

**A WALK THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT**  
**TIME FRAME #5– THE UNITED KINGDOM – SAMUEL AND SAUL**  
**READING NOTES**  
**1050 BC TO 1010 BC**  
**SELECTED CHAPTERS IN 1 SAMUEL**

**SUMMARY**

After 300 years of uneven history under the Judges, God raises up Samuel. He is unique among biblical figures. He is a Judge, Priest and Prophet. He bridges the gap between the time of the Judges and the beginning of the Monarchy. He is a godly man of prayer and courage.

Saul will become the first king of Israel, and in some ways will successfully unite this loose confederacy of 12 Tribes into a nation. He also makes strides in securing their borders, especially when David is leading his a segment of his army. However, he does not have a true heart for God. His failures lead to rejection by God. This rejection does not happen immediately however. God will choose to have David anointed King but give Saul some 15 more years before he and his sons die in battle.

**MAJOR EVENTS**

EVENT #40	SCRIPTURE
THE BIRTH AND CALL OF SAMUEL	1 SAMUEL 1-3; 7:3-5
<b>NOTES</b>	
<p>1. 1 Samuel serves as a transition point in the history of Israel. It closes out the time of the Judges providing leadership and begins the Monarchy. Then within the Monarchy, we will see the transition from the house of Saul to the house of David. The central figure in all of this is Samuel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Samuel will serve as the final Judge in Israel.</li> <li>• Samuel is also a Prophet. Though there have been prophets from time to time in the past, it is now established as an office in Israel. There will now be a consistent line of Prophets who will serve the Lord as advisors to Kings and as spokes persons to the People of Israel.</li> <li>• Samuel is also a Priest, and will serve in the role of High Priest after the death of Eli and his sons.</li> </ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> <i>Samuel is one of the few people in the history of Israel who hold all three of the major offices: Prophet, Priest and Ruler (later, King).</i></p> <p>2. After a period of history that focused on civil leadership, we now see an emphasis on the spiritual leadership of the Priests and Prophets. This is seen by the establishment of the Tabernacle at Shiloh. From here Eli served not only as High Priest but also a Judge over the people of Israel. In addition, after a period of relative silence, God begins to speak regularly through His Prophet, Samuel.</p> <p>3. We are introduced to Samuel’s parents and the background of his birth. <b>1 Samuel 1:1-8</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Samuels’ parents, Elkanah and Hannah live in Ephraim, in one of the cities reserved for the Levites and their families. Therefore Samuel is a Levite, and qualified to serve in the Tabernacle. <b>(1 Samuel 1:1)</b></li> <li>• Hannah is childless. This may be the reason Elkanah marries a second wife, Peninnah. She may have given him children, but Hannah has his affection. <b>(vs.2)</b></li> </ul>	

