

1 Samuel.

Read the chapter. The rule of Judges ends and Saul, the first king of Israel and David establish a Kingdom. There is always a prototype with Judges and how they judge which represents our **JUDGE** Jesus, as well as kings to establish the Kingdom of God. The last of the Judges was recorded by a story of a woman named Hannah who was barren. In her plea to the Lord for a child, she vowed that she would give into the Temple to be a priest before Him, her firstborn. Eli, the priest, saw her agonizing and he thought she was drunk. Hannah told him she did not drink but was pouring out her heart tot he Lord. Eli blessed her. Hannah then conceived and had a child she named Samuel. After she weaned the child she took the child, Samuel, and three bullocks, one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine and brought it to Eli, the priest. Hannah, then worships the Lord in prophecy:

*My heart rejoices in the Lord,
My horn is exalted in the Lord:
My mouth is enlarged over my enemies;
Because I rejoice in your salvation.*

*There is none holy as the Lord:
For there is none beside You:
Neither is there any rock
Like our God.*

*Talk no more so exceeding proudly;
Let not arrogancy come out of your mouth:
For the Lord is a God of knowledge,
And by Him actions are weighed.*

*The bows of the mighty men are broken,
And they that stumbled are girded with strength.
They that were full have hired out themselves for bread;
And they that were hungry ceased:*

*So that the barren has born seven;
And she that has many children is waxed feeble.
The Lord kills, and makes alive:
He brings down to the grave,
And brings up.*

*The Lord makes poor,
And makes rich:
He brings low,
And lifts up.*

*He raised up the poor out of the dust
And lifts up the beggar from the dunghill,
To set them among princes,
And to make them inherit the throne of glory:
For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's
And He has set the world upon them.*

*He will keep the feet of His saints
And the wicked shall be silent in darkness;
For by strength shall no man prevail.
The adversaries of the Lord
Shall be broken in pieces;
Out of heaven shall He thunder upon them:
The Lord shall judge the ends of the earth;
And He shall give strength unto his king,
And exalt the horn of his anointed.*

This child started to minister to Eli in the Temple. Eli's sons did not know the Lord and their sins were very great before the Lord because they hated the offerings to the Lord and they were promiscuous in the Temple. They did not listen to Eli, their father. Hannah would come in every year to visit her child with offerings and a little coat she would sew. She and her husband had another three sons and two daughters.

A man of God came to Eli and prophesied that the Lord was very displeased with Eli and his sons and how they are a scourge in the Temple dishonouring God with the offerings; that Eli nor his sons will be priests any more and the Lord would kill both Hophni and Phinehas in one day. He also prophesied that the Lord will raise Himself up a priest *that shall do according to that which is in my heart and in my mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before me anointed for ever.* Type: JESUS. Always, the Lord speaks of past, now and future.

1 Samuel 3.

Read the chapter. Samuel hears from the Lord. The Lord in the night tells him exactly what He will do but in the morning Samuel was scared to give the word to Eli about Eli and his family's destruction but Eli insisted. *Then all of Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord. And the Lord appeared again in Shiloh: for the Lord revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the Word of the Lord.* That's where the Ark of the Covenant was. Anytime in the Bible where the WORD OF THE LORD is, there is JESUS (Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever; He was Melchisedec to Abraham).

1 Samuel 4.

Read the chapter. Israel is overcome by the Philistines, first 2,000 died and then 40,000 died and the Philistines killed the two wicked sons of Eli. When Eli was told that the Philistines also took the Ark of the Covenant, he fell backwards and broke his neck and they died. When Eli's daughter-in-law heard that her husband and his father had died, she travailed and gave birth to her son and she named him *Ichabod* saying *The glory has departed from Israel: because the ark of God was taken, and because of her father in law and her husband. And she, The glory is departed from Israel: for the ark of God is taken.* God judged the priest and his family and with it all of Israel for their wickedness.

1 Samuel 5.

Read the chapter. The Philistines worshipped Dagon (a devil idol) so when they brought the Ark of God into Ashdod, they put the Ark of God in the house of Dagon, and set it by Dagon. When the Philistine men came in the morning Dagon was fallen upon his face to the earth before the Ark of the Lord. They took Dagon and set him in his place again. The following day Dagon was without his head but he was also without both the palms of his hands; only the stump of Dagon was left to him. From then on the men never went into the house of Dagon until that day. The hand of the Lord was heavy on them and they were tormented of emerods and they of Ashdod decided to get rid of the Ark of the God

of Israel *for His hand is sore upon us, and upon Dagon our god.* The Philistines gathered together their lords and decided to take the Ark of God to Gath. God was destroying Gath and the people were suffering with emerods in their private parts. But they sent the Ark of God to Ekron but they were crying out *They have brought about the Ark of the God of Israel to us, to slay us and our people.*

The Philistines had to get rid of the Ark of God because God was destroying everything in their path *a deadly destruction throughout all the city; the hand of God was very heavy there. And the men that died not were smitten with the emerods: and the cry of the city went up to heaven.* You know when **Jesus** comes back there will be men crying out to the mountains, “fall on us” because there will be such darkness. You would think that it would be such light, but no, the light of Jesus will only increase the darkness of man and demons.

