

VIA EMMAUS: A CHRIST-CENTERED WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE

1 Samuel: The Good, The Bad, and The Ruddy (13)

1-2 Samuel

- Former Prophet (Joshua – 2 Kings)
- 1 Book – divided for the purposes of size
- Author is unspecified – 1 Chronicles 29:29-30 may suggest Samuel, Nathan, Gad

Stages

- The Story of the Ark (**1 Sam 4:1 – 7:1**)
- The Story of Samuel (**1 Sam 1:1 – 7:17**)
- The Story of Saul (**1 Sam 9:1-15:34**)
- The Story of Saul & David (**1 Sam 16:1-31:13**) & The Story of David (**2 Sam 1-20**)
- *This is different than other religions* (e.g. Islam, Mormonism)

People + Place + Rule

- **People** → God is designating for himself a king with whom he will make a covenant (**2 Sam 7**)
- **Place** → God imprints his name on Jerusalem and makes it his own place (**cf. Deut 12; 2 Sam 5**)
- **Rule** → Israel needs a righteous and lawful king who will lead God's people to keep covenant
- *In David (and Solomon) and at Jerusalem we come to the high point of the Old Testament*

Outline

- *Hero Story – battle scenes, confrontations, fugitive* *ILL: Kings on NBC*
 - o Fall of Eli and his sons >> Rise of Samuel
 - o (Rise and) Fal of Saul >> Rise of David
- Samuel (1-7); Saul (8-15); David (16-31)

SAMUEL (1 Samuel 1-7)

The Rise of Samuel as Prophet (ch. 1-3)

- o Samuel's Birth & Dedication (**1:1-28**) – during Judges, two wives + true worship, barren
- o Hannah's Song (**2:1-10**) – praise for God's sovereignty; like the Magnificat; **"king"** (**2:10**)
- o Wickedness of Eli's Sons (**2:12-36**) – unjust judges; exploiting their priestly privileges
- o Call of Samuel (**3:1-4:1a**) – God's word was again heard (**3:1, 21**); Preparation for David
- o Samuel Judges (**7:3ff**) – Samuel 'prepares the way' | offers sacrifice | circuit preacher

Story of the Ark of God (ch. 4-7)

- o Capture of the Ark (**4:1b-22**) – Fulfills of prophecy (**3:1-14**); Ark treated as a talisman (**4:5-9**)
- o The Ark in Philistia (**5:1-12**) – Topples Dagon (**5:1-6**); Ark is captured but not conquered
- o Return of the Ark (**6:1-7:1**) – The glory that went out returns, but not b/c of Israel's doing

SAUL (1 Samuel 8-15)

Transition to Monarchy (8:1-22)

- Wickedness (8:1-3) & Warning (8:10-18)
- Two-fold Problem (8:4-9, 19-22) – (1) Replaces YHWH as king, (2) King like the nations

Saul Made King (9:1-10:27)

- God instructed Samuel to anoint Saul (9:16). Why? Preparing for David (cf. Prov 16:4)
- *If you read carefully, the writing is on the wall*
 - Saul is externally impressive (9:2); David has a heart that fears the Lord (16:7)
 - Saul could not find the lost donkeys (9:3ff); David kept his sheep (16:11-13)

Initial Successes

- Received as King (10:24)
- Defeats the Ammonites (11:1-15) – The Spirit rushes upon Saul (v. 6)
- As leader of Israel, Saul receives Samuel's conditional support (12:1-25)
 - 12:20 – God has not abandoned his people or his promise: ***“Improbable Grace”***

Worsening Character & Disobedience

- Against the Philistines (13:1-23) – Unlawful sacrifice (13:8-13)
- Saul's Foolish Vow (14:1-52) – Jonathan vs. Philistia (14:1-23); Saul sentences his death
- Against the Amalekites (15:1-35) – Saul disregards God's word (15:1-3; 17ff)
Saul fears man (15:24-31); Samuel fears God (15:32ff)
- Turns on the Priest of the Lord – killing 85 of them in his pursuit of David (22:6-19)
- Breaks his own law – seeking counsel from the witch at Endor (28:1-25)

DAVID (1 Samuel 16-31)

David & Goliath (16-17)

- Classic text for hermeneutical abuse
 - Allegorical – Five Smooth Stones = courage, service, strength, reliance, anointing
 - Motivational – What are the giants in your life? God will help you slay them.
 - Moralistic – See David, Be Like David = Be Strong, Courageous – Fight Evil
 - Problem – *Who should you identify with?*
- Typological Interpretation
 - God's Chosen Man, Anointed By the Spirit, Defeats the Enemy of God
 - The People of God are delivered and plunder the enemies
 - *We must identify ourselves as the HELPED, not the HELPER*

David & Jonathan

- Unlike his father, Jonathan surrenders his kingdom to David (18:1-4)
- Jonathan warns David of Saul's murderous plot (20:1-42)
- *Model of faith and loyalty to God's king – at the expense of his own kingdom*

David & Saul (18:5-30:31)

- Relationship starts well – warrior in Saul's army (17ff); musician in his court (16:14-23)
- Turns sour – In his insecurity & jealousy, Saul begins to hate David and threaten him
- David becomes a fugitive – on the run; residing in enemy territory (cf. 27:1-12)
- David grows strong despite Saul's persecution – he is joined by a band of mighty men
- David – the prototypical righteous sufferer; **Jesus own life is modeled after David**
 - David trusts in the Lord— won't vindicate himself (ch. 24, 26)
 - Context for many Psalms – Psalm 34, 52, 54, 56, 57, 59, 63, 142
 - Theme of suffering before glory is exhibited by David

Lessons

1. God
 - a. God is the universal king— all human authority is from him (1 Sam 2:1-11; cf. Jn 19:11)
 - b. God is active in history—Hears Hannah, Speaks to Samuel, Confounds Saul, Chooses David
 - c. God brings salvation & judgment (**1 Sam 8:6-22**)
2. **Saul** did what was right in his own eyes – he was a Benjamite and one who resembled the judges
David was obedient to God’s word: he meditated on it day & night; he was the sweet Psalmist of Israel; he submitted himself to the law and sought God’s direction; and God honored him
3. David serves as the greatest type of Christ
 - a. There will be types before and after Christ (Adam, Noah, Moses, Elijah, Jeremiah, etc)
 - b. No other OT figure foreshadows the person and work of Christ like David