- Each year they traveled to Shiloh, where the Tabernacle was located to celebrate Passover. Eli served as High Priest and his two sons presiding priests. **Verses 3-8**
    - At the Passover Meal Elkanah gave Hannah a double portion, as if she had a son. Undoubtedly this was to communicate his love for her, as if she indeed had given him a son. **(vs.5)**
    - Whether from jealousy or pride, Peninnah made what should have been a joyous time into a painful and difficult one with her words **(vs.6-7)**
    - While his intent was good, Elkanah's words to Hannah were less than helpful! It is interesting to note he does not intervene on Hannah's behalf. **(vs.8)**
4. Hannah prays for God to give her a son. **1:9-18**
    - Here we see Hannah's faith in God, as she takes her burden to Him in prayer. She vows to dedicate him as a Nazarite **(vs.10-11)**. This was a vow taken to separate oneself to serving God. It could be for a particular amount of time or for a particular task. As in this case, it could also be for a lifetime. The instructions for the Nazarite Vow are found in **Numbers 6:**
      - Does not drink wine or strong drink or any juice from grapes
      - No razor will ever touch his head/hair
      - Will not go near a dead body, even that of a parent or sibling
      - When their Vow was complete, there was a specific sacrifice that was to be made.
    - Thinking this weeping woman who was mouthing words without speaking was drunk, Eli gently rebukes her, for it was unlawful to appear at the Tabernacle intoxicated. **(vs.12-14)**
    - When Hannah explains her prayer and desire Eli changes his rebuke to a blessing **(vs.17)**. She receives this blessing and is comforted and encouraged **(vs.18)**.  
**NOTE: Here we see the powerful combination of Prayer and Encouragement.**
  5. God answers Hannah's prayer and she conceives a son. She names him 'Samuel' – Offspring of God/Name of God.
  6. Hannah, with Elkanah's support fulfills her vow. After Samuel turns 3-4 and is weaned they take him to Eli to serve in the Tabernacle. The extravagant offering they bring indicates he is a wealthy man. **1:21-28**
    - Hannah responds with a prayer that resembles that of Mary's Magnificat in **Luke 1:46-55. (2:1-10)**
    - As his parents go home, Samuel remains at the Tabernacle where he serves the LORD under Eli's supervision. **(vs.11)**
  7. Eli's two worthless sons miss-used their positions as spiritual leaders at the Tabernacle. Instead of leading the people to worship God they took the opportunity to use and abuse people for their own benefit. **2:12-36**
    - Take for themselves portions of the sacrifices meant for God **(vs.13-14)**
    - Force people to give extra portions to them **(vs.15-17)**
    - They "did not know God". This was not ignorance but willful disregard for God and His Word. **(vs.12)**
    - They engaged in sex with the women who served outside of the Tabernacle. **(vs. 22)**
    - They refused to listen to their father's rebukes **(vs.23-25)**
  8. In contrast to Eli's sons, Samuel grew into a godly young man.
    - He continued to minister to the LORD **(vs.18)**
    - He grew in stature and favor with God and people **(vs.26)**
  9. God sends a prophet to inform Eli that He is going to reject and judge his sons. In doing this, the line of High Priest will not pass through his family. **2:27-36**

10. God calls Samuel to serve Him as a Prophet. **3:1-21**

- “The word of the LORD was rare” **(3:1)**. This is about to change!
- “The lamp of the LORD had not gone out” **(vs.3)**. A lamp was placed in the Holy Place in front of the veil dividing it from the Holy of Holies. This lamp burned from sunset to sunrise. God appears to Samuel in the early morning hours, before dawn.
- “Samuel did not yet know the LORD” **(vs.7)**. This is in a personal way. God had not yet spoken to Samuel, so he does not recognize the LORD’s voice.
- Eli eventually realizes it is God who is calling out to Samuel, so he instructs the young man on what to say and do. **(vs.8-9)**
- As God appears for the 4<sup>th</sup> time Samuel responds as instructed **(vs.10)**. Note that God calls him emphatically, repeating his name. God then announces the judgement on Eli and his sons was going to happen soon.
- Samuel is established as a true Prophet of God. **(vs. 19-21)**
  - The LORD was with him
  - ‘Let none of his words fall to the ground’ – Every prophetic word spoken by Samuel came true **(vs. 19)**
  - ‘From Dan to Beersheba’ – From the northern tip to southern tip of Israel **(vs.20)**
  - God revealed Himself to Samuel. This will happen all of Samuel’s life.

11. Samuel is established as a Judge over Israel. **1 Samuel 7:3-15**

- It has been 20 years since 1 Samuel 3 took place. **(7:2)**
- Samuel issues three challenges to Israel: **(vs. 3-4)**
  - Turn from any idolatry
  - Direct their hearts to God
  - Serve God alone

12. Samuel is not a military man, but he is a Prayer Warrior. He prays for the nation and God responds with deliverance **(vs. 5-11)**

13. **7:15-17** Summarize Samuel’s ministry. He has been called to be a Prophet, Priest and Judge.

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:

EVENT #41	SCRIPTURE
SAUL BECOMES THE FIRST KING OF ISRAEL	1 SAMUEL 8-10
<b>NOTES</b>	
<p>1. The Elders come to Saul and demand he appoint a king over them. <b>8:1-5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Samuel and his sons contribute to this request.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ First, he passes down the position of Judge to them, making it an inherited position. This had never been done before. God had always raised up a Judge when they were needed. <b>(vs. 1-2)</b></li><li>○ Second, like Eli before him did not have sons who followed God like he did. In addition, like Eli, he does not remove them when they show a lack of integrity. <b>(vs.3)</b></li></ul></li></ul>	