1 Samuel 6.

Read the chapter. The Philistines counsel how to send back the Ark of God as it was with them seven months with sickness rampant. They decided to send it on a new cart with an offering of five golden emerods and five golden mice according to the five lords in the country and for the plague of mice that marred their land. So that's what they did. They took two milk cows (separated from their calves) and tied them to the new cart putting the Ark of God and a coffer by the side, the trespass offering of five golden emerods and five golden mice as jewels of gold to Bethshemesh. The cows, because they were separated from their calves, were lowing continually, as they made their way with the cart as the Philistines followed it.

At Bethshemesh the people were harvesting the wheat harvest and when they saw the Ark, they rejoiced to see it. The cart came to Joshua, a Bethshemite, where there was a great stone of Abel and the Levites took down the Ark of the Lord and coffer that was with it and put it on the great stone and offered the two cows as a burnt offering and other sacrifices that day. The Philistines had designated five stones for each of the cities: Ashdod, Gaza, Askelon, Gath, and Ekron. The five lords that followed the cart returned to Ekron. Because the Bethshemeshites looked into the Ark of God, 50,070 men perished. *Who is able to stand before this holy Lord God? And to whom shall He go up from us? And they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kirjathjearim saying The Philistines have brought again the Ark of the Lord; come down and fetch it up to you.*

1 Samuel 7.

Read the chapter. The men of Kirjathjearim came, and fetched up the Ark of the Lord, and it stayed there for twenty years. They brought it to Abinadab and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep it. Israel was crying out to God to be delivered from the Philistines. Now comes Samuel and spoke to all saying *if you do return unto the Lord with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the Lord, and serve Him only: and He will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.* They did. They put away Baalim and Ashtaroth and served the Lord only. Samuel directed all of Israel to meet at Mizpah that he may pray for them there. The Philistines heard it and went up against them. As Samuel was offering up a lamb as a burnt offering, the Lord heard Him praying and crying. The Lord thundered; yes, such a great thunder that the Philistines were smitten before Israel until Bethcar. Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and called it Ebenezer *Hitherto has the Lord helped us.* The Lamb still represent Jesus, the Lamb of God that took away the sins of the world.

The Philistines were subdued and did not come into the coast of Israel and the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. Ekron to Gath, were taken by Israel and the Amorites

were at peace with Israel as well as Samuel made his rounds to Bethel and Gilgal and Mizpah and judged Israel in all those places. He returned to Ramah to his house and there he judged Israel and there he built an altar unto the Lord.

1 Samuel 8.

Read the chapter. Samuel is old and he makes his sons judges over Israel in Beersheba but they went after money, took bribes, and perverted judgment. Israel came to Samuel and told him about his sons and that they want a king to rule over them. This displeased Samuel when they said *Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the Lord.* And the Lord said to Samuel *Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto you: for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them...they have forsaken me and served other gods...hearken unto their voice...solemnly tell them the manner of the king that shall reign over them...he will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots...he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them to ear his ground, and to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots. And he will take your daughters to be confectionaries, and to be cooks, and to be bakers. And he will take your fields, and your vineyards, and your olive yards, even the best of them, and give them to his servants. And he will take a tenth of your seed (which means that it is not a gift to the Lord and therefore cannot multiply back to you) and of your vineyards, and give to his officers, and to his servants. And he will take your menservants, and your maidservants, and your goodliest young men, and your asses, and put them to his work. He will take the tenth of your sheep: and you shall be his servants (20% off the top: 10% to the king, 10% to the Lord because God did not excuse them).*

And you shall cry out in that day because of your king which you shall have chosen for yourself; and the Lord will not hear you in that day.

Israel did not listen to Samuel (now we say, “give the people what they want”). Samuel rehearsed everything they told him to the Lord. The Lord said to Samuel *Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king.*

1 Samuel 9.

Read the chapter. Saul's father's donkeys got lost. Before Saul comes to Samuel, the Lord tells Samuel that He is sending Saul to him to anoint him king over the people Israel so that he will deliver Israel from the Philistines. *And when Samuel saw Saul, the Lord said unto him, Behold the man whom I spoke to you of! This same shall reign over my people. Saul...said...where the seer's house is...Samuel answered...I am the seer: go up before me unto the high place; for you shall eat with me today, and tomorrow I will let you go, and will tell you all that is in your heart...And as for your asses that were lost three days ago, set not your mind on them; for they are found. And on whom is all the desire of Israel? Is it not on you, and on all your father's house?* Saul was shocked. Samuel took Saul and his servant and put them in the most honoured place among them that were bidden, which were about thirty persons. Samuel made arrangements with the cook to serve Saul. Samuel and his guests ate with Saul. Samuel and Saul went to the top of the house and communed and the next morning Samuel again requested his presence on the top of his house. After that Samuel accompanied Saul to go out of the city and as he did so he asked Saul to tell his servant to go ahead of them so that Samuel could show him the Word of God.

