



IN
OUT®

English Standard Version

1 Samuel

GOD'S SEARCH
FOR A MAN
AFTER HIS OWN
HEART

IN & OUT[®]

English Standard Version

1 SAMUEL
GOD'S SEARCH FOR A MAN
AFTER HIS OWN HEART

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Asked of God

The book of 1 Samuel takes God’s people out of a cycle of darkness and defeat and moves them forward in His purpose and plan.

As you watch Israel move on, you’ll learn how it is possible for you to move on, possible for you and for others to grasp the lessons God ordained for His people in this historical account of Israel’s history.

The next eight weeks can be transforming if you will do your part and do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling God’s Word (2 Timothy 2:15).

TAKING IT IN

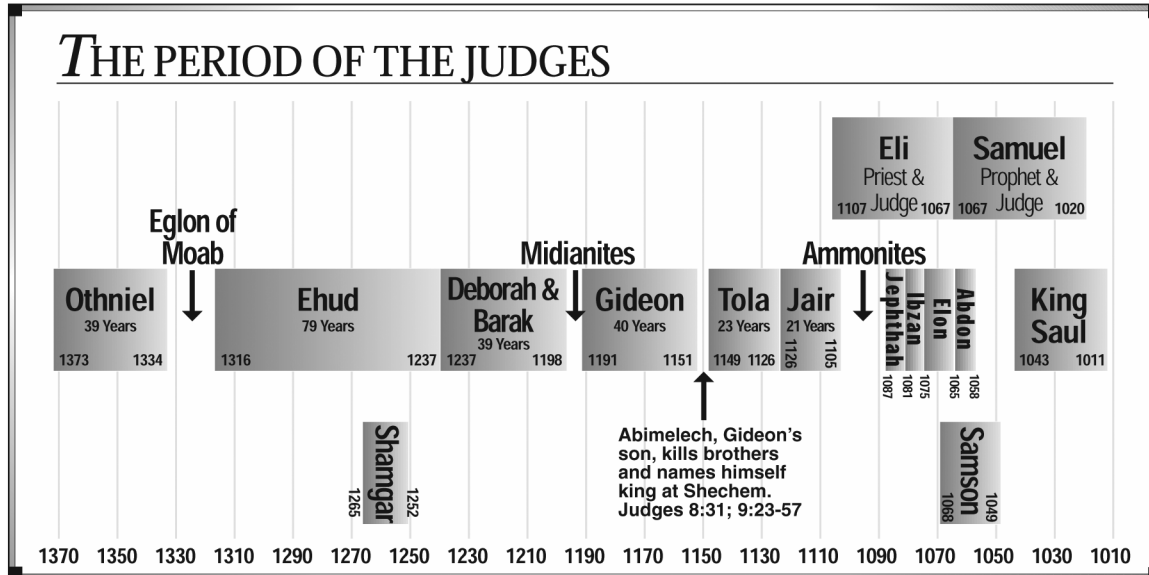
You are about to study the very Word of God! What a duty! What a privilege! What a responsibility! Why don’t you begin the way we should begin any study of God’s book—in prayer asking Him to help you understand His Word and to live in light of it.

1. In the Appendix of this workbook you will find the text of 1 Samuel. Read 1 Samuel 1–3 to get the setting of this book. Double underline all geographical locations in green.
2. When you marked geographical locations, the most repeated location was Shiloh. In the Appendix of this workbook you will find a map, “Israel in the Days of Samuel, Saul, and David,” that has the various places mentioned in 1 Samuel. Locate Ramathaim-zophim (Ramah) and Shiloh on your map.

What do you learn from the text about Shiloh that makes it a pertinent location?



- 3. Look at “The Period of the Judges” chart, so you can put this first segment of 1 Samuel in context.



- 4. Using the Observation Worksheet of 1 Samuel 1, observe this chapter.

- a. Mark the following key repeated words or phrases in this chapter.

- 1) time references*
- 2) LORD*
- 3) pray*
- 4) worship

* On the back of this workbook, is a Key Word Bookmark with suggestions for marking words used frequently throughout the Bible. Words or phrases followed by an asterisk [*] denote words found on the Key Word Bookmark.

Cut out the bookmark and on the blank side, list the key words above and mark them the way you plan to throughout 1 Samuel. We'll add to the bookmark as we go.

- b. In the Appendix, you'll find "1 Samuel at a Glance." Using a few words from the text, record the theme (main event) on the line for chapter 1 under "Chapter Themes." We'll fill in this chart little by little as we progress through the course.



- c. What do you learn about Hannah from this chapter? What kind of a woman is she? Review your observations and record what the text tells you about her.

- d. Who was responsible for the birth of Samuel? Explain your answer.

5. Now observe 1 Samuel 2.

- a. Mark the key words on your bookmark along with:

1) *Samuel*

2) *priest*

- b. Record the theme or main event(s) for chapter 2 on “1 Samuel at a Glance.”



c. List what you learn about God from 1 Samuel 2.

