

I Samuel 1

Transition from Judges to Monarchy and Prophets. Samuel is the last judge. Prophet.

Was originally all one book. To describe the Kingdoms of Saul and David. Covers 125 years.

Birth of Samuel: Elkanah-from Ephraim and a Levite. 2 wives. Hannah and Peninnah. Hannah had no children. Elkanah went to Shiloh to worship. First place in Scripture that God is called LORD of Hosts.

Eli was High Priest. His 2 sons offered sacrifices because Eli was very old.

Elkanah loved Hannah more- offered double sacrifices for her. She always wept and did not eat because Peninnah ridiculed her. Husband tries to comfort Hannah. He's better than 10 sons.

Hannah prays to God: give me a son; devoted to the LORD; a nazorite.

Eli thinks she is drunk. She tells him she is sad and depressed. He then gives her a blessing. She is no longer sad.

Conceives and bears a son – Samuel- “heard by God.” Took care of him because of her vow. Did not go to the Feasts until Samuel was weaned. Very devoted to Samuel and to God (women did not have to make pilgrimage feasts but she always went.)

After weaning him, took Samuel to Shiloh with sacrifices and reminded Eli of her prayer and that God had answered her. Presentation-40 days.

Chapter 2: V 1-10- the Song of Hannah. Praise and thanksgiving from the abundance of her heart. Praise is what we owe God. Understands that He is God of the whole universe and the source of salvation. Praises the Giver rather than the gift. Many gifts but one Giver.

Very similar to the Magnificat in Luke 1:46.

Samuel ministered at the Tabernacle as a child. Eli supervised him; not Eli's sons. Learned the Faith and did the work of Levites even though he was a child. Eli could see that the LORD was with him. Wore a linen ephod and robes that Hannah made him.

Eli's sons were corrupt. Did not know the LORD. They profaned the offerings of the sacrifices for their own gain. Threatened violence to the people offerings. Served themselves rather than the LORD.

Hannah had five more children; 3 sons and 2 daughters. Re-paid for giving Samuel to the LORD.

Samuel grew before the LORD.

Eli's sons immoral with the women worshippers. Eli objected and scolded them. But he is not forceful with them.

God sends a prophet to Eli to warn him. Tells how God picked Aaron as High Priest and they are descended from him. But they have defiled the sacrifices and enriched themselves. They will be weak and die young. An enemy will come into the Sanctuary.

Chapter 3: Samuel is called. Samuel is caring for the lamp. Here I am. Word of the LORD was rare at that time. Samuel had not heard His Word before. Calls him twice.

Very real Presence of God. "stood."

God tells him that Eli and his family will now be judged. It will make everyone's ears tingle. The curse on their house cannot be atoned for by sacrifices. Eli knows what the iniquity is.

Samuel delivers the message the next morning faithfully. Eli surrenders. Understands the judgement.

Samuel grows in wisdom and the LORD continues to speak to him at Shiloh. Known as a prophet throughout Israel. All his words came true.