Melchisedec was the high priest, Saul was the first king (Prototype: Jesus, high priest and king); also a Prophet, a shepherd (pastor), teacher, evangelist, and Apostle of apostles.

1 Samuel 10.

Read the chapter. Samuel took a vial of oil and poured it upon Saul's head, and kissed him and said *Is it not because the Lord has anointed you to be captain over his inheritance?* He told Saul that when he leaves Samuel certain things would happen on the way, and they did. *And the Spirit of the Lord will come upon you, and you shall prophesy with them, (other prophets) and shall be turned into another man.*

Samuel called the people together at Mizpeh with all the tribes and Benjamin was chosen and of the families that were chosen, Matri was taken, and then Saul the son of Kish was taken but he could not be found. The family ran and found him, he was head and shoulders above all the tribes. The people shouted God save the king!

1 Samuel 11.

Read the chapter. Nahash, the Ammonite, encamped against Jabesh-gilead. All the men of Jabesh said to Nahash *make a covenant with us, and we will serve you. And Nahash...answered them, on this condition will I make a covenant with you, that I may thrust out all your right eyes, and lay it for a reproach upon all Israel.* Israel asked for seven days' respite and they sent messengers to all of Israel. This message came to Gibeah of Saul and Saul heard it. *And the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard those tidings, and his anger was kindled greatly. And he took a yoke of oxen and hewed them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the coasts of Israel...whosoever comes not forth after Saul and after Samuel, so shall it be done unto his oxen...and fear fell on the people...came out with one consent.*

There were 300,000 of the men of Israel and 30,000 of Judah. So Jabesh went to Nahash and told him that *Tomorrow we will come out unto you, and you shall do with us all the seems good unto you.* Saul put the men in three companies and came against the Ammonites and slew them. In Gilgal the people gathered and they made Saul king before the Lord in Gilgal and there they sacrificed peace offerings before the Lord; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly.

1 Samuel 12.

Read the chapter. Samuel testifies of his integrity in his ministry to the people. He reproves the people for ingratitude. He tells them how Mose, Aaron, Jerubaal, and Bedan and Jephthah and himself cried to the Lord for the Lord to deliver them even though they worshipped Baalim and Ashtaroth. But now Samuel tells them that they did not want God as their king but they wanted a king as they are. So now the Lord had set a king over them. He tells them to fear the Lord and to serve him, and obey his voice, and not rebel against the commandment of the Lord, then shall both you and also the king that reigns shall be blessed. But he also warned them that if they do not obey, the Lord will be against them as He was against their fathers. Samuel told them that he will ask the Lord for great thunder and rain as a sign that He was displeased asking for a king. And so it was: thunder and rain came and the fear of the Lord came upon the people and they feared the Lord and Samuel.

For the Lord will not forsake His people for His great Name's sake: because it has pleased the Lord to make you His people. Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way: Only fear the Lord, and serve Him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things He has done for you. But if you shall still do wickedly, you shall be consumed, both you and your king.

1 Samuel 13.

Read the chapter. Saul, seeing the Philistines in great numbers against him and his armies, waited seven days for Samuel and when Samuel did not come to Gilgal, Saul, self-willed, decided on his own

to offer up the sacrifices to God (which could only be offered up by the High Priest) and when Samuel came he was appalled that Saul had disobeyed the Lord. *And Samuel said to Saul, You have done foolishly: you have not kept the commandment of the Lord Your God, which He commanded you: for now would the Lord have established your kingdom upon Israel for ever. But now your kingdom shall not continue: the Lord has sought Him a man after His own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be captain over His people, because you have not kept which the Lord commanded you.*

Samuel went to Gilgal and Saul with his 600 men that were left and his son Jonathan, abode in Gibeah of Benjamin. The Philistine army encamped in Michmash. They came out in three companies in different directions. The Israelites honed their tools and instruments for war.

1 Samuel 14.

Read the chapter. Jonathan, with his armour-bearer, decided to go over to the Philistines' garrison but he did not tell his father. Jonathan went between to cliffs and entered the garrison *it may be that the Lord will work for us: for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few.* Now that's faith. They made a pact that if the Philistines say *Come up unto us; then we will go up: for the Lord has delivered them into our hand: and this shall be a sign unto us.* Sure enough, the Philistines told them to come up. Jonathan crawled up with his hands and upon his feet and his armour-bearer behind him. The Philistines fell before Jonathan and the armour-bearer slew after him. Twenty men were slaughtered. The watchmen of Saul saw the multitude melted away on the field as they beat down one another. Saul found out it was Jonathan and he asked for the Ark of God to be brought. As Saul talked with the priest, there was noise with the Philistines and it increased and the Hebrews that were with the Philistines also turned and came to Saul and Jonathan. Even all the men of Israel that were hiding in caves in Mount Ephraim when they heard that the Philistines fled followed after them in the battle. So the Lord saved Israel that day even unto Bethaven.

