

# Cornhill Scotland

---

## Book in a Day: 1 Samuel

Thursday 27th November 2025

---

### Timetable:

09:30-10:45 - SESSION 1

10:45-11:15 - REFRESHMENTS

11:15-12:30 - SESSION 2

12:30-13:45 - LUNCH

13:45-15:00 - SESSION 3

15:00-15:20 - REFRESHMENTS

15:20-16:30 - SESSION 4

### Resources:

**A Son to Me** - *Peter Leithart*

**1&2 Samuel** (New American Commentary series)  
- *Robert D. Bergen*

**Teaching 1 Samuel** (CFP & PT) - *Andrew Reid*

**1 Samuel: Looking for a Leader** (Preach the Word series)- *John Woodhouse*

**1 Samuel in ESV Expository Commentary**  
(vol.3) - *Gary Millar*

**1 Samuel: Looking on the Heart** - *Dale Ralph Davis*

**The Hebrew Bible: A Translation with Commentary** [smaller - The David Story] -  
*Robert Alter*

**Why are there 39 books in OT but only 27 books in the NT?**

<b>Genesis</b> — Getting <b>Started</b>	<b>2 Chronicles</b> — Getting <b>Reminded</b>	<b>Daniel</b> — Getting <b>Faith</b>
<b>Exodus</b> — Getting <b>Out</b>	<b>Ezra</b> — Getting <b>Back</b>	<b>Hosea</b> — Getting <b>Loved</b>
<b>Leviticus</b> — Getting <b>Close</b>	<b>Nehemiah</b> — Getting <b>Holy</b>	<b>Joel</b> — Getting <b>Restored</b>
<b>Numbers</b> — Getting <b>Lost</b>	<b>Esther</b> — Getting <b>Brave</b>	<b>Amos</b> — Getting <b>Justice</b>
<b>Deuteronomy</b> — Getting <b>Ready</b>	<b>Job</b> — Getting <b>Clear</b>	<b>Obadiah</b> — Getting <b>Humbled</b>
<b>Joshua</b> — Getting <b>In</b>	<b>Psalms</b> — Getting <b>Worship</b>	<b>Jonah</b> — Getting <b>Angry</b>
<b>Judges</b> — Getting <b>Dizzy</b>	<b>Proverbs</b> — Getting <b>Wisdom</b>	<b>Micah</b> — Getting <b>Mercy</b>
<b>Ruth</b> — Getting <b>Redeemed</b>	<b>Ecclesiastes</b> — Getting <b>Real</b>	<b>Nahum</b> — Getting <b>Judgment</b>
<b>1 Samuel</b> — Getting <b>Anointed</b>	<b>Song of Songs</b> — Getting <b>Love</b>	<b>Habakkuk</b> — Getting <b>Sovereignty</b>
<b>2 Samuel</b> — Getting <b>Established</b>	<b>Isaiah</b> — Getting <b>Hope</b>	<b>Zephaniah</b> — Getting <b>Cleansed</b>
<b>1 Kings</b> — Getting <b>Divided</b>	<b>Jeremiah</b> — Getting <b>Warned</b>	<b>Haggai</b> — Getting <b>Priorities</b>
<b>2 Kings</b> — Getting <b>Defeated</b>	<b>Lamentations</b> — Getting <b>Disciplined</b>	<b>Zechariah</b> — Getting <b>Encouraged</b>
<b>1 Chronicles</b> — Getting <b>Records</b>	<b>Ezekiel</b> — Getting <b>Reset</b>	<b>Malachi</b> — Getting <b>Wholehearted</b>

*'In 1 Samuel, Jesus stands behind every shadow: the promised Anointed of Hannah's song who lifts the lowly and shatters the proud, the true prophet and priest and judge glimpsed in Samuel whose obedience restores what corruption loses, the holy presence that the ark only hinted at, the King Israel longed for but could not imagine. Saul reveals the ruin of splendour without obedience, while David, the humble shepherd anointed by the Spirit, the courageous champion who fights the battle no one else can face, and the merciful exile who refuses to seize power by force, becomes the living silhouette of Christ. Through these stories Jesus appears not by name but by shape, quiet and rising and inevitable.'*

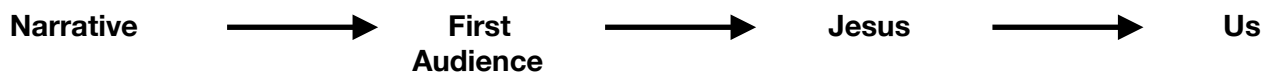
**OT Narrative:**

- Beyond binary character studies... Eli Bad/Samuel Good, Saul Bad/David Good, Be like him...
- Stories for a reason... don't reduce to a series of propositional truths...
- More than telling the story, but not less than telling the story...
- Not **History**, **Former Prophets** (Joshua-2 Kings)... Events plus interpretation... Faith-Hope-Love...
- Interchangeable camera lenses...
- Photo Fit of the King... Things can be Jesus(ish)... Messy typology...
- First audience - not serialised in the METRO:
  - 1 Samuel 5:5 - *'This is why the priests of Dagon and all who enter the house of Dagon do not tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod **to this day**.'*
  - 1 Samuel 6:18 - *...'The great stone beside which they set down the ark of the Lord is a witness **to this day** in the field of Joshua of Beth-shemesh.*
  - 1 Samuel 9:9 - *(Formerly in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he said, "Come, let us go to the seer," for **today's** "prophet" was formerly called a seer.)*
  - 1 Samuel 27:6 - *So that day Achish gave him Ziklag. Therefore Ziklag has belonged **to the kings of Judah to this day**. (After 931 BC but probably much later...)*
- **Careful Edit:**
  - 1 Samuel 23 - David evades Saul [A]
  - 1 Samuel 24 - David spares Saul [B]
  - 1 Samuel 25 - David is told not to shed innocent blood [C]
  - 1 Samuel 26 - David spares Saul [B']
  - 1 Samuel 27 - David evades Saul [A']
- **1-2 Samuel & 1-2 Kings = 4 Reigns**
  - Theological Unity with 1-2 Kings [Covenant Obedience, Prophets vs. Kings, Shared language (1 Sam 15:9 & 2 Kings 21:20), Unbroken Narrative, later Hebrew,
    - Which runs beyond the 37th year of the exile (2 Kings 25:27-30)

**Therefore, first audience is probably in and around the exile (6th Century BC)**

Therefore though these stories always take place in 'narrative time', we must ask the question what would readers in the exile make of these stories. What would they think, feel, hope for?

**'GOING TO CORINTH IS STILL NECESSARY BUT LOOKS DIFFERENT'**



**'Why did we lose the land and end up in exile if we are God's chosen people? Is there any hope?'**

- Whole theological weight of at least Genesis -> Judges under their belt, but probably a lot more...

So,

**Joshua 7:1** - But the people of Israel broke faith in regard to the devoted things, for Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the devoted things. And the anger of the Lord burned against the

1 Chronicles 2:7 - The son of Carmi: Achan, **the troubler of Israel**, who broke faith in the matter of the devoted thing;

**1 Samuel 14:29-30** - Then Jonathan said, "My father has **troubled the land**. See how my eyes have become bright because I tasted a little of this honey. How much better if the people had eaten freely today of the spoil of their enemies that they found. For now the defeat among the Philistines has not been great."

**1 Samuel 15:26-28** - And Samuel said to Saul, "I will not return with you. For you have rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you from being king over Israel." As Samuel turned to go away, Saul seized the skirt of his robe, and it tore. And Samuel said to him, "The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbour of yours, who is better than you."

**1 Samuel 10:20-21** - Then Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel near, and the tribe of Benjamin was taken by lot. He brought the tribe of Benjamin near by its clans, and the clan of the Matrites was taken by lot; and Saul the son of Kish was taken by lot. But when they sought him, he could not be found.

**1 Samuel 15:15** - Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites, for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen to sacrifice to the Lord your God, and the rest we have devoted to destruction."

