

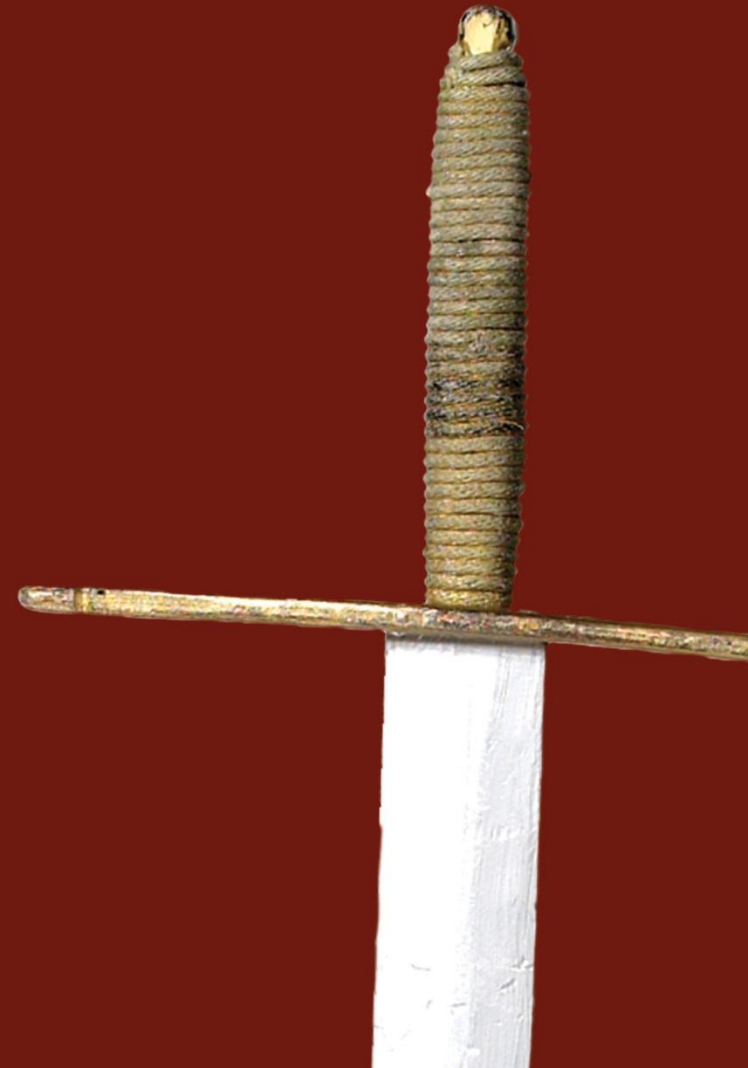
STANDING TALL FALLING HARD

THE STORY

READ THE STORY. EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE.

I Samuel

*The Story of **Samuel**,
the last Judge of
Israel & **Saul**-
Israel's First King*



A Nation in Transition

I Samuel

I Samuel covers a period of about 115 years covering two lives, Samuel the last Judge and Saul the first King.

I Samuel is a transitional book. The first 12 chapters cover the story of Samuel's ministry and chapters 13-31 covers the life of Israel's first King Saul.

SAMUEL

Samuel was a godly man

Samuel's mother's name was Hannah and the name means Ann or grace

Hannah prayed and asked God for a son and God answered her prayer in the birth of Samuel.

She had been barren prior to Samuel's birth

Hannah gave Samuel to the Lord and when he was weaned she took him to the Priest Eli and

he became responsible to rear and train up

Samuel in the faith

SAMUEL

I Samuel 1:24

Now when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with a three-year-old bull and one ephah of flour and a jug of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD in Shiloh, although the child was young.

The environment in which Samuel was raised

¹⁸ Now Samuel was ministering before the LORD, *as* a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ And his mother would make him a little robe and bring it to him from year to year when she would come 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 from this woman in place of the one she dedicated to the LORD.” And they went to their own home.

Hannah was blessed with more children

²¹ The LORD visited Hannah; and she conceived and gave birth to three sons and two daughters.

And the boy Samuel grew before the LORD

The environment Samuel was raised in .