Saul cursed anyone that would eat that day but Jonathan did not know that so when he went into the forest and found honey, he dipped his hand in an honeycomb and put his hand to his mouth. One of the people told him what his father had cursed. But Jonathan said *My father has troubled the land: see, I pray you, how mine eyes have been enlightened, because I tasted a little of this honey....if...the people had eaten freely today of the spoil of their enemies which they found?*

The people after the war with the Philistines flew upon the spoil, and took sheep, and oxen, and calves, and slew them on the ground: and the people did eat them with the blood. Then Saul decided to bring the people to himself and their animals so they do not eat the animals with the blood. Then, again, Saul built an altar unto the Lord. Saul enquired of the Lord whether he should go with his army and destroy the Philistines that night. But the Lord would not answer him. And Saul, who found out that Jonathan had eaten honey, *...though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die. But there was not a man among all the people that answered him. ...And the people said unto Saul, Shall Jonathan die, who has wrought this great salvation in Israel? God forbid: as the Lord lives, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground; for he has wrought with God this day. So the people rescued Jonathan, that he died not.*

That was Jonathan's deliverance of Israel from the Philistines.

Saul stopped going against the Philistines and they went to their own place but he fought with all of his enemies with Moab, Ammon, Edom, Zobah and the enemies with the Philistines. He warred against the Amalekites and delivered Israel out of all of these.

1 Samuel 15.

Read the chapter. Samuel visits Saul with a word of the Lord to go and destroy the Amalekites that had laid wait on the children of Israel when they came out of Egypt. Saul was told to destroy all that they have, *and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.* To the Kenites who dwelt among the Amalekites Saul told them to leave because they showed kindness to Israel and they left.

Saul smote the Amalekites but he took Agag the king alive, spared the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them. Then came the word of the Lord unto Samuel saying *It repented me that I have set up Saul to be king; for he is turned back from following me, and has not performed my commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the Lord all night. ...And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed are you of the Lord: I have performed the commandment of the Lord.*

When Samuel finally caught up with Saul *And Samuel said, What does this mean then this bleating of the sheep in my ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear? And Saul said, They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the Lord your God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed.*

*...Samuel said unto Saul, Stay, and I will tell you what the Lord has said to me this night. And he said unto him Say on. ...Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed. Wherefore then did you not obey the voice of the Lord, but did fly upon the spoil, and did evil in the sight of the Lord? ...Saul said...Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, and have gone the way which the Lord sent me and have brought Agag the king of the Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. ...Samuel said, Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. **Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king.***

And as Samuel turned about to go away, he (Saul) laid hold upon the skirt of his mantle and it rent. ...And Samuel said unto him, The Lord has rent the kingdom of Israel from you this day, and has given it to a neighbour of yours, that is better than you.

Samuel then hewed Agag in pieces before the Lord in Gilgal. Saul went to his house in Gibeah of Saul and Samuel never saw Saul again. But Samuel mourned for Saul and the Lord repented that he had made Saul king over Israel.

1 Samuel 16.

Read the chapter. The Lord spoke to Samuel to stop mourning for Saul and that He has a work for him to do to go to Jesse the Bethlehemite to anoint a king from among his sons, and to take his horn with oil. Since Saul would have killed Samuel, the Lord advised him to take a heifer with him to sacrifice to the Lord and call Jesse to go with him. Samuel did that and came to Bethlehem. The people were also invited to the sacrifice and as Samuel was looking for which son was to be anointed; he started with the oldest Eliab: *the Lord sees not as man sees; for man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.* Then Abinadab, no. Then Shammah, no. Seven sons came before Samuel, no. So Samuel questioned Jesse, Are here all your children? And he said, *There remains yet the youngest, and behold, he keeps the sheep...Send and fetch him: for we will not sit down till he come hither.*

...Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord

came upon David from that day forward. ...But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him.

Saul called for David to come and play the harp before Saul that Saul's evil spirit depart. Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid, and sent them by David his son unto Saul. Saul loved this child dearly and he became Saul's armour-bearer. David played his harp before Saul and the evil spirit would depart and Saul was refreshed. David came to live in Saul's house.