**Theme:**

**FROM ANARCHY -> MONARCHY  
FROM LOOSE CONFEDERACY -> UNITED KINGDOM  
CIVIL WAR -> GOLDEN AGE**

**A Story between 2 Songs:**

**1 Samuel 2:1–10** (Hannah's Song) launches the book by declaring that God exalts the humble, brings down the proud, and will raise up His king, while **2 Samuel 22:1–23:7** (David's Song) closes the story by confirming that God has done exactly that. Establishing His anointed king through sovereign reversal and covenant faithfulness.

**Melodic Line of 1 Samuel:**

'The Sovereign God reshapes Israel according to His promises, moving them towards being a Kingdom under His chosen King, in the process proclaiming that true security and blessing come not from human power but from humble, wholehearted obedience to Him.' (Starter for 10)

**Chiasm:**

A **chiasm** (or **chiasmus**) is a literary or rhetorical structure in which elements are arranged in a mirrored, inverted pattern—typically described as **A–B–C–B'–A'**. The second half of the passage reverses the order of the first half, creating a symmetrical "X-shaped" structure (from the Greek *chi*, the letter X).

Chiasm is used to highlight contrasts, emphasize key ideas, or create a memorable, balanced expression. For example: *"When the going gets tough, the tough get going."*

---

**!!! CHIASM = SANDWICH !!!**

---

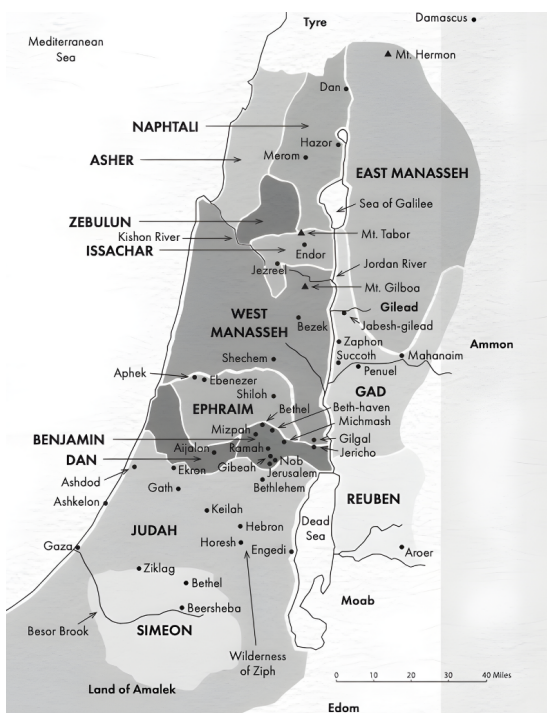
**Structure:****Outline of 1 & 2 Samuel:**

<b>Samuel</b>	A	Birth of Samuel - 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11
	B	Eli's Corruption - 1 Samuel 2:12-3:21
	C	Ark in Exile and Exodus - 1 Samuel 4:1-7:17
<b>Saul</b>	D	Rise of Saul - Acquiesce (8), Anointed (9:1-10:16), Announced (10:17-27), Ammonites (11) Absorbed (12) - 1 Samuel 8:1-12:25
	E	Fall of Saul - 1 Samuel 13:1-15:33
	F	David in King's Court - 1 Samuel 15:34-20:42
	G	David vs. Saul - 1 Samuel 21:1-27:12
<b>David</b>	H	Death of Saul - 1 Samuel 28:1-2 Samuel 1:27
	G	House of David vs. House of Saul - 2 Samuel 2:1-4:12
	F	David as King - 2 Samuel 4:1-9:13
	E	Fall of David - 2 Samuel 10:1-12:31
	D	Rise of Absalom - 2 Samuel 13:1-15:12
	C	David's Exile and Return - 2 Samuel 15:13-19:43
	B	Sheba's Rebellion - 2 Samuel 20:1-26
	A	The King for God's People - 2 Samuel 21:1-24:25

\*Adapted from Peter Leithart, *A Son to Me: An Exposition of 1 & 2 Samuel*

**Possible Sermon Series:****A Heart for a King - 1 Samuel**

1	1 Samuel 1:1-25	When Despair becomes Delight
2	1 Samuel 2:1-11	When Tables become Turned
3	1 Samuel 2:12-36	When Priests become Predators
4	1 Samuel 3:1-21	When Prophets become Prominent
5	1 Samuel 4:1-22	When Defeat becomes Departure
6	1 Samuel 5:1-7:2	When Exile becomes Exodus
7	1 Samuel 7:3-17	When Repentance becomes Restoration
8	1 Samuel 8:1-22	When Requests become Regal
9	1 Samuel 9:1-10:16	When Quests become Questions
10	1 Samuel 10:17-11:15	When Cowards become Conquerors
11	1 Samuel 12:1-25	When Thunder becomes Thundering
12	1 Samuel 13:1-14:46	When Sons become Saviours
13	1 Samuel 14:47-15:35	When Disobedience becomes Disastrous
14	1 Samuel 16:1-23	When Shepherds become Sovereigns
15	1 Samuel 17	When Couriers become Champions
16	1 Samuel 18-19	When Families become Fractured
17	1 Samuel 20-22	When Animosity becomes Amplified
18	1 Samuel 23	When Providence becomes Palpable
19	1 Samuel 24-26	When Trust becomes Tested
20	1 Samuel 27-31	When Rejection becomes Ruinous



**Shiloh** - 1:3, 1:9, 1:24, 2:14, 3:21, 4:3-4, 4:12  
**Ramah** - 1:1, 1:19, 2:11, 7:17, 8:4, 15:34, 16:13, 19:18-19, 20:1, 25:1  
**Naioth in Ramah** - 19:18-23, 20:1  
**Mizpah (Mizpeh)** - 7:5-6, 7:11-13, 10:17  
**Gilgal** - 7:16, 10:8, 11:14-15, 13:4, 13:7-15, 15:12, 15:21  
**Gibeah (of Saul)** - 10:5, 10:10, 10:26, 11:4, 13:2, 13:15, 14:2, 14:16, 15:34, 22:6, 23:19  
**Geba** - 13:3, 13:16, 14:5, 16:1, 16:4, 16:18, 17:12, 17:14-15, 20:6, 20:28  
**Nob** - 21:1, 22:9, 22:11, 22:19  
**Keilah** - 23:1, 23:3, 23:5, 23:7-8, 23:12-13  
**Ziph** - 23:14-15, 23:24, 26:1-2  
**Maon** - 23:24-25  
**Carmel** - 15:12, 25:2, 25:5, 25:7, 25:40  
**Paran** - 25:1  
**En-gedi (Engedi)** - 24:1  
**Horeh** - 23:15-16, 23:18-19  
**Beth-shan** - 31:10, 31:12  
**Jabesh-gilead** - 11:1, 11:3, 11:9-10, 31:11-13  
**The Hill Country of Ephraim** - 1:1, 23:14, 23:19, 23:23

**Ebenezer** - 4:1, 5:1, 7:12  
**Aphek** - 4:1, 29:1  
**Ashdod** - 5:1-7  
**Gath** - 5:8-9, 21:10-15, 27:2-4, 29:2-11  
**Ekron** - 5:10-11, 6:16-17  
**Beth-shemesh** - 6:9, 6:12-20  
**Kiriath-jearim** - 6:21, 7:1-2  
**Ammonites** - 11:1-2, 12:12, 14:47  
**Gilead** - 11:1, 11:7, 13:7  
**Moab** - 22:3-4  
**Mizpeh** - 22:3  
**Ziklag** - 27:6-7, 29:3-5, 30:1, 30:14, 30:26  
**Shunem** - 28:4  
**Mount Gilboa** - 28:4, 31:1, 31:8  
**Endor** - 28:7  
**Egypt** - 4:8, 12:6-8  
**Wilderness of Ziph** - 23:14-15, 23:24  
**Wilderness of Maon** - 23:24-25  
**Wilderness of Paran** - 25:1  
**Wilderness of En-gedi** - 24:1  
**Wilderness of Judah** - 23:14, 23:23

**1 SAMUEL 1 - WHEN DESPAIR BECOMES DELIGHT...****AT HOME IN DESPAIR [1-8]**

**1** 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 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?"

**AT THE TEMPLE IN DISTRESS [9-18]**

**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 favour in your eyes." Then the woman went on her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.