- Having seen Samuel appoint his sons as Judges, the Elders recognize that Samuel has the authority to appoint a king.
    - The Elders are motivated by a desire 'to be like the other nations' (**vs.5**). This complaining spirit resembles that of their ancestors in the Wilderness under Moses, who did not trust God to meet their needs.
2. God recognizes the true motivation of the Elders and their request. God determines to give them what they want, with consequences. **Verses 6-18**
    - Samuel recognizes the motivation as well, and is 'displeased' (evil in Samuel's eyes). (**vs.6**) God, however, instructs Samuel to comply with their request (**7-9**).
      - Until now, the people had trusted God to raise up a Judge to lead them when necessary. But now they want a monarchy, 'like all the other nations'. Rather than trust in God's way, they prefer to find security in being like the nations around them.
    - Samuel passes on God's warning of the consequences of having a king. (**vs.10-18**)
      - Their king will conscript their sons into military service. That there will be commanders of thousands indicates this will be a large standing army. (**vs.10-12**)
      - Other professionals will be forced to make armaments for this army (**vs.12**)
      - He will take the best of their land and give it to his government and military leaders (**vs.14**)
      - He will tax them heavily (**vs.15**).
      - He will force some of their servants to do his work (**vs.16**)
      - Samuel concludes with, 'You will be his slaves'. They and all of their possessions will be subject to the king's use. (**vs.17**)
  3. Despite the warnings, the people continue to insist on having a king rule over them. **Verses 19-22**
    - Note Samuel's close relationship with God (**vs.21**)
    - God is the One ultimately in control. Samuel will anoint a king because God tells him to, not because of the demands of the people (**vs.22**)
  4. God then uses ordinary circumstances to bring Saul and Samuel together. **9:1-14**
    - We are introduced to Saul in **9:1-2**. He is tall, handsome and from a wealthy family. From a human perspective, a great candidate for king.
    - Losing livestock was a common experience for farmers (**vs.3-4**). Their search for the missing donkeys is futile.
    - Saul intends to give up the search and return home, but God uses the words of the servant to prompt Saul to go ask Samuel where to look for the donkeys. (**vs.5-10**). They are then directed to where Samuel is (**vs.11-14**).
  5. God had prepared Samuel for this meeting with Saul, revealing he is the man who is to be anointed king. **9:15-17**
  6. Samuel reveals Saul's destiny to him through words and actions. **9:18-27**
    - Samuel reveals the donkeys have been found (**vs.20**)
    - Samuel then reveals that Saul will be the one Israel desires to be their king. Saul's humble response indicates he understands the meaning of Samuel's words. (**vs.20-21**)
    - Samuel gives Saul the place of honor at the table and gives him the food reserved for himself as priest. These actions show respect to Saul and the position he is about to be given by God (**vs.22-24**)
  7. Samuel anoints Saul as the first king of Israel. He then gives Saul three signs that will give validation to his words and actions. **10:1-13**
    - Samuel anoints Saul with oil. Note it is God who has selected Saul (**vs.1**)

- Saul will be told the lost donkeys have been found (**vs.2**), validating what Samuel said in **9:20**.
  - Saul will meet three men going up to sacrifice to God. Giving Saul these loaves intended for God shows their recognition of Saul's authority (**vs.3-4**).
  - Saul would then meet and join a group of Prophets (**vs.5-6**). In this moment Saul will experience the Spirit of God rushing upon him. This will provide divine enablement for his tasks as king.
  - When these three signs occur, Saul know God's hand is on him. He is to go to Gilgal and wait for 7 days for Saul to come (**vs.7-8**).
    - "Do what your hand finds to do" – Be confident in God's guidance and enablement.
    - "I am coming to offer burnt offerings" – Samuel, as High Priest, will seek God's blessing on Saul.
- NOTE:** *It is God's presence and enablement that we are to seek and trust. Then we can take on the roles and responsibilities God gives us with confidence.*
- All three signs occur, just as Samuel had predicted (**vs.9-13**).

8. God reveals His choice of Saul to be king of Israel to the people, using the drawing of lots. **10:17-24**

9. Saul is proclaimed the King of Israel. **10:25-27**

- Note that neither Saul nor the people were free to define the king's role. Much of this had been given by God in The Law.
- "Laid it up before the LORD" – Placed it near the Ark of the Covenant in the Tabernacle.
- Saul, with a group of soldiers, acting as body guards, goes home. Soon the need to fight the Philistines will bring the nation together under Saul's leadership.