1 Samuel 17.

Read the chapter. Here come the Philistines again against Israel, getting ready for battle. Goliath, a giant, challenges a combat. *If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall you be our servants, and serve us.* Saul and his armies were afraid. While David was tending to sheep on his father's house, the three oldest sons of Jesse were in Saul's army. So for forty days the giant would taunt the Israeli army. On such a day, Jesse sent David to take to his brothers some food. Saul and his army were fighting with the Philistines. David ran into the Army and saluted his brothers and as he talked with him the giant Goliath spoke and David heard him. The men of Israel said *Have you seen this man that is come up? Surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who kills him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.*

*And David spoke to the men that stood by him, saying What shall be done to the man that 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? The brothers did not like that David was confrontational. But the people told Saul and then David told Saul about his deliverance from a lion and a bear which had taken a lamb from his father's flock how the Lord delivered him when he caught them and slew them. Saul gave him permission to go and fight Goliath armed with his armour, with a helmet of brass on his head, coat of mail and a sword but David could not go. So he took five smooth stones out of the brook and his sling in his hand and came near to Goliath. Goliath said to David *Am I a dog, that you come to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. ...Then said David to the Philistine, You come to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to you in the Name of the Lord of Hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you has defied. This day will the Lord deliver you into my hand; and I will smite you, and take your head from you; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saves not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and He will give you into our hands.**

As Goliath rose and came to meet David, David hasted and ran toward the army to meet him. David took a stone into his hand and slang it and smote the giant in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth. David then ran to the giant, took his sword and cut off his head. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled. Then Israel and Judah pursued the Philistines. David took the head of Goliath to Jerusalem but he put the armour in his tent.

Saul asked David, *Whose son art you, young man? And David answered, I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.*

So a King in a Kingdom was established to bring forth the Messiah, the lineage of David.

1 Samuel 18.

Read the chapter. Jonathan and David became brothers as they loved each other and Jonathan gave David his robe, his garments and even his sword, bow and girdle as a gift. When David came back from the slaughter of the Philistines the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, singing *Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.* And Saul was very wroth...*And it came to pass on the morrow, that the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied in the midst of the house: ...and there was a javelin in Saul's hand...Saul cast the javelin...And David avoided out of his presence twice.*

The Presence of God had departed from Saul and he was jealous of David so Saul removed David from himself and put him as a captain over thousands. But David was wise and did not make himself disrespectful to his king. Saul offered his eldest daughter to him but the Meholathite took her to wife. Michal, Saul's daughter loved David and they told Saul and that pleased him. His idea was perverted...*that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him...Saul commanded his servants, saying, Commune with David secretly, and say, Behold the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you: now therefore be the king's son in law...David said, Seems it to you a light thing to be a king's son in law, seeing that I am a poor man, and lightly esteemed?*

So the king had not kept his promise regarding killing Goliath where the one that killed him would be honoured with money, good, the king's daughter, etc.

So Saul kept pressuring David through his servants that Saul did not need a dowry but an hundred foreskins of the Philistines in lieu of a dowry, to marry his daughter but his perverted plan was to have the Philistines kill him. David was pleased about that and killed 200 men and brought the foreskins to Saul. Saul gave his daughter Michal to David to be his wife.

And Saul saw and knew that the Lord was with David...was yet the more afraid of David; and Saul became David's enemy continually.

Jesus calls this persecution for righteousness sake.

1 Samuel 19.

Read the chapter. Saul confides in Jonathan that he will kill David. Jonathan went to David and told him about his father's plan. Jonathan then tells Saul that David is not his enemy and works continually for him for good and why would his father kill David and sin against innocent blood, without a cause. This time Saul did not kill him and David was brought before Saul again.

Then war with the Philistines erupted and David went out, slew them with a great slaughter and they fled before him. The evil spirit of the Lord was upon Saul and as David sat there until he slipped out because he saw Saul's evil as the javelin came crashing into the wall. David fled and escaped in the night to his house but the messengers came after him and Michal let him down through a window. When the messengers from Saul came, Michal who had put an image on the bed and told them that David was sick. Again Saul sent for David to kill him. But Michal was found out.

David went to Samuel's and they both went to Naioth in Ramah. When Saul's messengers came to get David the company with Samuel were prophesying, and the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul and they also prophesied. Other messengers of Saul came and they too, prophesied. Then Saul himself went to find Samuel and David and he prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah. When he

got to Samuel he stripped off his clothes, lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say *Is Saul also among the prophets?*

This is scary! Such a sinful man, mad in fact, being able to prophesy! You can see that the devil is not like God as Isaiah 14 describes the devil. God made him an angel to worship God. He chose not to and now, although Saul had the anointing removed from him and an evil spirit (the devil) possessed Saul, God overrules. Where the Spirit of God is, no demon or devil can stay.