**AT HOME IN DELIGHT [19-23]**

**19** They rose early in the morning and worshipped 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 for ever."

**AT THE TEMPLE IN DEVOTION [24-27]**

**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. <sup>28</sup>Therefore I have lent him to the Lord. As long as he lives, he is lent to the Lord.”

And he worshipped the Lord there.

**WHAT - GOD HEARS AND HELPS HELPLESS PEOPLE BY BRINGING HOPE IN A SON.  
WHY - TRUST THE LORD AND HIS SOVEREIGN PLAN TO PROSPER HIS PEOPLE THROUGH A SON.**

### 1 SAMUEL 2:1-10 - WHEN TABLES BECOMES TURNED...

**2** 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.

<sup>2</sup> “There is none holy like the LORD:  
for there is none besides you;  
there is no rock like our God.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> The bows of the mighty are broken,  
but the feeble bind on strength.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD kills and brings to life;  
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD makes poor and makes rich;  
he brings low and he exalts.

<sup>8</sup> 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 honour.

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

<sup>9</sup> “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.

<sup>10</sup> The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken  
to pieces;

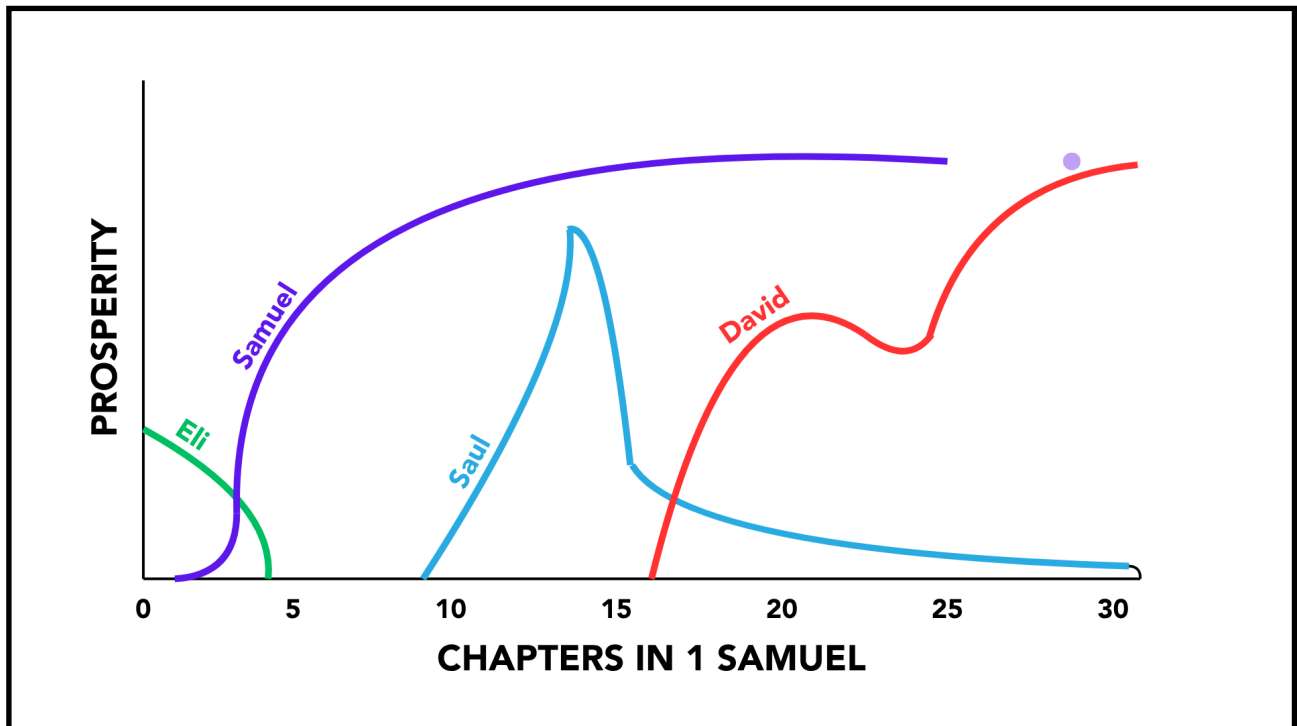
against them he will thunder in heaven.

The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;  
he will give strength to his king  
and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

T \_\_\_\_\_ things F \_\_\_\_\_,  
but,  
L \_\_\_\_\_ things G \_\_\_\_\_.



## Ups and Downs in 1 Samuel



### 1 SAMUEL 2:12-36 - WHEN PRIESTS BECOME PREDATORS...

2:13-21 - The Grotesque Sons and The Growing Boy

2:22-26 - The Shameless Sons and Their Spineless Father

2:27-36 - The Condemned House and It's Concrete Replacement

**WHAT - GOD WILL TEAR DOWN FAITHLESS, FATTENED PRIESTS & ESTABLISH A FAITHFUL FOREVER PRIEST(HOOD)**  
**WHY - PRAISE GOD FOR OUR FOREVER PRIEST & BE RESPONSIVE TO HIM**

### 1 SAMUEL 3:1-4:1a - WHEN PROPHETS BECOME PROMINENT...

**A - 3:1 - ABSENCE OF THE PROPHETIC WORD**

**B - 3:2 - ELI'S DECLINE**

**C - 3:3-10 - GOD'S CALLING OF SAMUEL**

**D - 3:11-14 - RECEIVING THE PROPHETIC WORD**

**C' - 3:15-18 - ELI'S CALLING OF SAMUEL**

**B' - 3:19 - SAMUEL'S GROWTH**

**A' - 3:20-4:1 - PRESENCE OF THE PROPHETIC WORD**

**3:1** - And the Word of the Lord was rare in those days -> **4:1a** - And the word of Samuel came to all Israel



**1 SAMUEL 4:1-22 - WHEN DEFEAT BECOMES DEPARTURE...**

4:1-5 - Presumptuous People  
 4:6-11 - Petrified Philistines  
 4:12-18 - Poleaxed Priests  
 4:19-22 - Pointed Progeny

**Hope:**

**Leviticus 26:17** - “I will set my face against you, and you shall be struck down before your enemies. Those who hate you shall rule over you, and you shall flee when none pursues you.”

**Leviticus 26:33** - “And I will scatter you among the nations, and I will unsheathe the sword after you, and your land shall be a desolation, and your cities shall be a waste.”

**WHAT - GOD DEVASTATES HIS PRESUMPTUOUS PEOPLE WHO TREAT HIM AS A TALISMAN**  
**WHY - BEWARE DEADLY RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE DEVOID OF WHOLEHEARTED OBEDIENCE**

**1 SAMUEL 5:1-7:2 - WHEN EXILE BECOMES EXODUS...**

5:1-5 - Hands Off  
 5:6-12 - Heavy Hands  
 6:1-9 - Hand Back  
 6:10-7:2 - Handle with Care

**WHAT - THE LORD ALONE WINS, IN EXODUS-ESQUE TRIUMPH**  
**WHY - REVERE THE TRIUMPHANT LORD WHO WINS UNILATERALLY FOR HIS HUMBLE PEOPLE**

**1 SAMUEL 7:3-17 - WHEN RETURN BECOMES RESTORATION...**

	<b>1 Samuel 4</b>	<b>1 Samuel 7</b>
<b>Spiritual Condition of Israel</b>	Spiritually Complacent, superstitious use of the Ark	Lamenting, Repentant, Recommitted to YHWH and worshipping him only
<b>Leadership</b>	Led by corrupt ‘Priests’, Hophni & Phinehas (& Eli)	Led by righteous prophet & mediator Samuel
<b>Outcome</b>	Catastrophic Defeat [4,000 Killed, 30,000 Killed, Ark Captured]	Miraculous victory through divine intervention.
<b>Symbol of God’s Presence</b>	Misappropriation of The Ark of the Covenant	Right sacrifice and listening to Mediator who engages in intercessory prayer
<b>Reaction of the People</b>	Panic, Despair, ‘Where is the Glory?’	Humility, Prayer, Devotion, Spiritual Renewal
<b>God’s Response</b>	Withdraws from Israel, allows defeat.	Intervenes powerfully on behalf of His repentant people.
<b>Result for Spiritual Leaders</b>	Death of Hophni, Phinehas and Eli in accordance with judgement oracle.	Re-establishment of Samuel as Prophet/Judge/Mediator with a national prominence in Israel.