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:

EVENT # 42	SCRIPTURE
SAUL'S FAILURES	1 SAMUEL 13,15
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOTES</b></p> <p><b>Samuel 13</b> records Saul's first major spiritual failure as king. Under pressure, Saul makes a conscious decision to take things into his own hands even though he violates The Law and the instructions he had been given by God through Samuel.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The situation Saul finds himself in as he becomes king is dire. After winning a small skirmish with the Philistines (<b>13:2-4</b>) they muster a large force to take on Saul, causing a panic among the Israelites. (<b>vs.5-7</b>)</li> <li>2. Saul waits for seven days for Samuel to come, as he had been instructed. But Samuel had not come, and Saul was losing men by the minute. <b>13:8</b></li> <li>3. Saul makes the decision to offer God a sacrifice himself. This is probably intended to calm the people as well as to seek God's favor. <b>13:9</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This violates The Law, which stated only priests could offer sacrifices (<b>Numbers 18:7</b>).</li> <li>• This violates the instructions Saul had been given by Samuel in <b>1 Samuel 10:8</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	

- This shows Saul's lack of faith and trust in God. He is using the sacrifice as a religious ritual to force God's hand to help him. In this, he resembles the Pagans around him.
4. Saul receives severe consequences for his disobedience. His family will not be the royal line. **13:10-15**
    - Samuel sees what Saul has done and confronts him. Saul now shows a pattern in his life: when confronted by sin he does not show repentance. Instead, he makes excuses, tries to deflect the attention off what he has done or simply deny what he did was really wrong. This stands in sharp contrast to the next king – David. **(vs.10-12)**
    - Samuel announces the consequences **(vs.13-14)**
    - Samuel explains what God is looking for in a king – “A man after His own heart”. This will be fulfilled when David is later anointed king. It is apparent that Saul is not that man. **(vs.14)**

**1 Samuel 15** – Saul chooses to deliberately disobey God. Told by God to completely destroy the Amalekites, he instead keeps the best plunder and spares the life of their king. The consequence is God's full rejection of him and his family.

1. Samuel, speaking for God, instructs Saul to bring full judgement on the Amalekites by completely destroying them. **15:1-3**
  - This judgement was being brought on them for two reasons:
    - First, the Amalekites had attacked the Hebrews after they had left Egypt **(Ex.17:8)** as well as joining other nations against Israel **(Numbers 14:41-45; Judges 3,6,12)**. God had told them He would bring His judgement on them for this.
    - Second, like the other nations in Palestine, they were a sensual and violent people. This was judgement for that sin. It also would prevent them from becoming a snare to Israel.
  - “Devoted for destruction” **(vs.3)** – a call to destroy everyone and everything, taking nothing as plunder for themselves. This made this an act of judgement from God.
2. Amassing a large army, Saul attacks the Amalekites. He first warns the Kenites living around them to leave. These are the people of Jethro, the father-in-law of Moses. **15:4-8**
3. Saul disobeys God in two ways: **(vs.9)**
  - He spares the life of Agag, king of the Amalekites.
  - The Israelites keep the best of the livestock and valuables while destroying what was worthless. This is not only disobedience, but disregarding God's worth and holiness by offering Him what they did not want while keeping the best for themselves.
4. Samuel confronts Saul, announcing God's complete rejection of him as king. **Vs. 10-23**
  - God appears to Samuel and tells him of Saul's sin. **(vs.10-11)**
  - “I regret” points to God's sorrow over what Saul has done, not second thoughts on making him king. **(vs.11)**
  - The next morning Samuel goes to confront Saul. He brushes aside Saul's attempt to ignore what he has done is sin and the excuse the animals were kept for sacrifices. **(vs.13-14)** He also dismisses Saul's using the people as an excuse **(20-21)**
  - In **verses 22-23**, Samuel gives a classic response that still rings true today: It is better to listen to and obey God than to offer a sacrifice or other religious activity.
5. Saul appeals to Samuel but it is too late. Samuel mirrors God by refusing to go with Saul. Instead he begins to walk away. Then he does accompany Saul back to camp, where Saul worships God. Samuel then executes Agag **(vs.32-33)** and then goes home **(34-35)**.

