

1 Samuel 01

Introduction

1. Why Study Samuel

- a. To learn what is profitable from Israel's history - Rom 15:4, 2 Tim 3:16
- b. To strengthen our workmanship to rightly divide the word of truth - 2 Tim 2:15
- c. Ruth a preface pointing to a future son who would be famous, faithful, and forever.

2. The Book

- a. 31 ch 810 vs 25,048 words (10x bigger than Ruth), part of the Prophets - Lk 24:44
- b. 1&2 Samuel was one book but divides into the "first and the last" - 1 Chron 29:29
- c. Also called "Acts of David the king", written by Samuel, Nathan, Gad (prophets)
- d. Its inspiration is testified in the OT and NT - Acts 1:16, 2 Pet 1:20-21

3. Samuel

- a. He is born and dies in this book (ch. 1:20-25:1) covering nearly a century ~1100BC
- b. His early days in the time of Philistine oppression (days of the judges)
- c. In those days there was no king in Israel - Judges 17:6, 18:1, 19:1, 21:25 (Ruth, Samuel)
- d. Book was finished after David (like Ruth) as a record of the promised king.
- e. He was a prophet (3:20), priest (7:9), and judge (7:15), the last after Samson)
- f. He spoke the words of the Lord, compared to Moses - 1 Chron 11:3, Ps 99:3, Jer 15:1

4. Purpose

- a. Samuel records the beginning of the kingdom of Israel.
- b. A book of transition in how God/Israel interact: law, priests, judges → kings, prophets.
- c. It also is a record of the life, character, and spirit of David - Israel's greatest king.
- d. The gospel of the kingdom finds its start back in Samuel and Israel's first kings
- e. Mystery was unknown, but prophecies of Christ were - Rom 16:25, Acts 3:18-21
- f. Peter says: "all the prophets from Samuel... have foretold of these days" - Acts 3:24
- g. Peter/Paul connects the events of Samuel to Jesus - Acts 2:29-31, 13:20-23

5. Themes

- a. "Anointed of the Lord" spoken more in this book than the rest (Christ, Messiah)
- b. "Spirit" is found throughout the book - 10:6, 10; 11:6, 16:1, 3. Psa 51:11
- c. Psalms - David wrote his Psalms during Samuel's events - Ps 18, 52, 54, 57, 59, 99
- d. God's glory forever in the church Rom 16:27, Eph 3:21, but leaves Israel in Samuel
- e. David's actions in 1 Samuel speak to Christ's first coming, 2 Samuel to his second.
- f. "faith" "hope" not found, grace is rare, and salvation concerns Israel's victories
- g. "Lord of hosts" first mention in Samuel - as God uses kings to fight for him.
- h. Covenants - ark, Jonathan / David, Saul / David, God / David. Matt 1:1, Lk 1:32-33
- i. KJ errors - Samuel's text is said to be poorly preserved. We will see.

6. Notable Passages

- a. Ch. 1-2 - Hannah's prayer
- b. Ch. 4-7 - Ichabod and Ebenezer
- c. Ch. 8 - "Make us a king!"
- d. Ch. 15:22 - "to obey is better than sacrifice"
- e. Ch. 17 - David and Goliath
- f. Ch. 21-27 - David flees from Saul (but why, for what purpose, why so long?)
- g. Ch. 28 - Saul and the witch at Endor

7. Brief Outline of the First Book of Samuel

a. Samuel the Prophet

- i. 1-3 - Samuel (Hannah's faith, Eli's failure)
- ii. 4-7 - The Glory of the Lord (ark of God leaves and returns)

b. Saul the King

- i. 8-12 - The Making of a King (Saul, his anointing, a kingdom established)
- ii. 13-15 - Saul's Failure (as prophet, priest, king)

c. David the Anointed

- i. 16-18 - David's Rise (anointing, victories, Saul's favor)
- ii. 19-21 - David flees (Saul's disfavor, Jonathan and David)
- iii. 22-27 - David an outlaw (among Philistines, his character, his trust in God)
- iv. 28-31 - Saul's Demise (Saul rejects God, David's faithfulness)