Eli Rebukes His Sons

²² Now Eli was very old; and he heard all that his sons were doing to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who served at the doorway of the tent of meeting

The environment in which Samuel was raised

I Samuel 3:11

¹¹ The LORD said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. ¹² In that day I will carry out against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³ For I have told him that I am about to judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knew, because his sons brought a curse on themselves and he did not rebuke them

POINT TO PONDER

Parents, Grandparents, keep setting the standard of Godliness: kids can forgive their parents of just about any problem except inconsistency of standard. Stand your ground in issues of right and wrong

Samuel's Weakness

I Samuel 8:1-4

¹ And it came about when Samuel was old that he appointed his sons judges over Israel. ² Now the name of his firstborn was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; *they* were judging in Beersheba. ³ His sons, however, did not walk in his ways, but turned aside after dishonest gain and took bribes and perverted justice.

POINT TO PONDER

There is no guarantee that a godly father or mother will automatically have godly children

Israel's Request For a King

⁴ Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah; ⁵ and they said to him, “Behold, you have grown old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations

Why Israel Wanted a King

1. Samuel was old so he couldn't carry on
2. His sons were corrupt and therefore disqualified
3. They wanted to be like all the nations

Why Israel Wanted a King

Samuel's heart was broken when Israel wanted
a king

I Samuel 8:6

But the thing was displeasing in the sight of
Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge
us.” And Samuel prayed to the LORD

Why Israel Wanted a King

Samuel's heart was broken when Israel wanted
a king

⁷ The LORD said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them.

Why Israel Wanted a King

Samuel's heart was broken when Israel wanted
a king

⁹ Now then, listen to their voice; however, you shall solemnly warn them and tell them of the procedure of the king who will reign over them.”

Samson Advises Against Having a King

1. He will rip you off

2. He will take the best of your sons and daughters and he will put them into slavery

3. He will tax you 10-20%

4. You will live to hate the day you asked for a king

Samson Advises Against Having a King

¹⁹ Nevertheless, the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel, and they said, “No, but there shall be a king over us,”

Saul, Israel's first King

Saul-Israel's First King

Samuel 9:2

² He had a son whose name was Saul, a choice and handsome *man*, and there was not a more handsome person than he among the sons of Israel; from his shoulders and up he was taller than any of the people.

WOW

Saul-Israel's First King

Samuel 9:2

Tall handsome, and probably dark, he had it
together

He was good looking and he was just the kind of
person that you would choose if you are going
by externals

Saul's Humility

Samuel 9:21

Saul replied, “Am I not a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribes of Israel, and my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then do you speak to me in this way?”

Saul's Humility

I Samuel 10:22

Therefore they inquired further of the LORD, “Has the man come here yet?” So the LORD said, “Behold, he is hiding himself by the baggage.

Saul's Strenghts

Saul's was courageous and organized

I Samuel 11:11

The next morning Saul put the people in three companies; and they came into the midst of the camp at the morning watch and struck down the Ammonites until the heat of the day. Those who survived were scattered, so that no two of them were left together.

Saul's Three Major Mistakes

1. He didn't wait for Samuel to offer the sacrifice, instead he did it himself

⁸ He waited seven days, the time set by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and Saul's men began to scatter. ⁹ So he said, "Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings." And Saul offered up the burnt offering.

Saul's Three Major Mistakes

¹⁰ Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet him.

¹¹ “What have you done?” asked Samuel.

Saul replied, “When I saw that the men were scattering, and that you did not come at the set time, and that the Philistines were assembling at Mikmash,

Saul's Three Major Mistakes

,¹² I thought, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the LORD's favor.' So I felt compelled to offer the burnt offering."

¹³ "You have done a foolish thing," Samuel said. "You have not kept the command the LORD your God gave you; if you had, he would have established your kingdom over Israel for all time."

Saul's Three Major Mistakes

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¹⁴ But now your kingdom will not endure; the LORD has sought out a man after his own heart and appointed him ruler of his people, because you have not kept the LORD's command.”

