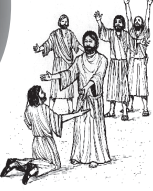

		1st Month (Nisan) Festival of Passover (<i>Pesach</i>)			3rd Month (Sivan) Festival of Pentecost (<i>Shavuot</i>)	
Slaves in Egypt 	Passover  	Unleavened Bread 	Firstfruits 		Pentecost or Feast of Weeks 	
Whoever commits sin is the slave to sin	<i>Kill lamb & put blood on doorpost</i> Exodus 12:6, 7	<i>Purging of all leaven</i> (symbol of sin)	<i>Wave offering of sheaf</i> (promise of harvest to come)		<i>Wave offering of two loaves of leavened bread</i>	
	1st month, 14th day Leviticus 23:5	1st month, 15th day for 7 days Leviticus 23:6-8	Day after Sabbath that occurs during the week of Unleavened Bread Leviticus 23:9-14		50 days after firstfruits Leviticus 23:15-21	
	Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed 	Cleanse out old leaven... as you really are unleavened	Christ has been raised...the firstfruits 	Going away so Comforter can come  Mount of Olives	Promise of the Spirit, mystery of church: Jews-Gentiles in one body 	
John 8:34	1 Corinthians 5:7	1 Corinthians 5:7, 8	1 Corinthians 15:20-23	John 16:7 Acts 1:9-12	Acts 2:1-47 1 Corinthians 12:13 Ephesians 2:11-22	

Months: Nisan—March, April • Sivan—May, June • Tishri—September, October



1 Samuel

Lesson 1, The Feasts of Israel

7th Month (Tishri) Festival of Tabernacles (<i>Succoth</i>)			
Interlude Between Festivals	Feast of Trumpets	Day of Atonement	Feast of Booths or Tabernacles
			
	<i>Trumpet blown — a holy convocation</i>	<i>Atonement shall be made to cleans you</i> Leviticus 16:30	<i>Harvest celebration memorial of tabernacles in wilderness</i>
	7th month, 1st day Leviticus 23:23-25	7th month, 10th day Leviticus 23:26-32	7th month, 15th day, for 7 days; 8th day, Holy Convocation Leviticus 23:33-44
Regathering of Israel in preparation for final day of atonement Jeremiah 32:37-41	Israel will repent and look to Messiah in one day Zechariah 3:9,10; 12:10; 13:1; 14:9	Families of the earth will come to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Booths Zechariah 14:16-19	New heaven and new earth God dwells with men Revelation 21:1-3
			
Ezekiel 36:24	Ezekiel 36:25-27 Hebrews 9, 10 Romans 11:25-29	Ezekiel 36:28	

Israel had two harvests each year—spring and autumn



1 SAMUEL 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

THERE was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim of the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Zuph, an Ephrathite.

- 2 He had two wives. The name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other, Peninnah. And Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.
- 3 Now this man used to go up year by year from his city to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the LORD.
- 4 On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters.
- 5 But to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb.
- 6 And her rival used to provoke her grievously to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb.
- 7 So it went on year by year. As often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat.
- 8 And Elkanah, her husband, said to her, “Hannah, why do you weep? And why do you not eat? And why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?”
- 9 After they had eaten and drunk in Shiloh, Hannah rose. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD.
- 10 She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly.
- 11 And she vowed a vow and said, “O LORD of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head.”
- 12 As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth.



- 13 Hannah was speaking in her heart; only her lips moved, and her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli took her to be a drunken woman.
- 14 And Eli said to her, “How long will you go on being drunk? Put your wine away from you.”
- 15 But Hannah answered, “No, my lord, I am a woman troubled in spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD.
- 16 “Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for all along I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation.”
- 17 Then Eli answered, “Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition that you have made to him.”
- 18 And she said, “Let your servant find favor in your eyes.” Then the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.
- 19 They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her.
- 20 And in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, “I have asked for him from the LORD.”
- 21 The man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow.
- 22 But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, “As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, so that he may appear in the presence of the LORD and dwell there forever.”
- 23 Elkanah her husband said to her, “Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him; only, may the LORD establish his word.” So the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him.
- 24 And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. And the child was young.
- 25 Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli.
- 26 And she said, “Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD.



- 27 “For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to him.
- 28 “Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.”
- And he worshiped the LORD there.



1 SAMUEL 2

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

AND Hannah prayed and said,

- “My heart exults in the LORD;
my horn is exalted in the LORD.
My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in your salvation.
- 2 “There is none holy like the LORD;
for there is none besides you;
there is no rock like our God.
- 3 “Talk no more so very proudly,
let not arrogance come from your mouth;
for the LORD is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.
- 4 “The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble bind on strength.
- 5 “Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger.
The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is forlorn.
- 6 “The LORD kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
- 7 “The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low and he exalts.
- 8 “He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap
to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honor.