6. Let's look at 1 Samuel 3.

a. As you do, mark the words on your bookmark, along with *word of the LORD*.

b. Now record the theme for chapter 3 on "1 Samuel at a Glance."



c. This is Samuel's very first experience with God. What does Samuel hear from God? What does he learn about God in this first encounter? How does this strike you?

d. What insights do you gain about Samuel in this chapter with respect to his character, his calling, and how he handles his situation?

LIVING
IT OUT

1. What lessons for life can be learned from Hannah, whether we are men or women?



1 SAMUEL 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

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 the 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?”
- 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 favor in your eyes.” Then the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.
- 19 They rose early in the morning and worshiped 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 forever.”
- 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.
- 28 “Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.”
- And he worshiped the LORD there.



1 SAMUEL 2

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

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.
- 2 “There is none holy like the LORD;
for there is none besides you;
there is no rock like our God.
- 3 “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.
- 4 “The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble bind on strength.
- 5 “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.
- 6 “The LORD kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.
- 7 “The LORD makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low and he exalts.
- 8 “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 honor.



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

- 9 “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.
- 10 “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.”
- 11** Then Elkanah went home to Ramah. And the boy was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli the priest.
- 12** Now the sons of Eli were worthless men. They did not know the LORD.
- 13 The custom of the priests with the people was that when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant would come, while the meat was boiling, with a three-pronged fork in his hand,
- 14 and he would thrust it into the pan or kettle or cauldron or pot. All that the fork brought up the priest would take for himself. This is what they did at Shiloh to all the Israelites who came there.
- 15 Moreover, before the fat was burned, the priest's servant would come and say to the man who was sacrificing, “Give meat for the priest to roast, for he will not accept boiled meat from you but only raw.”
- 16 And if the man said to him, “Let them burn the fat first, and then take as much as you wish,” he would say, “No, you must give it now, and if not, I will take it by force.”
- 17 Thus the sin of the young men was very great in the sight of the LORD, for the men treated the offering of the LORD with contempt.
- 18** Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy clothed with a linen ephod.
- 19 And his mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went 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 by this woman for the petition she asked of the LORD.” So then they would return to their home.
- 21 Indeed the LORD visited Hannah, and she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the boy Samuel grew in the presence of the LORD.
- 22 Now Eli was very old, and he kept hearing all that his sons were doing to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who were serving at the entrance to the tent of meeting.
- 23 And he said to them, “Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all these people.
- 24 “No, my sons; it is no good report that I hear the people of the LORD spreading abroad.
- 25 “If someone sins against a man, God will mediate for him, but if someone sins against the LORD, who can intercede for him?” But they would not listen to the voice of their father, for it was the will of the LORD to put them to death.
- 26 Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and also with man.
- 27 And there came a man of God to Eli and said to him, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Did I indeed reveal myself to the house of your father when they were in Egypt subject to the house of Pharaoh?
- 28 ‘Did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to go up to my altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? I gave to the house of your father all my offerings by fire from the people of Israel.
- 29 ‘Why then do you scorn my sacrifices and my offerings that I commanded for my dwelling, and honor your sons above me by fattening yourselves on the choicest parts of every offering of my people Israel?’
- 30 “Therefore the LORD, the God of Israel, declares: ‘I promised that your house and the house of your father should go in and out before me forever,’ but now the LORD declares: ‘Far be it from me, for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be lightly esteemed.



- 31 ‘Behold, the days are coming when I will cut off your strength and the strength of your father’s house, so that there will not be an old man in your house.
- 32 ‘Then in distress you will look with envious eye on all the prosperity that shall be bestowed on Israel, and there shall not be an old man in your house forever.
- 33 ‘The only one of you whom I shall not cut off from my altar shall be spared to weep his eyes out to grieve his heart, and all the descendants of your house shall die by the sword of men.
- 34 ‘And this that shall come upon your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, shall be the sign to you: both of them shall die on the same day.
- 35 ‘And I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who shall do according to what is in my heart and in my mind. And I will build him a sure house, and he shall go in and out before my anointed forever.
- 36 ‘And everyone who is left in your house shall come to implore him for a piece of silver or a loaf of bread and shall say, “Please put me in one of the priests’ places, that I may eat a morsel of bread.” ’ ’ ”



1 SAMUEL 3

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

NOW the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli.

And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

- 2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place.
- 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.
- 4 Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!"
- 5 and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.
- 6 And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again."
- 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.
- 8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.
- 9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.
- 10 And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears."
- 11 Then the LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.
- 12 "On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end.



- 13 “And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them.
- 14 “Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.”
- 15 Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli.
- 16 But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said, “Here I am.”
- 17 And Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.”
- 18 So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him.”
- 19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.
- 20 And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD.
- 21 And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.



1 Samuel

Israel in the Days of Samuel, Saul, and David





1 SAMUEL AT A GLANCE

Book Theme:

	Segment Divisions		Chapter Themes	
Author:			1	
			2	
			3	
Date:			4	
			5	
			6	
Purpose:			7	
		Key Words:	8	
			9	
			10	
11				
12				
13				
14				
		15		
		16		
		17		



Segment Divisions			Chapter Themes
			18
			19
			20
			21
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			23
			24
			25
			26
			27
			28
			29
			30
			31