**1 SAMUEL 8 - WHEN REQUESTS BECOME REGAL...**

**8** When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel. <sup>2</sup>The name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. <sup>3</sup>Yet his sons did not walk in his ways but turned aside after gain. They took bribes and perverted justice.

<sup>4</sup>Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah <sup>5</sup>and said to him, "Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations." <sup>6</sup>But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." And Samuel prayed to the Lord. <sup>7</sup>And the Lord said to Samuel, "**Obey the voice of the people in all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them.**" <sup>8</sup>According to all the deeds that they have done, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt even to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so they are also doing to you. <sup>9</sup>Now then, obey their voice; only you shall solemnly warn them and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them."

<sup>10</sup>So Samuel told all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking for a king from him. <sup>11</sup>He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will **take** your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen and to run before his chariots. <sup>12</sup>And he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. <sup>13</sup>He will **take** your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. <sup>14</sup>He will **take** the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his servants. <sup>15</sup>He will **take** the tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and to his servants. <sup>16</sup>He will **take** your male servants and female servants and the best of your young men and your donkeys, and put them to his work. <sup>17</sup>He will **take** the tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. <sup>18</sup>And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the Lord will not answer you in that day."

<sup>19</sup>But the people refused to **obey the voice** of Samuel. And they said, "No! But there shall be a king over us, <sup>20</sup>that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." <sup>21</sup>And when Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the Lord. <sup>22</sup>And the Lord said to Samuel, "**Obey their voice** and make them a king." Samuel then said to the men of Israel, "Go every man to his city."

**Deuteronomy 17:14-20**

<sup>14</sup>“When you come to the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you possess it and dwell in it and then say, ‘I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me,’ <sup>15</sup>you may indeed set a king over you whom the Lord your God will choose. One from among your brothers you shall set as king over you. You may not put a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. <sup>16</sup>Only he must not acquire many horses for himself or cause the people to return to Egypt in order to acquire many horses, since the Lord has said to you, ‘You shall never return that way again.’ <sup>17</sup>And he shall not acquire many wives for himself, lest his heart turn away, nor shall he acquire for himself excessive silver and gold.

<sup>18</sup>“And when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself in a book a copy of this law, approved by the Levitical priests. <sup>19</sup>And it shall be with him, and he shall read in it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God by keeping all the words of this law and these statutes, and doing them, <sup>20</sup>that his heart may not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he may not turn aside from the commandment, either to the right hand or to the left, so that he may continue long in his kingdom, he and his children, in Israel.

<b>WHAT - CIRCUMVENTING GOD'S RIGHTFUL RULE WILL ALWAYS RESULT IN REGRESSION...</b> <b>WHY - HONOUR THE LORD AS KING AND KNOW BLESSING, SECURITY AND VICTORY...</b>
--

## Structure of 1 Samuel 9-15

9:1-10:16 - Saul Anointed Privately through Providence  
 10:17-11:15 - Saul Announced Publicly Through Victory  
 12 - Saul and Kingship Absorbed into Covenant  
 13:1-14:52 - Saul Angered Publicly Through Vanity  
 15:1-51 - Saul Rejected Privately through disobedience

## 1 SAMUEL 9:1-10:16 - WHEN REQUESTS BECOME REGAL...

**9** There was a man of Benjamin whose name was Kish, the son of Abiel, son of Zeror, son of Becorath, son of Aphiah, a Benjaminite, a man of wealth. <sup>2</sup> And he had a son whose name was Saul, a handsome young man. There was not a man among the people of Israel more handsome than he. From his shoulders upward he was taller than any of the people.

<sup>3</sup> Now the **donkeys** of Kish, Saul's father, were lost. So Kish said to Saul his son, "Take one of the young men with you, and arise, go and look for the **donkeys**." <sup>4</sup> And he passed through the hill country of Ephraim and passed through the land of Shalishah, but they did not find them. And they passed through the land of Shaalim, but they were not there. Then they passed through the land of Benjamin, but did not find them.

<sup>5</sup> When they came to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant who was with him, "Come, let us go back, lest my father cease to care about the **donkeys** and become anxious about us." <sup>6</sup> But he said to him, "Behold, there is a man of God in this city, and he is a man who is held in honor; all that he says comes true. So now let us go there. Perhaps he can **tell** us the way we should go." <sup>7</sup> Then Saul said to his servant, "But if we go, what can we bring the man? For the bread in our sacks is gone, and there is no present to bring to the man of God. What do we have?" <sup>8</sup> The servant answered Saul again, "Here, I have with me a quarter of a shekel of silver, and I will give it to the man of God to **tell** us our way." <sup>9</sup> (Formerly in Israel, when a man went to inquire of God, he said, "Come, let us go to the seer," for today's "prophet" was formerly called a seer.) <sup>10</sup> And Saul said to his servant, "Well said; come, let us go." So they went to the city where the man of God was.

<sup>11</sup> As they went up the hill to the city, they met young women coming out to draw water and said to them, "Is the seer here?" <sup>12</sup> They answered, "He is; behold, he is just ahead of you. Hurry. He has come just now to the city, because the people have a sacrifice today on the high place." <sup>13</sup> As soon as you enter the city you will find him, before he goes up to the high place to eat. For the people will not eat till he comes, since he must bless the sacrifice; afterward those who are invited will eat. Now go up, for you will meet him immediately." <sup>14</sup> So they went up to the city. As they were entering the city, they saw Samuel coming out toward them on his way up to the high place.

<sup>15</sup> Now the day before Saul came, the Lord had revealed to Samuel: <sup>16</sup> "Tomorrow about this time I will send to you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you shall anoint him to be **prince** over my people Israel. He shall save my people from the hand of the Philistines. For I have seen my people, because their cry has come to me." <sup>17</sup> When Samuel saw Saul, the Lord told him, "Here is the man of whom I spoke to you! He it is who shall restrain my people." <sup>18</sup> Then Saul approached Samuel in the gate and said, "**Tell** me where is the house of the seer?" <sup>19</sup> Samuel answered Saul, "I am the seer. Go up before me to the high place, for today you shall eat with me, and in the morning I will let you go and will **tell** you all that is on your mind." <sup>20</sup> As for your **donkeys** that were lost three days ago, do not set your mind on them, for they

have been found. And for whom is all that is desirable in Israel? Is it not for you and for all your father's house?"

<sup>21</sup> Saul answered, "Am I not a Benjaminite, from the least of the tribes of Israel? And is not my clan the humblest of all the clans of the tribe of Benjamin? Why then have you spoken to me in this way?"

<sup>22</sup> Then Samuel took Saul and his young man and brought them into the hall and gave them a place at the head of those who had been invited, who were about thirty persons.

<sup>23</sup> And Samuel said to the cook, "Bring the portion I gave you, of which I said to you, 'Put it aside.'" <sup>24</sup> So the cook took up the leg and what was on it and set them before Saul. And Samuel said, "See, what was kept is set before you. Eat, because it was kept for you until the hour appointed, that you might eat with the guests."

So Saul ate with Samuel that day. <sup>25</sup> And when they came down from the high place into the city, a bed was spread for Saul on the roof, and he lay down to sleep. <sup>26</sup> Then at the break of dawn Samuel called to Saul on the roof, "Up, that I may send you on your way." So Saul arose, and both he and Samuel went out into the street.

<sup>27</sup> As they were going down to the outskirts of the city, Samuel said to Saul, "**Tell** the servant to pass on before us, and when he has passed on, stop here yourself for a while, that I may make known to you the word of God."

