

A study of 1st Samuel

Authorship – Samuel is likely responsible for much of the content initially, but the record of his death recorded in 25:1 indicates that there were almost certainly other authors. 1st Chronicles 29:29 mentions the “*Chronicles of Samuel the seer*” & 27:24 mentions the “*Chronicles of King David*” which both may have been sources for the book.

Time frame – 1st Kings 6:1 says, “*Now it came about in the four hundred and eightieth year after the sons of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon’s reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, which is the second month, that he began to build the house of the Lord*”

So from the time noted above (about 966BC) we back up the 4 years of Solomon’s reign mentioned to David’s reign

1st Kings 2:11 says David reigned 40 years, so we then back up to Saul’s Reign – 1st Samuel 13:1 says Saul reigned 42 years

Therefore Saul would have been anointed by Samuel around 1,052BC

Historical tone – Judges 21:25 (last verse of the book) says, “*In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes*”, which sets the historical tone for the events in 1st Samuel

Folks to whom we are introduced in this book:

Chapters 1-4

- Elkanah – 1:1 – An Ephraimite, Hannah’s _____ & son of Jeroham, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Zuph
- Hannah – 1:2 – _____ of Elkahah
- Peninnah – 1:2 – _____ the _____ of Elkahah
- Lord of Hosts – 1:3 – God, one of many _____ titles
- Eli – 1:3 – Priest & _____ of Israel (4:19) & father of Hophni & Phinehas
- Samuel – 1:20 – Elkanah & Hannah’s son, _____ to Hannah’s prayer

- 3 sons & 2 daughters – 2:21 – also born to Hannah _____ Samuel
- “Man of God” – 2:27 – an unnamed prophet sent to _____ Eli

- Philistines – 4:1 – dwellers in _____ Canaan & continual enemies of Israel
- Elders of Israel – 4:3 – Not always known for brilliant _____
- “a man of Benjamin” – refugee from a _____ battle with the Philistines
- Phinehas’s wife – 4:19 – gave _____ at the time of Phinehas’ & Eli’s death
- Ichabod (_____) – 4:21 – son of Phinehas, born just after he died

Chapters 5-8

- Dagon – 5:2 – one of the primary _____ (idol) of the Philistines
- Philistine priests & diviners – 6:2 – counselled about the _____ of God
- Joshua the Beth-shemite – 6:14 – Israelite to whom the ark _____
- Levites – 6:15 – _____ of the ark upon its return
- Five lords of the Philistines – 6:16 – observed the _____ of the ark
- Abinadab – 7:1 – a man of Kiriath-jearim in whose _____ the ark was kept for _____ after its return
- Eleazar – 7:1 – son of Abinadab whom he _____ to keep the ark
- Amorites – 7:14 – generalized term used of the Philistines
- Joel & Abijah – 8:2 – sons of Samuel whom he made _____ over Israel (but they were rotten)

Chapters 9-12

- Kish – 9:1 – a Benjamite who was the _____ of Saul
- Saul – 9:2 – son of Kish, choice, handsome & a head _____ than all
- Kish’s servant – 9:3 – sent with Saul to find some lost _____
- “man of God” – 9:6 – turns out to be _____ (9:19)
- Cook – 9:23 – told to set a _____ portion of food before Saul
- 2 men – 10:2 – prophesied by Samuel to _____ Saul near Rachel’s tomb
- 3 men – 1-:3 – _____ prophesied by Samuel to meet Saul at the Oak of Tabor
- Group of prophets – still _____ prophesied of Samuel to meet Saul at the “hill of God”
- Spirit of God – 10:10 – _____ mention of him in Samuel
- Saul’s uncle – 10:14 – _____ Saul after his return from the donkey quest

- Valiant men – 10:26 – _____ themselves with Saul after Samuel announced him as king
- Worthless men – 10:27 – refused to _____ Saul as king at this point

- Nahash the Ammonite – 11:1 – came to _____ Jabesh-gilead
- Elders of Jabesh-gilead – 11:3 – sent messengers to _____ for help
- Messengers from Jabesh-gilead – 11:3-4 – the ones sent to Saul

- Jonathan – 13:2 – son of Saul – valiant warrior, became David's _____

- Jonathan's armor bearer – 14:1 – _____ Jonathan into battle
- Ahijah – 14:3 – brother of Ichabod & son of Phinehas & _____ serving at Shiloh
- Saul's watchmen – 14:16 – saw Israel " _____ " as they awaited Samuel
- Moab, sons of Ammon, Edom & kings of Zobah – 14:47 – Canaanites from who Saul delivered Israel
- Amalekites – 14:48 – children of Esau (Edomites) who inhabited southern portions of Canaan & were _____ of Israel
- Jonathan, Ishvi, Malchishua – 14:49 – sons of Saul along with _____ Merab & Michal
- Ahinoam – 14:50 – _____ of Saul
- Abner, son of Ner – 14:50 – _____ of Saul's military

Chapters 15-16

- ⇒ Kenites – 15:6 – a nomadic people rewarded by Saul for their _____ to Israel as they came from Egypt (Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, was a Kenite – Judges 1:16)
- ⇒ Agag – 15:8 – king of the Amalekites captured & _____ by Saul

- ⇒ Jesse – 16:1 – of the tribe of _____ & father of David
- ⇒ Elders of Bethlehem – 16:4 – worried that Samuel's visit might mean _____ for them
- ⇒ Eliab – 16:6 – son of Jesse, _____ by God as king
- ⇒ Abinadab – 16:8 – another son of Jesse, another reject for kingship
- ⇒ Shammah – 16:9 – same as above
- ⇒ Four other sons of Jesse – 16:10 – all rejected
- ⇒ David – 16:13 – _____ son of Jesse, ruddy, nice eyes & handsome. Anointed to be king _____ of Saul