1 Samuel 20.

Read the chapter. In **Judah**, King Jehoshaphat received the news that Moabites, Ammonites and others from Mount Seir were coming to war against them. All Judah got together to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout Judah. Everyone of Judah showed up in Jerusalem before the new court, and King Jehoshaphat prayed *O Lord God of our fathers, are You not God in heaven? And do You not rule all the kingdoms of the heathen? And in Your hand is there not power and might so that none is able to withstand You? If only the Church (both Jew and Gentile Christians) could see this today! Are You not our God, who did drive out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel, and gave it to the seed of Abraham Your friend forever? Yes, forever! And ever! And ever! ...If, when evil comes upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in Your presence, (for Your Name is in this house) and cry unto You in our affliction, then You will hear and help...Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir...to come to cast us out of Your possession which You have given us to inherit. O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no might against this great company that comes against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon You.*

Then Jahaziel, a Levite, **prophesied** as the Spirit of the Lord came in the midst of the congregation: *And he said, Hearken all of Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem, and You, King Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not your's, but God's. Tomorrow go down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and you will find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. You shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them: for the Lord will be with you.*

Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and Jerusalem fell before the Lord, worshipping the Lord. The Levites stood up to praise the Lord God of Israel with a loud voice on high.

And they rose early in the morning...Jehoshaphat said *O Judah, and inhabitants of Jerusalem: **Believe in the Lord your God, so shall you be established; believe His prophets, so shall you prosper.*** After he consulted with the people, *he then appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say PRAISE THE LORD; FOR HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER.*

As they sang, the armies were smitten. Moab and Ammon turned against Mount Seir so when Judah came to the watch tower in the wilderness, they saw dead bodies, fallen to the earth and none escaped. They found treasures and precious jewels which they stripped off for themselves for three days. On the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of Berachah to bless the Lord. They returned to Judah and Jerusalem with great joy in what the Lord had done.

Jehoshaphat and his father Asa, did what was right before the Lord but the high places were not taken away because their hearts were not prepared unto the God of their fathers. However, Jehoshaphat

joined himself with Ahaziah, a wicked king of Israel to build ships in Tarshish and Eziongeber.. Eliezer the son of Dodavah prophesied against Jehoshaphat, saying **Because you have joined yourself with Ahaziah, the Lord has broken your works.** And the ships were broken, that they were not able to go to Tarshish.

1 Samuel 21.

Read the chapter. King Jehoshaphat died and was buried in Jerusalem. His firstborn son Jehoram killed all his brothers and many other rulers of Israel with the sword. He reigned for eight years in Jerusalem and like the house of wicked Ahab, he took Ahab's daughter for a wife. However, the Lord would not destroy him because He made a covenant with the House of David **to give a light to him and to his sons forever.** After warring with Edomites and Libnah, he received a letter from Elijah the prophet, saying *Thus saith the Lord God of David your father, Because You have not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat your father, nor in the ways of Asa, king of Judah, But have walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and have made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to go a whoring like to the whoredoms of the house of Ahab, and also have slain your brethren of your father's house, which were better than yourself: Behold, with a great plague will the Lord smite your people, and your children, and your wives, and all your goods: And you shall have great sickness by disease of your bowels, until your bowels fall out by reason of the sickness day by day.*

Also, the Philistines, Arabians and the Ethiopians came into Judah and stripped everything from his house, his sons, and wives so that the only one that was left was his youngest son Jehoahaz. Jehoram died of that incurable bowel disease and was buried in the city of David but not in the sepulchres of the kings.

1 Samuel 22.

Read the chapter. King of Judah, Jehoram's youngest son, Ahaziah was made king. His mother was his counsellor to do wickedly as was the house of Ahab of Israel. Ahab's son Jehoram and Ahaziah went to war together against Syria and the Syrians wounded Jehoram and he went to Jezreel to be healed. Ahaziah went to visit Jehoram in Jezreel. But Jehu was executing judgment against the house of Ahab in Israel and he found Ahaziah's brothers' sons and Jehu killed them all. Jehu went after Ahaziah and found him in Samaria and brought him to Jehu where he was killed and buried because he was the son of Jehoshaphat who sought the Lord with all his heart. But Ahaziah's mother, seeing that her son was dead, destroyed all the royal seed of the house of Judah. But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash, her nephew, the son of Ahaziah, and stole him from among the king's sons that were slain, and put him and his nurse in a bed chamber and hid them for six years in the house of God. She was Ahaziah's sister. Ahaziah's mother and counsellor, Athaliah, reigned over the land.

1 Samuel 23.

Read the chapter. Jehoiada, the priest of the Temple gathered to himself the Levites from the surrounding cities and placed them around the Temple as watchmen. Then they brought out King Ahaziah's son, Joash, and anointed him King. When Athaliah, Joash's grandmother heard the praising and the rejoicing she went into the Temple crying Treason, Treason. Jehoiada, the priest, brought out the captains of hundreds and were set over the host and directed them to kill Athaliah as long as it is not in the house of the Lord. They killed her at the horse gate.

Jehoiada declared with all the people that they should be the Lord's people and they went to the house of Baal and broke it down, and broke his altars and his images in pieces, and slew Mattan the priest of Baal before the altars.