**10** Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head and kissed him and said, "Has not the Lord anointed you to be **prince** over his people Israel? And you shall reign over the people of the Lord and you will save them from the hand of their surrounding enemies. And this shall be the sign to you that the Lord has anointed you to be **prince** over his heritage. <sup>2</sup> When you depart from me today, you will meet two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah, and they will say to you, 'The **donkeys** that you went to seek are found, and now your father has ceased to care about the **donkeys** and is anxious about you, saying, "What shall I do about my son?"' <sup>3</sup> Then you shall go on from there farther and come to the oak of Tabor. Three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you there, one carrying three young goats, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a skin of wine. <sup>4</sup> And they will greet you and give you two loaves of bread, which you shall accept from their hand. <sup>5</sup> After that you shall come to Gibeath-elohim, where there is a garrison of the Philistines. And there, as soon as you come to the city, you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with harp, tambourine, flute, and lyre before them, prophesying. <sup>6</sup> Then the Spirit of the Lord will rush upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. <sup>7</sup> Now when these signs meet you, do what your hand finds to do, for God is with you. <sup>8</sup> Then go down before me to Gilgal. And behold, I am coming down to you to offer burnt offerings and to sacrifice peace offerings. Seven days you shall wait, until I come to you and show you what you shall do." <sup>9</sup> When he turned his back to leave Samuel, God gave him another heart. And all these signs came to pass that day.

<sup>10</sup> When they came to Gibeah, behold, a group of prophets met him, and the Spirit of God rushed upon him, and he prophesied among them. <sup>11</sup> And when all who knew him previously saw how he prophesied with the prophets, the people said to one another, "What has come over the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?" <sup>12</sup> And a man of the place answered, "And who is their father?" Therefore it became a proverb, "Is Saul also among the prophets?" <sup>13</sup> When he had finished prophesying, he came to the high place.

<sup>14</sup> Saul's uncle said to him and to his servant, "Where did you go?" And he said, "To seek the **donkeys**. And when we saw they were not to be found, we went to Samuel." <sup>15</sup> And Saul's uncle said, "Please **tell** me what Samuel said to you." <sup>16</sup> And Saul said to his uncle, "He told us plainly that the **donkeys** had been found." But about the matter of the kingdom, of which Samuel had spoken, he did not **tell** him anything.

Positive Lessons about The King	Negative Observations about This King
Stature (9:1-2)	The Stature (9:2)
The Donkeys (9:3ff)	The Donkeys (9:3ff)
The Providence	The Tribe (9:1)
The Well (9:11-14)	The Failure (9:4)
The Prince (9:16, 10:1)	The Geography (9:4)
The Direction	The Unpreparedness (9:5-8)
The Succession (9:22-24)	The Swithering (9:9)
The Assurance (10:2-13)	The Passivity
The Role (9:16-17)	The Silence (10:5-7)
The Tomb (10:2)	The Heart (10:9)
The Name (9:2)	The Succession (10:14-16)
The Arrangement (9:16)	The Name

**WHAT - THE 'IMPRESSIVE' KING WHO LOWERS OUR EXPECTATIONS AND LEAVES US LONGING FOR ANOTHER.**

**WHY - REJOICE IN THE KING WHO IS EVERYTHING THAT WE NEED.**

**1 SAMUEL 10:17-11:15 - WHEN COWARDS BECOME CONQUERORS...**

The Public Choosing of a Reluctant King (10:17-27)

*\*Hidden*

The Divine Using of a Rescuing King (11:1-15)

*\*Nahash = Snake***WHAT - GOD'S RELUCTANT MESSIAH CRUSHES A SERPENT AND UNITES GOD'S PEOPLE  
WHY - REJOICE IN THE KING WHO CRUSHES THE SERPENT AND UNITES GOD'S PEOPLE.****1 SAMUEL 12:1-25 - WHEN THUNDER BECOMES THUNDERING...**

**12** And Samuel said to all Israel, "Behold, I have obeyed your voice in all that you have said to me and have made a king over you. <sup>2</sup>And now, behold, the king walks before you, and I am old and grey; and behold, my sons are with you. I have walked before you from my youth until this day. <sup>3</sup>Here I am; testify against me before the Lord and before his anointed. Whose ox have I taken? Or whose donkey have I taken? Or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? Or from whose hand have I taken a bribe to blind my eyes with it? Testify against me and I will restore it to you." <sup>4</sup>They said, "You have not defrauded us or oppressed us or taken anything from any man's hand." <sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "The Lord is witness against you, and his anointed is witness this day, that you have not found anything in my hand." And they said, "He is witness."

<sup>6</sup>And Samuel said to the people, "The Lord is witness, who appointed Moses and Aaron and brought your fathers up out of the land of Egypt. <sup>7</sup>Now therefore stand still that I may plead with you before the Lord concerning all the righteous deeds of the Lord that he performed for you and for your fathers. <sup>8</sup>When Jacob went into Egypt, and the Egyptians oppressed them, then your fathers cried out to the Lord and the Lord sent Moses and Aaron, who brought your fathers out of Egypt and made them dwell in this place. <sup>9</sup>But they forgot the Lord their God. And he sold them into the hand of Sisera, commander of the army of Hazor, and into the hand of the Philistines, and into the hand of the king of Moab. And they fought against them. <sup>10</sup>And they cried out to the Lord and said, 'We have sinned, because we have forsaken the Lord and have served the Baals and the Ashtaroth. But now deliver us out of the hand of our enemies, that we may serve you.' <sup>11</sup>And the Lord sent Jerubbaal and Barak and Jephthah and Samuel and delivered you out of the hand of your enemies on every side, and you lived in safety. <sup>12</sup>And when you saw that Nahash the king of the Ammonites came against you, you said to me, 'No, but a king shall reign over us,' when the Lord your God was your king. <sup>13</sup>And now behold the king whom you have chosen, for whom you have asked; behold, the Lord has set a king over you. <sup>14</sup>If you will fear the Lord and serve him and obey his voice and not rebel against the commandment of the Lord, and if both you and the king who reigns over you will follow the Lord your God, it will be well. <sup>15</sup>But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord, but rebel against the commandment of the Lord, then the hand of the Lord will be against you and your king. <sup>16</sup>Now therefore stand still and see this great thing that the Lord will do before your eyes. <sup>17</sup>Is it not wheat harvest today? I will call upon the Lord, that he may send thunder and rain. And you shall know and see that your wickedness is great, which you have done in the sight of the Lord, in asking for yourselves a king." <sup>18</sup>So Samuel called upon the Lord, and the Lord sent thunder and rain that day, and all the people greatly feared the Lord and Samuel.

<sup>19</sup>And all the people said to Samuel, "Pray for your servants to the Lord your God, that we may not die, for we have added to all our sins this evil, to ask for ourselves a king." <sup>20</sup>And Samuel said to the people, "Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil. Yet do not turn aside from following the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart. <sup>21</sup>And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty. <sup>22</sup>For the Lord will not forsake his people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you a people for himself. <sup>23</sup>Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you, and I will instruct you in the good and the right way. <sup>24</sup>Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you. <sup>25</sup>But if you still do wickedly, you shall be swept away, both you and your king."

**WHAT - RENEWAL IS IN THEIR HANDS THROUGH GRASPING GOD'S GREATNESS AND SERVING HIM ONLY  
WHY - FEAR THE LORD AND SERVE HIM ONLY IN THIS EXPANDED COVENANTAL RELATIONSHIP**

## **1 SAMUEL 13:1-14:46 - WHEN SONS BECOMES SAVIOURS...**

### **The 'King' Who:**

- is Dishonest (13:1-5)
- brings Death (13:6-7)
- is Disobedient (13:8-18)
- is Disorganised (13:19-23)

### **The 'Hero' Who:**

- goes through the Valley (14:1-5)
- fights by Faith (14:6-12)
- wins single-handed Victory (14:13-15)
- brings 'Resurrection' (14:20-23)

### **The 'King' Who:**

- silences God (14:16-19)
- spoils the Spoil (14:24-30)
- causes Stumbling (14:31-35)
- is prepared to kill the 'innocent' (14:36-46)

**WHAT - THE FOOLISH KING WHO LIVED BY SIGHT, AND HIS HEROIC SON WHO FOUGHT BY FAITH  
WHY - UNDERSTAND THE VICTORY AND RESURRECTION THAT COME THROUGH FOLLOWING A  
FAITH-FILLED HERO**

## **1 SAMUEL 14:47-15:35 - WHEN DISOBEDIENCE BECOMES DISASTROUS...**

- 14:47-52 - Attacking
- 15:1-7 - Sacking
- 15:8-31 - Slacking
- 15:32-35 - Hacking

**WHAT - PARTIAL OBEDIENCE IS TOTAL DISOBEDIENCE AND THEREFORE A DISQUALIFYING TRAIT  
IN GOD'S KING...  
WHY - BE THANKFUL FOR A KING WITH OPEN EARS AND PERFECT OBEDIENCE, IMITATE HIM...**

## **1 SAMUEL 16:1-23 - WHEN SHEPHERDS BECOME SOVEREIGNS...**

16:1-13 - God chooses with his heart...