For the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S,
and on them he has set the world.

- 9 “He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness,
for not by might shall a man prevail.
- 10 “The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces;
against them he will thunder in heaven.
The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king
and exalt the horn of his anointed.”
- 11 Then Elkanah went home to Ramah. And the boy was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli the priest.
- 12 Now the sons of Eli were worthless men. They did not know the LORD.
- 13 The custom of the priests with the people was that when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant would come, while the meat was boiling, with a three-pronged fork in his hand,
- 14 and he would thrust it into the pan or kettle or cauldron or pot. All that the fork brought up the priest would take for himself. This is what they did at Shiloh to all the Israelites who came there.
- 15 Moreover, before the fat was burned, the priest's servant would come and say to the man who was sacrificing, “Give meat for the priest to roast, for he will not accept boiled meat from you but only raw.”
- 16 And if the man said to him, “Let them burn the fat first, and then take as much as you wish,” he would say, “No, you must give it now, and if not, I will take it by force.”
- 17 Thus the sin of the young men was very great in the sight of the LORD, for the men treated the offering of the LORD with contempt.
- 18 Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy clothed with a linen ephod.
- 19 And his mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.



- 20 Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD give you children by this woman for the petition she asked of the LORD.” So then they would return to their home.
- 21 Indeed the LORD visited Hannah, and she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the boy Samuel grew in the presence of the LORD.
- 22 Now Eli was very old, and he kept hearing all that his sons were doing to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who were serving at the entrance to the tent of meeting.
- 23 And he said to them, “Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all these people.
- 24 “No, my sons; it is no good report that I hear the people of the LORD spreading abroad.
- 25 “If someone sins against a man, God will mediate for him, but if someone sins against the LORD, who can intercede for him?” But they would not listen to the voice of their father, for it was the will of the LORD to put them to death.
- 26 Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and also with man.
- 27 And there came a man of God to Eli and said to him, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Did I indeed reveal myself to the house of your father when they were in Egypt subject to the house of Pharaoh?
- 28 ‘Did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to go up to my altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? I gave to the house of your father all my offerings by fire from the people of Israel.
- 29 ‘Why then do you scorn my sacrifices and my offerings that I commanded for my dwelling, and honor your sons above me by fattening yourselves on the choicest parts of every offering of my people Israel?’
- 30 “Therefore the LORD, the God of Israel, declares: ‘I promised that your house and the house of your father should go in and out before me forever,’ but now the LORD declares: ‘Far be it from me, for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be lightly esteemed.



- 31 ‘Behold, the days are coming when I will cut off your strength and the strength of your father’s house, so that there will not be an old man in your house.
- 32 ‘Then in distress you will look with envious eye on all the prosperity that shall be bestowed on Israel, and there shall not be an old man in your house forever.
- 33 ‘The only one of you whom I shall not cut off from my altar shall be spared to weep his eyes out to grieve his heart, and all the descendants of your house shall die by the sword of men.
- 34 ‘And this that shall come upon your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, shall be the sign to you: both of them shall die on the same day.
- 35 ‘And I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who shall do according to what is in my heart and in my mind. And I will build him a sure house, and he shall go in and out before my anointed forever.
- 36 ‘And everyone who is left in your house shall come to implore him for a piece of silver or a loaf of bread and shall say, “Please put me in one of the priests’ places, that I may eat a morsel of bread.” ’ ’ ”



1 SAMUEL 3

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

NOW the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli.

And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

- 2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place.
- 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.
- 4 Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!"
- 5 and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.
- 6 And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again."
- 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.
- 8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.
- 9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.
- 10 And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears."
- 11 Then the LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.
- 12 "On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end.



- 13 “And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them.
- 14 “Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.”
- 15 Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli.
- 16 But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said, “Here I am.”
- 17 And Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.”
- 18 So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him.”
- 19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.
- 20 And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD.
- 21 And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.



1 Samuel

Israel in the Days of Samuel, Saul, and David





1 SAMUEL AT A GLANCE

Book Theme:

	Segment Divisions			Chapter Themes			
Author:				1			
				2			
				3			
4							
5							
6							
7							
Date:					8		
					9		
					10		
Purpose:						11	
						12	
						13	
						14	
Key Words:							15
							16
							17



Segment Divisions			Chapter Themes
			18
			19
			20
			21
			22
			23
			24
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			26
			27
			28
			29
			30
			31