6. The stage is set for God to anoint a new king, establishing a new family line of kings, and ultimately the Messiah.

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:

EVENT # 43	SCRIPTURE
DAVID IS ANNOINTED KING	1 SAMUEL 16:1-13
<b>NOTES</b>	
<p>1. God had told Saul that he was being rejected as king, and that the LORD would choose another man who had the right heart. In <b>1 Samuel 16:1-13</b> we are introduced to that man – David, son of Jesse. Once anointed, God will prepare him over the next two decades to become king, using both victories and suffering to do so.</p> <p>2. God sends Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint one of the sons of Jesse as the next king of Israel. <b>16:1-5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Samuel was still grieving over the failure of Saul. Perhaps he is remembering what he witnessed with Eli and his sons when a boy. This is the second time he has been used by God to deliver this message of rejection and coming judgement. In any regard, it is important to note that when we witness someone experience a spiritual or moral failure, it should sadden us, bringing out compassion. <b>(vs.1)</b></li> <li>• God pulls Samuel out of this grief to go anoint the next king. Note that God is the One Who is sovereign and has chosen the man He wants <b>(vs.1, 3, 7)</b>.</li> <li>• Samuel is aware of the fatal consequences if Saul discovers he had anointed someone else king, for that would be considered treason. God instructs Samuel on what to do to gather Jesse and his sons together safely. Samuel then steps out in obedience and travels to Bethlehem <b>(vs.2-5)</b></li> <li>• Greeted tentatively by the Elders of the city, Samuel instructs them to prepare for special sacrifice. Jesse and his sons are on the restricted invitation list. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jesse is a descendent of Judah. He is also the grandson of Ruth and Boaz.</li> <li>○ ‘Consecrate yourselves’ – probably consisted of washing themselves and their clothing.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>3. God then reveals His choice of David as the next king of Israel. <b>16:6-13</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It would have been natural for Samuel to assume Jesse’s oldest son would be God’s choice. However, God is not going to choose based on social custom (eldest son) or physical appearance. God would choose based on the man’s heart, not their outward appearance. <b>(vs.6,7)</b></li> <li>• The heart of a person is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A person’s inward moral and spiritual life.</li> <li>○ A person’s attitude towards God.</li> <li>○ Included the emotions, will, decisions and thoughts.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Jesse has his seven oldest sons with him, and none of them are chosen by God. One should pause and consider the emotions these sons must have had as each one stood before Samuel, only to be rejected. The tension had to be building! <b>(vs.8-10)</b></li> </ul>	

- As Samuel inquires whether there is another son, Jesse confirms he has one more, the youngest, who is watching the family flock. It had not occurred to Jesse that David should be included. **(vs.11)**
  - As David arrives, God tells Samuel that this is the man he has chosen **(vs.12-13)**
    - Samuel anoints David with his dad and brothers watching. It will be some 20 years before David is on the throne. Again, the brothers would have felt humiliated that their kid brother had been elevated over them!
    - As soon as he was anointed, God's Spirit comes upon him. 'From that day forward' indicates David will be empowered by the Spirit for the rest of his life. David will have his failures, but when he does he will repent.
4. The stage is now set for an extended interaction between David and Saul. Over and over again each man will reveal their heart and character. David's will be one of a devoted follower of God. Saul's will be that of a man whose relationship with God has been broken and not restored, leaving him with 'an evil spirit' **(1 Samuel 16:14)**.

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:

EVENT # 44	SCRIPTURE
DAVID DEFEATS GOLIATH	1 SAMUEL 17:1 – 18:5
<p><b>NOTES</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The main elements of this story are known by almost everyone who has been raised in the Western world, even if they have never opened a Bible. However, the main point of the story is not that David killed Goliath, but what the story tells us about David's heart for God, and the courage that view of God gave him. In addition, we discover that God will be with the one whose heart is fixed on Him.</li> <li>2. The scene is described and the main characters introduced. <b>1 Samuel 17:1-18</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Philistines enter the territory of Israel, coming to within some 15 miles of Bethlehem. Saul and his army go to meet them, and they face off at the Valley of Elah. Each army is on opposite ridges with the valley between them. <b>(vs.1-3)</b></li> <li>• As they face each other, a lone Philistine, Goliath, walks into the valley. He stands 9'9" tall; carries a spear with a 15lb head; wears armor weighing 125lb. and has a shield bearer walking in front of him with a shield that would cover most of his body. He is a champion, meaning he has proven himself to be among the best soldiers in their army. <b>(vs.4-7)</b></li> <li>• He issues a challenge to fight a champion from the army of Israel instead of the armies fighting. Winner will take all! <b>(vs.8-10)</b></li> <li>• As king, Saul should have gone out to challenge Goliath. Instead, he joins the rest of his army in cowering in fear and refusing to respond. <b>(vs.11)</b></li> <li>• David's three oldest brothers are fighting in Saul's army. Jesse sends him with a care package for them as well as a gift to their commander. <b>(vs.12-18)</b></li> <li>• As David arrives, Goliath has been coming out twice a day to issue his challenge for 40 days. <b>(vs.16)</b></li> </ul> </li> </ol>	



3. David interacts with the soldiers about Goliath. **17:19-30**
  - Their focus is on his size; David's is on Israel's God. **(vs.25 cp. vs.26)**
  - Saul, afraid to face Goliath himself has offered the highest reward he can to the man who does fight and defeat him: **(vs.25)**
    - By getting Saul's daughter in marriage, that man becomes a member of the royal family
    - The man's extended family will not have to pay any taxes
  - David declares his confidence to defeat Goliath by the enabling power of God. **(vs.26)** This brings a rebuke from his oldest brother. Some of this is probably coming because of David being anointed by Samuel instead of him **(vs.28-29)**
4. Saul hears about David's comments and summons him. Despite his doubts about David, he agrees to let David represent Israel as their champion. **17:31-40**
  - David is a teenager while Goliath is a full grown man with extensive fighting experience. Saul raises this issue with David, probably trying to get him to back down from his determination to fight him **(vs.32-33)**
  - This exchange reveals the clear difference between Saul and David's relationship with God. Saul cannot see past Goliath's size. David on the other hand cannot doubt God's ability to give him the victory. David's faith has been bolstered by God enabling him to kill both a bear and lion while protecting his sheep. If God did that, He will also deliver this Philistine into his hands. **(vs.34-37)**
    - David's anger is directed at Goliath defying God
    - David's hope is not in his ability but in God's enabling
  - Saul gives David his armor, which is much too large, since Saul is several inches taller. David discards the armor, picks up his shepherd's staff and sling and walks out to the valley. Stopping at the small stream bed, he picks up 5 smooth stones and places them in his should bag. **(vs.38-40)**
5. David takes on and defeats Goliath. **17:41-54**
  - Goliath watches David approach. He only sees David's size and age and the staff in his hand. None of these qualify as a weapon. His response is a mixture of anger, dismissiveness and taunting **(vs.41-44)**
  - **Verses 45-47** clearly reveal David's heart for and trust in God.
    - David does not need impressive weapons like Goliaths, for he has the one true God on his side
    - David's motivation is to honor God and his goal is for God's power to be revealed through the defeat of the Philistines. He accurately predicts what is about to happen.
  - David takes one stone, and with his sling shot buries it into the skull of Goliath, killing him instantly. **(vs.48-49)**
  - David goes to Goliath and uses his own sword to cut off his head. Seeing this, the Philistines try to flee the field. **(vs.50-51)**
  - Emboldened, Saul's army pursues them all the way into Philistine, until the surviving soldiers find safety in their fortified cities. **(vs.52-54)**
6. David is brought to Saul, and enters into his service. **17:55-18:5**
  - Saul determines what family David is from. In part, this is so he can fulfill the 'no taxes' part of David's reward for defeating Goliath. **(17:55-58)**
  - From that moment on David and Saul's son, Jonathan will be close friends. The gifts Jonathan give are deeply personal. They also shadow the fact David, and not Jonathan, will be the next king. **(18:1, 3-4)**
  - Saul brings David into his army, where David has great success wherever he goes **(vs.2,5)**

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:

EVENT # 45	SCRIPTURE
SAUL'S JEALOUS REJECTION OF DAVID	1 SAMUEL 18:6-19:17
<b>NOTES</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. David's military success and popularity with the people create a growing jealousy in Saul. <b>18:6-15</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The first step comes as a result of a song sung about David that credits Saul with killing thousands and David ten thousand. It is clearly meant to honor David, not compare him with Saul. However, Saul's insecurities lead him to jealousy. He now begins to see David as a threat, not an asset. <b>(vs.6-9)</b></li><li>• The next step occurs the next day as David serves as court musician. Saul is gripped by a harmful spirit and twice tries to kill David with a spear. <b>(vs.10-11)</b></li><li>• Saul then decides to remove David from his court. But with God's hand on him, David's accomplishments and popularity continue to grow, deepening Saul's fear of him. <b>(vs.12-15)</b>. It appears Saul sees God's blessing on David, but his fear is greater than his ability to trust God. Undoubtedly knowing God had promised to replace him and his sons with a new king play a major part in this. Later in David's life, after his moral failure with Bathsheba, he is told his child will die. While David prays for God to spare the child, he dies. David not only accepts the consequence, he goes to worship God. Again, we see a clear difference between David and Saul in that Saul is fighting hard to avoid the consequences announced by God. <b>(2 Samuel 12)</b></li></ul></li><li>2. Saul then tries to use the Philistines to kill David by sending him on dangerous military missions. <b>18:17-30</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Saul then fulfills another part of David's reward by promising his oldest daughter's hand in marriage. He encourages David to continue to fight the Philistines, hoping he will die in battle. <b>(vs.17)</b> When David replies with humility <b>(vs.18)</b>, Saul uses it as an excuse to marry his daughter to another man <b>(vs.19)</b>. It appears Saul has no intention of making David his son-in-law, but instead is waiting for the odds to play out and David to be killed in battle.</li><li>• When Saul hears that his younger daughter, Michal loves David, he sees another opportunity. Apparently she has a reputation for being one who will be a snare to David in some way. Exactly how we are not told. Combined with this possible snare Saul again puts David in danger by demanding proof David kills 100 Philistines. <b>(vs.20-25)</b></li><li>• David not only kills 100, but doubles that to 200. After receiving proof, Saul does give David Michal as his wife. <b>(vs.26-27)</b></li><li>• It all backfires on Saul, as Saul's paranoia and fear of David grow. David is now living in the Palace compound, loved by the people in general and his daughter especially. <b>(vs.28-30)</b></li></ul></li><li>3. Saul decides to openly make David a target, and begins to tell his servants and Jonathan to look for opportunities to kill David. If his servants kill David it will be seen as out of respect for Saul, preventing David from amassing enough support to stage a coup. If Jonathan kills David it will be seen as an act that protects his right to the throne. Saul is still trying to keep his hands clean. <b>19:1</b></li><li>4. Jonathan speaks up for David, and after warning David to stay away from the palace, speaks to Saul and convinces him to relent from seeking David's life. David is able to return home. <b>(19:2-7)</b></li></ol>	

5. David's continued success drives Saul to personally try to take David's life. **19:8-10**
6. Having failed, Saul decides to strike David when he is home in bed. Michal warns David and he escapes. This begins 8-10 years of Saul seeking David's life. During that time David will attract some 600 followers who join him in this life on the run. On at least two occasions David will have the opportunity to kill Saul but will choose to spare him. Never does David lose respect for Saul as 'God's Anointed'. **19:11-17**

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:

EVENT # 46	SCRIPTURE
DEATH OF SAUL	1 SAMUEL 31
<b>NOTES</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Philistines and Israel engage in a full scale battle. They push Saul and his army until they break ranks and flee. <b>(31:1)</b></li> <li>2. Catching Saul and his sons, he watches as all three of his sons are killed. Then Saul himself is wounded. Not wanting to fall into enemy hands alive, he tries unsuccessfully to get his armor bearer to kill him. So Saul is forced to commit suicide. <b>(v31:2-6)</b></li> <li>3. After the defeat, the Jews abandon the cities closest to Philistine. <b>(vs.7)</b></li> <li>4. The Philistines put the headless bodies of Saul and his sons on the wall of one of their cities. A group of men from the Jewish city of Jabesh-gilead, remove the bodies from the wall. After cremating the bodies, they bury the bones and mourned for their fallen king.</li> </ol>	
<p>PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:</p>	