- 1 Samuel 13:14
- 2 Samuel 7:21

16:14-23 - God uses by his grace...

**WHAT - GOD'S CHOSEN KING IS ANOINTED AS PROMISED AND BEGINS POWERFULLY  
RESTRAINING EVIL.  
WHY - PRAISE GOD FOR GOD'S CHOSEN KING WHO WILL FULLY DEFEAT EVIL FOREVER.**



**1 SAMUEL 17:1-58 - WHEN COURIERS BECOME CHAMPIONS...**

**17** Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle. And they were gathered at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. <sup>2</sup>And Saul and the men of Israel were gathered, and encamped in the Valley of Elah, and drew up in line of battle against the Philistines. <sup>3</sup>And the Philistines stood on the mountain on the one side, and Israel stood on the mountain on the other side, with a valley between them. <sup>4</sup>And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. <sup>5</sup>He had a helmet of **bronze** on his head, and he was armed with a **coat of mail**, and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of **bronze**. <sup>6</sup>And he had **bronze** armour on his legs, and a javelin of **bronze** slung between his shoulders. <sup>7</sup>The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron. And his shield-bearer went before him. <sup>8</sup>He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. <sup>9</sup>If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us." <sup>10</sup>And the Philistine said, "I defy the ranks of Israel this day. Give me a man, that we may fight together." <sup>11</sup>When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

<sup>12</sup>Now David was the son of an Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah, named Jesse, who had eight sons. In the days of Saul the man was already old and advanced in years. <sup>13</sup>The three oldest sons of Jesse had followed Saul to the battle. And the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. <sup>14</sup>David was the youngest. The three eldest followed Saul, <sup>15</sup>but David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem. <sup>16</sup>For forty days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and evening.

<sup>17</sup>And Jesse said to David his son, "Take for your brothers an ephah of this parched grain, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to your brothers. <sup>18</sup>Also take these ten cheeses to the commander of their thousand. See if your brothers are well, and bring some token from them."

<sup>19</sup>Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. <sup>20</sup>And David rose early in the morning and left the sheep with a keeper and took the provisions and went, as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the encampment as the host was going out to the battle line, shouting the war cry. <sup>21</sup>And Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army. <sup>22</sup>And David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage and ran to the ranks and went and greeted his brothers. <sup>23</sup>As he talked with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.

<sup>24</sup>All the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were much afraid. <sup>25</sup>And the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel. And the king will enrich the man who kills him with great riches and will give him his daughter and make his father's house free in Israel." <sup>26</sup>And David said to the men who stood by him, "What shall be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?" <sup>27</sup>And the people answered him in the same way, "So shall it be done to the man who kills him."

<sup>28</sup>Now Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke to the men. And Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said, "Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your presumption and the evil of your heart, for you have come down to see the battle." <sup>29</sup>And David said, "What have I done now? Was it not but a word?" <sup>30</sup>And he turned away from him toward another, and spoke in the same way, and the people answered him again as before.

<sup>31</sup>When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul, and he sent for him. <sup>32</sup>And David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." <sup>33</sup>And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth." <sup>34</sup>But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, <sup>35</sup>I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his

<sup>36</sup>Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God.” <sup>37</sup>And David said, “The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “Go, and the Lord be with you!”

<sup>38</sup>Then Saul clothed David with his armour. He put a helmet of **bronze** on his head and clothed him with a **coat of mail**, <sup>39</sup>and David strapped his sword over his armour. And he tried in vain to go, for he had not tested them. Then David said to Saul, “I cannot go with these, for I have not tested them.” So David put them off. <sup>40</sup>Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch. His sling was in his hand, and he approached the Philistine.

<sup>41</sup>And the Philistine moved forward and came near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. <sup>42</sup>And when the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was but a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. <sup>43</sup>And the Philistine said to David, “Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?” And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. <sup>44</sup>The Philistine said to David, “Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field.” <sup>45</sup>Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. <sup>46</sup>This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head. And I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, <sup>47</sup>and that all

this assembly may know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear. For the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hand.”

<sup>48</sup>When the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. <sup>49</sup>And David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone and slung it and struck the Philistine on his forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the ground.

<sup>50</sup>So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him. There was no sword in the hand of David. <sup>51</sup>Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him and cut off his head with it. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled. <sup>52</sup>And the men of Israel and Judah rose with a shout and pursued the Philistines as far as Gath and the gates of Ekron, so that the wounded Philistines fell on the way from Shaaraim as far as Gath and Ekron. <sup>53</sup>And the people of Israel came back from chasing the Philistines, and they plundered their camp. <sup>54</sup>And David took the head of the Philistine and brought it to Jerusalem, but he put his armour in his tent.

<sup>55</sup>As soon as Saul saw David go out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the commander of the army, “Abner, whose son is this youth?” And Abner said, “As your soul lives, O king, I do not know.” <sup>56</sup>And the king said, “Inquire whose son the boy is.” <sup>57</sup>And as soon as David returned from the striking down of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. <sup>58</sup>And Saul said to him, “Whose son are you, young man?” And David answered, “I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.”

**DAVID: THE NEW AND BETTER SAUL**

**DAVID: THE NEW AND BETTER JOSEPH**

**DAVID: THE NEW AND BETTER JOSHUA**

**DAVID: THE NEW AND BETTER ADAM**

**JESUS: THE NEW AND BETTER DAVID**

**WHAT: GOD'S ANOINTED KING IS THE BETTER HERO GOD'S PEOPLE NEED WHO WINS THE VICTORY.**

**WHY: HOPE IN GOD'S ANOINTED KING WHO IS OUR VICTORIOUS HERO.**

**1 SAMUEL 18:1-19:24 - WHEN FAMILIES BECOME FRACTURED...****Panel 1**

18:1-5 – Jonathan  
 18:6-16 – Saul  
 18:17-29 – Michal  
 18:30 – David's Ascent

**Panel 2**

19:1-7 – Jonathan  
 19:8-10 – Saul  
 19:11-17 – Michal  
 19:18-24 – Saul's Descent

*Is Saul also among the prophets? - 1 Samuel 10:11 & 12*

*Is Saul also among the prophets? - 1 Samuel 19:24*

**WHAT: THE SUFFERING MESSIAH WHO DIVIDES, SURVIVES & THRIVES...**  
**WHY: LINE UP LOVINGLY AND SACRIFICIALLY BEHIND THE SUFFERING MESSIAH TO SHARE IN HIS ETERNAL VICTORY...**

**1 SAMUEL 20:1-22:23 - WHEN ANIMOSITY BECOMES AMPLIFIED...****Structure:**

20:1-42 - Jonathan Protects David, Saul has murderous intent

21:1-9 - David & the Priests of Nob - Doeg [plausible deniability]

21:10-15 - David seeks refuge in Gath (Madness)

22:1-2 - David @ Cave of Adullam

22:3-5 - David seeks refuge for parents in Moab

22:6-15 - Saul & the Priests of Nob - Doeg [deliberate association]

22:16-23 - David Protects Abiathar, Saul executes the priests of Nob

<sup>23</sup>One Sabbath he was going through the grainfields, and as they made their way, his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. <sup>24</sup>And the Pharisees were saying to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" <sup>25</sup>And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: <sup>26</sup>how he entered the house of God, in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?" <sup>27</sup>And he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. <sup>28</sup>So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."

**3** Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there with a withered hand. <sup>2</sup>And they watched Jesus, to see whether he would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him. <sup>3</sup>And he said to the man with the withered hand, "Come here." <sup>4</sup>And he said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. <sup>5</sup>And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. <sup>6</sup>The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

<sup>7</sup>Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great crowd followed, from Galilee and Judea <sup>8</sup>and Jerusalem and Idumea and from beyond the Jordan and from around Tyre and Sidon. When the great crowd heard all that he was doing, they came to him. <sup>9</sup>And he told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, lest they crush him, <sup>10</sup>for he had healed many, so that all who had diseases pressed around him to touch him. <sup>11</sup>And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God." <sup>12</sup>And he strictly ordered them not to make him known.