Jehoiada also appointed the priests to offer the burnt offerings with rejoicing and singing as it was ordained by King David. The unclean could not enter through the gates to the house of God. He also set the king upon the throne of the kingdom *And all the people of the land rejoiced:...*

1 Samuel 24.

Read the chapter. Joash was seven years old when he began to reign and he reigned for forty years. He did which was right before the Lord. Joash put in his mind repair the house of God because Athaliah had stripped it and took everything to the house of Baal. Joash directed the Levites to go to Judah and Israel and gather all the money to repair the house. But the Levites did not hurry about it. So Joash put a Treasurer Chest in front of the gate of the house of God and proclaimed the the collection should come in for the repair of the House as Moses had laid upon Israel in the wilderness. The collections came in with rejoicing and carpenters, masons, and wrought iron and brass to mend the house of the lord was bought; then vessels to minister, spoons, gold and silver were bought and Jehoiada the priest offered up burnt offerings to the Lord continually all the days of Jehoiada.

Jehoiada was 130 years old and he died and was buried with the Kings. But Judah abandoned the Lord and served groves and idols and wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this. Prophets were sent to them but they did not listen. Jehoiada's son, Zechariah, received a Word from the Lord *Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the Lord, that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the Lord, He has also forsaken you.* Not only was he stoned but Joash killed Zechariah *And when he died, he said The Lord look upon it, and require it.* And it came to pass that Syria, which was a small band, came up against Judah and Jerusalem because of the wickedness of Joash and Judah, and sent all the spoil unto the king of Damascus. But it was his servants that conspired against him for the blood of the sons of Jehoiada, the priest, and killed Joash in his bed. They did not bury him in the sepulchres of the kings. *Amaziah, his son reigned in his stead.*

1 Samuel 25.

Read the chapter. Amaziah reigned for 29 years and he did right in the sight of the Lord but not with a perfect heart. He slew the servants that had killed their father but did not kill their children as it is written in the law in the book of Moses *The fathers shall not die for the children, neither shall the children die for the fathers, but every man shall die for his own sin.* Amaziah also numbered all of Judah and Benjamin and found them 300,000 choice men able to go to war that could handle spear and shield. Out of Israel he hired 100,000 men of valour. But a prophet of God came and told Amaziah not to take Israel because of Israel's sin, that He would not be able to protect them. Amaziah was worried about the hundred talents he gave to the Army. But the prophet said *The Lord is able to give you much more than this.* So Amaziah listened and separated Israel from his Army and they went home greatly offended. He went to war and killed ten thousand of the children of Seir. Another ten thousand did they carry away captive and heaved them off a high cliff and broke them in pieces.

The soldiers of the army which Amaziah sent back, fell upon the cities of Judah and killed 3,000 from Samaria to Bethhoron and took much spoil. To make things worse, Amaziah, who brought the idols of Edom and the gods of Seir with him, set these gods up to be his gods, and bowed himself before them, and burned incense to them.

The anger of the Lord came against Amaziah and He sent a prophet *Why have you sought after the gods of the people which could not deliver their own people out of your hand?...I know that God has determined to destroy you, because you have done this, and have not hearkened unto my counsel.*

War. Joash the king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah and brought him to Jerusalem and broke

down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim to the corner gate...And he took all the gold and the silver and all the vessels that were found in the house of God with Obed-edom and the treasures of the king's house, the hostages also, and returned to Samaria. Amaziah lived another 15 years after this. Jerusalem made a conspiracy against him and he fled to Lachish but they slew him there but brought him upon horses and buried him with his fathers in the city of Judah.

1 Samuel 26.

Read the chapter. King Saul was intent on killing David and because of spies, Saul knew where David was.. While Saul and his captain, Abner, were fast asleep (by the deep sleep of the Lord God), David helped himself to the King Saul's spear that was at his bolster and the cruse of water but he did not kill him because David prophesied *As the Lord lives, the Lord shall smite him; or his day shall come to die; or he shall descent into battle, and perish. The Lord forbid that I should stretch forth mine hand against the Lord's anointed:...* David knew King Saul was mad, yet, he honoured those that God put as leadership.

From afar David calls out to Abner that Abner is worthy to die because he did not protect King Saul as his spear and water were with David. King Saul recognized David's voice and when David told him that he was King Saul's servant and loyal, King Saul repented *I have sinned: return, my son David: for I will no more do you harm, because my soul was precious in your eyes this day: behold I have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly.*

Type: Every soul is precious in the eyes of God; Jesus died on the cross for the whole world, to whosoever will accept that redeeming blood.

And David answered and said, Behold the king's spear! And let one of the young men cover over and fetch it. The Lord render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness: for the Lord delivered you into my hand today, but I would not stretch forth my hand against the Lord's anointed. ...and let Him deliver me out of all tribulation.

Type: Every soul can be delivered ONLY by the Lord Jesus.