Saul's Three Major Mistakes

2. Saul made a rash vow in Chapter 14

No one eats until we win the victory, if one violates this command they will be put to death. His own son, Jonathon violated that command, and Saul tried to kill him

Saul's Three Major Mistakes

3. Saul disobeyed the Lord and doesn't kill all the Amalekites and their livestock

¹⁴ But Samuel said, "What then is this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?" ¹⁵ Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites, for the people spared the best of the sheep and oxen, to sacrifice to the LORD your God; but the rest we have utterly destroyed."

Saul is Rejected by the Lord

¹⁶ “Enough!” Samuel said to Saul. “Let me tell you what the LORD said to me last night.”

“Tell me,” Saul replied.

¹⁷ Samuel said, “Although you were once small in your own eyes, did you not become the head of the tribes of Israel? The LORD anointed you king over Israel

Saul is Rejected by the Lord

¹⁸ And he sent you on a mission, saying, ‘Go and completely destroy those wicked people, the Amalekites; wage war against them until you have wiped them out.’ ¹⁹ Why did you not obey the LORD? Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the LORD?”

Saul is Rejected by the Lord

²⁰ “But I did obey the LORD,” Saul said. “I went on the mission the LORD assigned me. I completely destroyed the Amalekites and brought back Agag their king. ²¹ The soldiers took sheep and cattle from the plunder, the best of what was devoted to God, in order to sacrifice them to the LORD your God at Gilgal.”

Saul is Rejected by the Lord

²² But Samuel replied:

“Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD?”

To obey is better than sacrifice,
and to heed is better than the fat of rams.

Saul is Rejected by the Lord

²³ For rebellion is like the sin of divination,
and arrogance like the evil of idolatry.
Because you have rejected the word of the
LORD,
He has rejected you as king.”

Samson Appoints a New King

Chapter 16 Samson anoints the new King **David**

Chapter 17 David slays **Goliath** with his
slingshot

Chapter 18-Saul becomes jealous of David and
attempts to kill him

Saul's Jealousy Toward David

I Samuel 18:6-7

the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy and with musical instruments. ⁷ The women sang as they played, and said,

“Saul has slain his thousands,
And David his ten thousands.”

Saul's Jealousy Toward David

⁸ Then Saul became very angry, for this saying displeased him; and he said, “They have ascribed to David ten thousands, but to me they have ascribed thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?” ⁹ Saul looked at David with suspicion from that day on.

Saul's Attempts to Murder David

¹⁰ Now it came about on the next day that an evil spirit from God came mightily upon Saul, and he raved in the midst of the house, while David was playing *the harp* with his hand, as usual; and a spear *was* in Saul's hand. ¹¹ Saul hurled the spear for he thought, "I will pin David to the wall." But David escaped from his presence twice.

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Saul dreaded David (I Samuel 18:5, 14, 15)

All Hell breaks loose on Saul

Chapter 28

He seeks counsel from a woman who is a medium at Endor

⁷ Then Saul said to his servants, “Seek for me a woman who is a medium that I may go to her and inquire of her.” And his servants said to him, “Behold, there is a woman who is a medium at En-dor.”

Saul commits suicide

I Samuel 31:2

² The Philistines overtook Saul and his sons; and the Philistines killed Jonathan and Abinadab.

³ The battle went heavily against Saul, and the archers hit him; and he was badly wounded by the archers.

Saul commits suicide

I Samuel 31:4

Then Saul said to his armor bearer, “Draw your sword and pierce me through with it, otherwise these uncircumcised will come and pierce me through and make sport of me.” But his armor bearer would not, for he was greatly afraid. And it says, he fell on his sword and he died

Saul commits suicide

I Samuel 31:4

So Saul took his sword and fell on it. ⁵ When his armor bearer saw that Saul was dead, he also fell on his sword and died with him. ⁶ Thus Saul died with his three sons, his armor bearer, and all his men on that day together.

Saul commmits suicide

I Samuel 31:4

⁸ It came about on the next day when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen on Mount Gilboa. ⁹ They cut off his head and stripped off his weapons, and sent *them* throughout the land of the Philistines, to carry the good news to the house of their idols and to the people. ¹⁰ They put his weapons in the temple of Ashtaroth, and they fastened his body to the wall of Beth-shan.

POINT TO PONDER

1. No environment handicap can cripple anyone whose life is touched by the hand of God

2. No amount of high qualifications can be preserved by anyone who willfully rejects the word of God