<sup>13</sup>And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. <sup>14</sup>And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach <sup>15</sup>and have authority to cast out demons. <sup>16</sup>He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); <sup>17</sup>James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); <sup>18</sup>Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, <sup>19</sup>and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

<sup>20</sup>Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat.

**Mark 2:23-3:20:**

- Criticism of associates (2:23)
- Direct reference to 1 Samuel 21 but Abimelech replaced by Abiathar? (2:25)
- Pointed question about Killing (3:4)
- Stretch out your hand (3:5)
- Herodians (3:6)
- Great Crowds flock to Jesus whilst withdrawn and he heals them (3:10)
- Choosing of new 'Mighty Men' (3:13-19)
- "He is out of his mind" (3:20)

**WHAT: THE SUFFERING MESSIAH WHO GARNERS & REWARDS LOYALTY IN A HOSTILE WORLD THAT HATES HIM...**

**WHY: STICK WITH THE SUFFERING MESSIAH, NO MATTER WHAT, IT IS THE ONLY THING WORTH ANYTHING**

**1 SAMUEL 23 - WHEN PROVIDENCE BECOMES PALPABLE...****Structure:**

23:1-5 - David saves Keilah from Philistine Raid - God's Hand/David's Hand

23:6-14 - David betrayed by Keilah - Saul's Hand

23:15-18 - David & Jonathan - Strengthened hand in God - Saul's Hand & God's Hand

23:19-24 - David betrayed by the Ziphites - Saul's Hand

23:25-25 - 'God' saves David from Saul using a Philistine Raid - God's Hand

**23** Now they told David, "Behold, the Philistines are fighting against Keilah and are robbing the threshing floors." <sup>2</sup>Therefore David inquired of the Lord, "Shall I go and attack these Philistines?" And the Lord said to David, "Go and attack the Philistines and save Keilah." <sup>3</sup>But David's men said to him, "Behold, we are afraid here in Judah; how much more then if we go to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines?" <sup>4</sup>Then David inquired of the Lord again. And the Lord answered him, "Arise, go down to Keilah, for I will give the Philistines into your hand." <sup>5</sup>And David and his men went to Keilah and fought with the Philistines and brought away their livestock and struck them with a great blow. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

<sup>6</sup>When Abiathar the son of Ahimelech had fled to David to Keilah, he had come down with an ephod in his hand. <sup>7</sup>Now it was told Saul that David had come to Keilah. And Saul said, "God has given him into my hand, for he has shut himself in by entering a town that has gates and bars." <sup>8</sup>And Saul summoned all the people to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men. <sup>9</sup>David knew that Saul was plotting harm against him. And he said to Abiathar the priest, "Bring the ephod here." <sup>10</sup>Then David said, "O Lord, the God of Israel, your servant has surely heard that Saul seeks to come to Keilah, to destroy the city on my account. <sup>11</sup>Will the men of Keilah surrender me into his hand? Will Saul come down, as your servant has heard? O Lord, the God of Israel, please tell your servant." And the Lord said, "He will come down." <sup>12</sup>Then David said, "Will the men of Keilah surrender me and my men into the hand of Saul?" And the Lord said, "They will surrender you." <sup>13</sup>Then David and his men, who were about six hundred, arose and departed from Keilah, and they went wherever they could go. When Saul was told that David had escaped from Keilah, he gave up the expedition. <sup>14</sup>And David remained in the strongholds in the wilderness, in the hill country of the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God did not give him into his hand.

<sup>15</sup>David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh.

<sup>16</sup>And Jonathan, Saul's son, rose and went to David at Horesh, and strengthened his hand in God. <sup>17</sup>And he said to him, "Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you. Saul my father also knows this." <sup>18</sup>And the two of them made a covenant before the Lord. David remained at Horesh, and Jonathan went home.

<sup>19</sup>Then the Ziphites went up to Saul at Gibeah, saying, "Is not David hiding among us in the strongholds at Horesh, on the hill of Hachilah, which is south of Jeshimon?" <sup>20</sup>Now come down, O king, according to all your heart's desire to come down, and our part shall be to surrender him into the king's hand." <sup>21</sup>And Saul said, "May you be blessed by the Lord, for you have had compassion on me. <sup>22</sup>Go, make yet more sure. Know and see the place where his foot is, and who has seen him there, for it is told me that he is very cunning. <sup>23</sup>See therefore and take note of all the lurking places where he hides, and come back to me with sure information. Then I will go with you. And if he is in the land, I will search him out among all the thousands of Judah." <sup>24</sup>And they arose and went to Ziph ahead of Saul.

Now David and his men were in the wilderness of Maon, in the Arabah to the south of Jeshimon. <sup>25</sup>And Saul and his men went to seek him. And David was told, so he went down to the rock and lived in the wilderness of Maon. And when Saul heard that, he pursued after David in the wilderness of Maon. <sup>26</sup>Saul went on one side of the mountain, and David and his men on the other side of the mountain. And David was hurrying to get away from Saul. As Saul and his men were closing in on David and his men to capture them, <sup>27</sup>a messenger came to Saul, saying, "Hurry and come, for the Philistines have made a raid against the land." <sup>28</sup>So Saul returned from pursuing after David and went against the Philistines. Therefore that place was called the Rock of Escape. <sup>29</sup> And David went up from there and lived in the strongholds of Engedi.

- Herod's attempt to kill Him as an infant (Matt 2:13–15)
- Nazareth attempt to throw Him off a cliff (Luke 4:28–30)
- Failed arrest attempt—His hour not yet come (John 7:30)
- Failed arrest attempt at Feast of Booths (John 7:44–46)
- Attempt to stone Him after “I AM” statement (John 8:58–59)
- Attempt to stone Him again; He escapes (John 10:31, 39)
- Peter's attempted last stand (Matthew 26:51)
- Simon of Cyrene (Matthew 27:32, Mark 15:21, Luke 23:26)

**WHAT: GOD'S HAND SAVES HIS CHOSEN KING FROM ENEMY HANDS, ACCOMPLISHING HIS PURPOSES...**

**WHY: SEE GOD'S SOVEREIGN HAND GUARANTEEING THE SUCCESS OF HIS KING...**

## 1 SAMUEL 24-26 - WHEN TRUST BECOMES TESTED...

### Structure:

**Chapter 24** - David spares Saul not seizing the kingdom by Force - Unconfident

**Chapter 25** - Abigail teaches David that the kingdom will be received by Grace (Troubled Heart (31), Merry Heart (36), Dead Heart (37))

**Chapter 26** - David Spares Saul not seizing the kingdom by Force - Confident

<sup>18</sup> Then Abigail made haste and took two hundred loaves and two skins of wine and five sheep already prepared and five seahs of parched grain and a hundred clusters of raisins and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on donkeys. <sup>19</sup> And she said to her young men, “Go on before me; behold, I come after you.” But she did not tell her husband Nabal. <sup>20</sup> And as she rode on the donkey and came down under cover of the mountain, behold, David and his men came down toward her, and she met them. <sup>21</sup> Now David had said, “Surely in vain have I guarded all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belonged to him, and he has returned me evil for good. <sup>22</sup> God do so to the enemies of David and more also, if by morning I leave so much as one male of all who belong to him.”

<sup>23</sup> When Abigail saw David, she hurried and got down from the donkey and fell before David on her face and bowed to the ground. <sup>24</sup> She fell at his feet and said, “On me alone, my lord, be the guilt. Please let your servant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your servant. <sup>25</sup> Let not my lord regard this worthless fellow, Nabal, for as his name is, so is he. Nabal is his name, and folly is with him. But I your servant did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent. <sup>26</sup> Now then, my lord, as the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, because the Lord has restrained you from bloodguilt and from saving with your own hand, now then let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be as Nabal.