Then Saul said to David *Blessed are you, my son David: you shall both do great things, and also shall still prevail.*

1 Samuel 27.

Read the chapter. David still did not believe Saul so David, with his two wives, Ahinoam and Abigail and six hundred of David's men, fled to the land of the Philistines to Achish at Gath. But Saul did not pursue him. For one year and four months he dwelt in Ziklag that Achish gave him. David and his men invaded the Geshurites; the Gezrites and the Amalkites were inhabitants up to Egypt. He slew everyone, men, women and children, but kept the sheep, oxen, asses, camels, and the apparel and came back to see Achish. Achish knew that David was hated by Israel and his thought was the David was going to be Achish's servant forever.

1 Samuel 28.

Read the chapter. The Philistines now gathered their armies to go against Israel. Achish told David that he fully understands that David shall fight with him against Israel.

Samuel was dead and all Israel greatly mourned him and at the same time King Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits and wizards (Baal worshippers). But when he saw the size of the

Philistine armies, he became afraid. But as he enquired of the Lord, the Lord would not answer him, neither by dreams, nor by lot, nor by prophets. So he asked his servants for the witch with familiar spirits at Endor. He disguised himself, took two men with him and asked her to bring up Samuel's spirit from the dead. The witch on the other hands confronted Saul and told him that she knew it was a trap set by Saul the king. But it wasn't until Samuel's spirit was brought forth that she knew it was Saul.

And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spoke to Saul, saying, Why have you deceived me? For you are Saul. And the king said to her, Be not afraid: for what did you see? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth. And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man came up; and he is covered with a mantle. ...it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself. At this point Saul had sealed his fate of destruction because it is forbidden by God to go to familiar spirits/witches.

And Samuel said to Saul, Why have you disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answers me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called you, that you may make known unto me what I shall do. ...said Samuel...you ask of me seeing the Lord is departed from you, and is become your enemy? And the Lord...has rent the kingdom out of your hand, and given it to your neighbour, even to David: because you obeyed not the voice of the Lord, nor executed his fiece wrath upon Amalek...the Lord will...deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines and tomorrow shall you and your sons be with me: ...Saul...was so afraid, because of the words of Samuel:...no strength in him...The witch was troubled also for her life but she offered Saul some bread as Saul had not eaten the whole day or night. The servants compelled him to eat as he sat on the bed and the witch also killed a calf and baked unleavened bread and fed Saul and his men then they left.

1 Samuel 29.

Read the chapter. So David now marches with his enemy against Israel as the Philistines are asking Achish why these Hebrews are there but Achish puts them at ease because David was so loyal to Achish for the years gone by. But the Philistines insisted that David not be with them and Achish excused David and the next day, early, David returned to the land of the Philistines.

1 Samuel 30.

Read the chapter. The Amalekites invaded Ziklag, burned it, took captive David's wives, sons and daughters but did not kill anyone and spoiled the land, when David was away with Achish. They all wept. Then his men got angry and were going to stone David because all their sons and daughters were captives as well but David assured them that the Lord was on their side. David enquired of the priest and the Lord answered and said to pursue them and he would overtake them and recover all. So the 600 men that were with him pursued them until they got to the brook Besor; 200 were so faint that they could not go on and the 400 continued with David. They met up with an Egyptian in the field and he fed David as David had not eaten for three days and three nights. David found out that the Egyptian was the servant of the Amalekite that had invaded and burned Ziklag, and also the coasts of Judah and Caleb and other lands.

Can you bring me down to this company? ...Swear to me by God, that you will neither kill me, nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring you down to this company. By now you should know that there is always a man with a donkey when you need him.

The enemy was eating and drinking and dancing as they had great spoil from the land of the Philistines

and out of the land of Judah. When David attacked from twilight until the evening next, there was great slaughter except 400 young men that escaped on camels. David recovered all and more.

The fighting men did not want to share the spoil except the sons and daughters recovered but David would not have it. David shared everything with those that were too faint to fight. And it was so until this day that those that fight and those that stay behind share equally. And when David came to Ziklag, he also sent a present to the elders of Judah, *Behold a present for you of the spoil of the enemies of the Lord: ...Bethel...Ramoah...Jattir...Aroer...Siphmoth...Eshtemoa...Rachal...Jerahmeelites...Kenites...Hormah...Chorashan...Athach...Hebron...to all the places where David himself and his men were wont to haunt.*

1 Samuel 31.

Read the chapter. The Philistines killed Jonathan, Abinadab and Melchishua, Saul's sons. The archers hit Saul and wounded him. He asked his armour-bearer to kill him but he would not. So he fell on his own sword but did not die, His armour-bearer thought he was dead and fell on his own sword. All his men also perished that day. The Philistines came to strip the slain and saw that Saul and his three sons were fallen in Mount Gilboa. They cut off his head, took his armour into the house of Ashtaroah and fastened his body to the wall of Bethshan and came to Jabesh and burnt them there. And they took their bones, and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days.