

## 1 and 2 Samuel Outline(\*)

### I. Samuel: Prophet and Judge to Israel (1:1–7:17)

#### A. Samuel the Prophet (1:1–4:1a)

1. The birth of Samuel (1:1–28)
  - Hannah prays to God for the birth of a son though she is barren
  - Commits Samuel to God if He grants her wish
2. The prayer of Hannah (2:1–10)
3. The growth of Samuel (2:11–26)
4. The oracle against Eli's house (2:27–36)
  - His sons violate the law given to the priests
  - Eli does not restrain them
5. The Word of the Lord through Samuel (3:1–4:1a)
  - Because of his responsiveness to God, he is confirmed as a prophet at a time when the "Word of the LORD was rare"

#### B. Samuel the Judge (4:1b–7:17)

1. The saga of the ark (4:1b–7:1)
  - The Ark is captured by the Philistines in battle
  - Eli, when hearing this news, dies
  - However, after bringing it back to the city of Ashdod
  - They notice that their god, Dagon, keeps falling face down, they return the ark to Israel
2. Israel's victory over the Philistines and the judgeship of Samuel (7:2–17)
  - Told to get rid of their foreign gods if they want to return to the LORD
  - The cities the Philistines took were restored back to Israel
  - The hand of God was against the Philistines during the days of Samuel

### II. Saul: First King Over Israel (8:1–15:35)

#### A. The Rise of Saul to the Kingship (8:1–12:25)

1. The demand of Israel for a king (8:1–22)
  - Israel chooses less than God's best
    - Their motive is wrong (8:5 – To be like the rest of the nations)
    - Their criteria is wrong (9:2 – Outward appearance rather than the heart)
2. The process of Saul becoming king (9:1–11:13)
  - Saul begins well, but his good characteristics soon degenerate
3. The exhortation of Samuel to Israel concerning the king (11:14–12:25)

#### B. The Decline of Saul in the Kingship (13:1–15:35)

1. The rebuke of Saul (13:1–15)
  - For performing a priestly function
2. The wars of Saul (13:16–14:52)
  - Makes a foolish vow of killing anyone eating honey with the tip of their spear/staff
  - Jonathan, his son, is caught doing that
3. The rejection of Saul (15:1–35)

### III. David and Saul: Transfer of the Kingship in Israel (16:1–31:13)

#### A. The Introduction of David (16:1–17:58)

1. The anointing of David (16:1–13)
2. David in the court of Saul (16:14–23)
3. David, the warrior of the Lord (17:1–58)

- The defeat of Goliath
  - Note: Goliath disrespected the authority of God, which led to his downfall
- B. David Driven from the Court of Saul (18:1–20:42)
1. The anger and fear of Saul toward David (18:1–30)
  2. The defense of David by Jonathan and Michal (19:1–20:42)
- C. David's Flight from Saul's Pursuit (21:1–28:2)
1. Saul's killing of the priests at Nob (21:1–22:23)
  2. Saul's life spared twice by David (23:1–26:25)
  3. David's despair and Philistine refuge (27:1–28:2)
    - David flees to a Philistine city where he feigns insanity
    - He flees again to Adullam where a band of men forms around him
- D. The Death of Saul (28:3–31:13)
1. Saul's final night (28:3–25)
  2. David's dismissal by the Philistines (29:1–11)
    - Not allowed to fight on their side against Israel
  3. David's destruction of the Amalekites (30:1–31)
  4. Saul's final day (31:1–13)
    - The LORD rebukes Saul and pronounces his doom
    - He and his sons are killed by the Philistines on Mount Gilboa

#### **IV. The Consolidation of Kingship in Israel (2 Samuel 1–20)**

- A. David's Lament over Saul and Jonathan (1)
- B. David Becomes King over Judah (2–4)
1. Civil War – Abner joins with David but is murdered by Joab (3)
  2. Ish-bosheth, son of Saul, is killed (4)
- C. David Becomes King over All Israel (5:1–5)
- D. David Conquers Jerusalem (5:6–25)
1. He makes Jerusalem the capital city instead of Hebron
  2. Under David's rule, the nation prospers politically, spiritually, militarily
- E. David Brings the Ark to Jerusalem (6)
- F. God Promises David an Everlasting Dynasty (7)
1. God's covenant to build the house of David
- G. The Extension of David's Kingdom (8)
1. War against Philistia, Moab, Syria, Ammon, and Amalek
- H. David's Faithfulness to His Covenant with Jonathan (9)
1. David befriends Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son
- I. David Commits Adultery and Murder (chs. 11–12)
1. David's Sin with Bathsheba (11-12)
- J. David Loses His Son Amnon (chs. 13–14)
1. Amnon rapes Tamar; Absalom takes revenge
  2. David permits Absalom to return
- K. David Loses His Son Absalom (chs. 15–20)
1. Absalom revolts against David and David flees (15-17)
  2. David defeats Absalom; Joab kills Absalom (18)
  3. David restored to the throne (19)
  4. Sheba, the Benjaimite's revolt against David and his death (20)

#### **V. Final Reflections on David's Reign (2 Samuel 21–24)**

- A. Punishment for Saul's sin
  - 1. The three year famine is a result of Saul's sin of destroying the Gibeonites
  - 2. We also see seven descendants of Saul being given to the Gibeonites as a 'payment' for Saul's attack on them
- B. Great Faith
  - 1. David's Psalm of Praise (22:1 – 23:7)
- C. Great Strength
  - 1. David's Mighty Men (23:8-39)
- D. Great Sin
  - 1. David's Punishment for the Census (24)

*(\*) Adapted from Grace to You, 1 Samuel, February 22, 2010*

### **MAJOR THEMES**

1. **MONARCHY**
2. **DAVIDIC COVENANT**
3. **SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD**
4. **THE PERSONAL AND NATIONAL EFFECTS OF SIN**