<sup>27</sup> And now let this present that your servant has brought to my lord be given to the young men who

follow my lord. <sup>28</sup> Please forgive the trespass of your servant. For the Lord will certainly make my lord a sure house, because my lord is fighting the battles of the Lord, and evil shall not be found in you so long as you live. <sup>29</sup> If men rise up to pursue you and to seek your life, the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living in the care of the Lord your God. And the lives of your enemies he shall sling out as from the hollow of a sling. <sup>30</sup> And when the Lord has done to my lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you and has appointed you prince over Israel, <sup>31</sup> my lord shall have no cause of grief or pangs of conscience for having shed blood without cause or for my lord working salvation himself. And when the Lord has dealt well with my lord, then remember your servant.”

<sup>32</sup> And David said to Abigail, “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! <sup>33</sup> Blessed be your discretion, and blessed be you, who have kept me this day from bloodguilt and from working salvation with my own hand! <sup>34</sup> For as surely as the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there had not been left to Nabal so much as one male.” <sup>35</sup> Then David received from her hand what she had brought him. And he said to her, “Go up in peace to your house. See, I have obeyed your voice, and I have granted your petition.”

## ABIGAIL'S PETITION (25:18-35)

**WHAT: THE CHOSEN KING WHO WILL RECEIVE HIS KINGDOM BY GRACE...**

**WHY: HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE CERTAIN REIGN OF THE TRUE KING**



**1 SAMUEL 27-31 - WHEN REJECTION BECOMES RUINOUS...****Structure:****Chapter 27** - David in Philistine Service making raids against 'Canaanites'**Chapter 28** - Saul and the Witch of Endor**Chapter 29-30** - David out of Philistine Service, defeating Amalekite raiding party**Chapter 31** - The Death of Saul

**28** In those days the Philistines gathered their forces for war, to fight against Israel. And Achish said to David, "Understand that you and your men are to go out with me in the army." <sup>2</sup>David said to Achish, "Very well, you shall know what your servant can do." And Achish said to David, "Very well, I will make you my bodyguard for life."

<sup>3</sup>Now Samuel had died, and all Israel had mourned for him and buried him in Ramah, his own city. And Saul had put the mediums and the necromancers out of the land. <sup>4</sup>The Philistines assembled and came and encamped at Shunem. And Saul gathered all Israel, and they encamped at Gilboa. <sup>5</sup>When Saul saw the army of the Philistines, he was afraid, and his heart trembled greatly. <sup>6</sup>And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord did not answer him, either by dreams, or by Urim, or by prophets. <sup>7</sup>Then Saul said to his servants, "Seek out 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 medium at En-dor."

<sup>8</sup>So Saul disguised himself and put on other garments and went, he and two men with him. And they came to the woman by night. And he said, "Divine for me by a spirit and bring up for me whomever I shall name to you." <sup>9</sup>The woman said to him, "Surely you know what Saul has done, how he has cut off the mediums and the necromancers from the land. Why then are you laying a trap for my life to bring about my death?" <sup>10</sup>But Saul swore to her by the Lord, "As the Lord lives, no punishment shall come upon you for this thing." <sup>11</sup>Then the woman said, "Whom shall I bring up for you?" He said, "Bring up Samuel for me." <sup>12</sup>When the woman saw Samuel, she cried out with a loud voice. And the woman said to Saul, "Why have you deceived me? You are Saul." <sup>13</sup>The king said to her, "Do not be afraid. What do you see?" And the woman said to Saul, "I see a god coming up out of the earth." <sup>14</sup>He said to her, "What is his appearance?" And she said, "An old man is coming up, and he is wrapped in a robe." And Saul knew that it was Samuel, and he bowed with his face to the ground and paid homage.

<sup>15</sup>Then Samuel said to Saul, "Why have you disturbed me by bringing me up?" Saul answered, "I am in great distress, for the Philistines are warring against me, and God has turned away from me and answers me no more, either by prophets or by dreams. Therefore I have summoned you to tell me what I shall do." <sup>16</sup>And Samuel said, "Why then do you ask me, since the Lord has turned from you and become your enemy? <sup>17</sup>The Lord has done to you as he spoke by me, for the Lord has torn the kingdom out of your hand and given it to your neighbor, David. <sup>18</sup>Because you did not obey the voice of the Lord and did not carry out his fierce wrath against Amalek, therefore the Lord has done this thing to you this day. <sup>19</sup>Moreover, the Lord will give Israel also with you into the hand of the Philistines, and tomorrow you and your sons shall be with me. The Lord will give the army of Israel also into the hand of the Philistines."

<sup>20</sup>Then Saul fell at once full length on the ground, filled with fear because of the words of Samuel. And there was no strength in him, for he had eaten nothing all day and all night. <sup>21</sup>And the woman came to Saul, and when she saw that he was terrified, she said to him, "Behold, your servant has obeyed you. I have taken my life in my hand and have listened to what you have said to me. <sup>22</sup>Now therefore, you also obey your servant. Let me set a morsel of bread before you; and eat, that you may have strength when you go on your way." <sup>23</sup>He refused and said, "I will not eat." But his servants, together with the woman, urged him, and he listened to their words. So he arose from the earth and sat on the bed. <sup>24</sup>Now the woman had a fattened calf in the house, and she quickly killed it, and she took flour and kneaded it and baked unleavened bread of it, <sup>25</sup>and she put it before Saul and his servants, and they ate. Then they rose and went away that night.

**WHAT: THE WORLDLY KING FINALLY FALLS, THE KING-IN-WAITING GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH.**

**WHY: SEE ALL WORLDLY KINGDOMS WILL FINALLY FALL, AS GOD'S KINGDOM IS ULTIMATELY ESTABLISHED.**



**REFLECTIONS:**

What is one thing I have learnt today?

What is one thing I have been reminded of today?

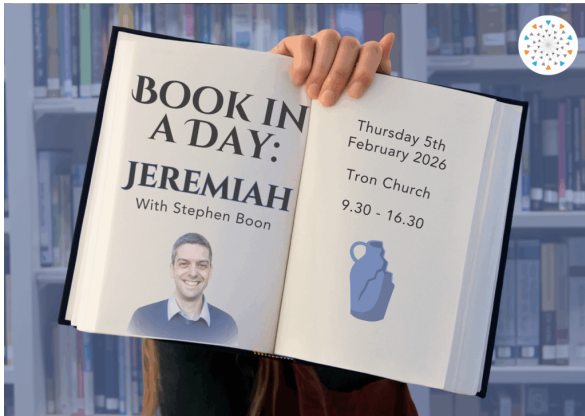
As a result of today I am going to...

I could have a go at teaching some of 1 Samuel to...

One thing I am going to pray as a result of today is....

Thank you so much for being with us today.

We would love to see you at our upcoming Book in a Day Events:



## Book in a Day: Jeremiah

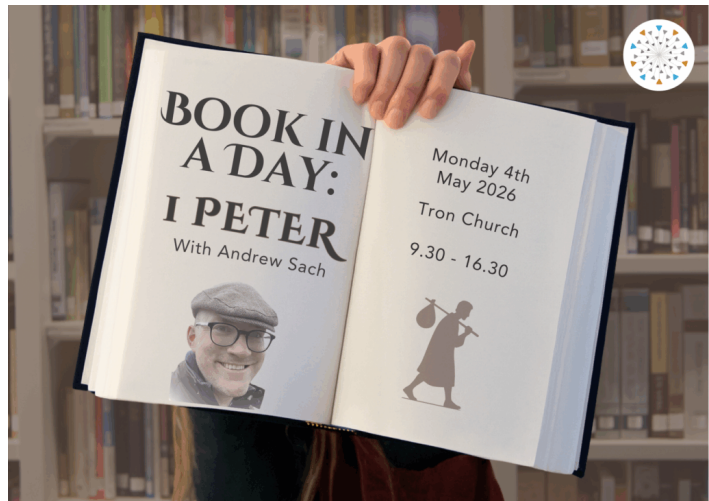
with Stephen Boon

Thursday 5th February

## Book in a Day: 1 Peter

with Andrew Sach

Monday 4th May



We would love to see you at our Cornhill Bible Course:



A six week online Bible Course, Saturday morning, 8am-9:15am.

Starting Saturday 10th January 2026

A Great way to kick off the New Year in God's Word.

There is also: **His Word in my Hands (14th March)**, **Cornhill Summer School (25th-27th May)**

**Applications are also open for our September 2026 Cornhill intake for The Cornhill Training Course:**

Find out further information at [cornhill.scot](http://cornhill.scot)