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I SAMUEL

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SYNOPSIS: 2:22, 27-29

22Eli is now old and will be made accountable of the wickedness going on in his house. It also says that 27God revealed Himself to Eli's ancestors 28and had chosen and assigned them for the priestly work of sacrifices and offerings. 29However, Eli and sons have scorned the sacrifices and offerings, and he has given more honor to his sons than to God. It was always promised that the Tribe of Levi would always be priest.¹In this chapter 2 we deal with Eli the high priest and the corrupt and evil behavior of his two sons (Hophni and Phinehas) concerning the sacrificial offerings. It is evident, as we read this portion of scripture, that Eli was not just a father who needed to deal with his rebellious sons but, in a more serious vein, he was the high priest who was ignoring the sins of priests who were under his jurisdiction. This was a very serious matter and, as a result, the Lord took the necessary disciplinary action that Eli would not take. Eli was guilty of honoring his sons above God by letting them continue in their sinful ways. As religious leaders, they may have thought they could get away with it but God, who is just, brought judgment.

1st—2:30 Wherefore the Lord God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the Lord saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed. We find out that in this verse when God speaks of the house of thy father shows that he is a descendant of Aaron and was therefore chosen to offer; to wear an ephod, and to perform the other functions of the priests. The Lord God of Israel said that Eli's house and the house of his father were to walk before Him forever, but... There is a but! The honor and privilege of the office have now been rejected. Only God's high divine law supersedes the conditional promise; His honor supersedes everything. He's saying I will honor those who honor me and I will despise those who despise Me.

1st—2:31 Behold, the days come, that I will cut off thine arm, and the arm of thy father's house, that there shall not be an old man in thine house. Lo, the days are coming for God's judgment. He will cut off the arm of Eli's father's house. The "arm", in this case, is speaking of descendants. No kinsman of his shall reach old age; days cut off; no one will make it to old age in his house. The fulfillment of this prediction is seen in I Kings 2:26-27.

1st—2:32 And thou shalt see an enemy in my habitation, in all the wealth which God shall give Israel: and there shall not be an old man in thine house for ever. Judgment begins at the house of God! God makes it known that Eli would see trouble in the house of the Lord (my habitation). The first trouble happened in chapter 4. God repeats Himself again, "no one in the family will grow old."

1st—2:33 And the man of thine, whom I shall not cut off from mine altar, shall be to consume thine eyes, and to grieve thine heart: and all the increase of thine house shall die in the flower of their age. The

¹ <http://www.family-times.net/commentary/the-wicked-sons-of-eli-while-samuel-remains-true/>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html> **1 SAMUEL**

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NASB explains this verse better: "Yet I will not cut off every man of yours from My altar so that your eyes will fail from weeping and your soul grieve, and all the increase of your house will die in the prime of life." Good things will be going on in Israel, but the men not cut off will see it and weep, for no one in your family will live to enjoy it. That person that's left to serve at God's Altar will have a hard life, with many tears.

1st—2:34 **And this shall be a sign unto thee, that shall come upon thy two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas; in one day they shall die both of them.** God says He'll even give a sign; proof that He is going to do what He says. Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, will die on the same day. It came to pass in chapter 4:11, 17. God allowed Eli to hear this message from the messenger.

1st—2:35 **And I will raise me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in mine heart and in my mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before mine anointed for ever.** Eli and his sons were not faithful, so God said He would raise up a faithful priest "who will do according to what is in My heart" and "in My mind (soul)." God will build him a "sure" (permanent and enduring house), and "he will walk before God's anointed forever." This prophecy shows that the priesthood did not die with Eli. Historically, after the death of Eli, the priestly functions were taken over by Samuel who had been trained by Eli. However, only gradually was confidence restored to the priesthood. I had to look up the lineage of Samuel just to see how he could perform priestly duties. Elkanah is his father.

²Elkanah lived at Ramathaim in the district of Zuph. His genealogy is also found in a pedigree of the Kohathites (1 Chronicles 6:3-15) and in that of Heman, his great-grandson (1 Chronicles 6:18-22). According to the genealogical tables in Chronicles, Elkanah was a Levite - a fact not mentioned in the books of Samuel. (Other References: <https://davidskorupa.wordpress.com/2008/01/21/samuels-levitical-ancestry/>).

Whoever or whatever God needs at a particular time, He raises them up to do the task. *He grew in favour with the Lord and with man (2:26). And he ministered unto the Lord before Eli (3:1).* God was getting him ready; raising him up for the proper time to be used in capacity of His doing. But His first duty fell into the capacity of being a prophet. God spoke to Samuel when he was a child in the care of Eli. God gave him a message of judgment for the house of Eli. *And all Israel from Dan even to Bersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord (3:20).* Upon Eli hearing the death of his two sons and the mention of the Ark of God from the messenger of the Lord, he fell and broke his neck and died. Upon the daughter-in-law hearing that the Ark of God was taken, and her father-in-law and husband were dead, she went into labor pains and bore a son whom she called Ichabod. So, with the Ark of God taken by the Philistines, the priests of Dagon couldn't touch it, for they were destroyed and smote them with emerods. They finally decided to send the Ark of God back to Israel. Going back we knew that Eli was priest, but also in 4:18 we see that Eli had judged Israel forty years. Which brings me to Samuel in chapter 7 when the Philistines came against Israel, Samuel judged the children of Israel (7:6) and the people asked him not to cease crying unto the Lord for them. And Samuel offered a burnt offering. God received the prayers and can say that Samuel acted and ministered he would have been cut down like the to judge for Samuel was old and his sons before all Israel since childhood. And he two kings: Saul (10:1; 15:1) and David include the lineage of David where the as priest, and he served as last judge.

1st—2:36 **And it shall come to pass, that every one that is left in thine house shall come and crouch to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and shall say, Put me, I pray thee, into one of the priests' offices, that I may eat a piece of bread.** The message of judgment continues in that it will come to pass that

² <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html> 1 SAMUEL

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the descendants that are left in Eli's house will come and bow down before Eli begging for money and food saying, "give me a job among the priests so that I may eat a piece of bread; have enough to eat."

SUMMARY:

The Lord God of Israel makes mention of Eli's house and the house of his father. They were to walk before Him forever, but it's ridiculous to think that what they're doing can continue. God goes on to say that He will honor those who honor Him, and will despise those who despise Him. No kinsman in Eli's house will reach old age. God makes it known that Eli would see trouble in God's house. But the man that will not be cut off will serve at God's Altar and will see it and weep. God says He'll even give a sign; proof that He is going to do what He says. It will be that Eli's two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, will die on the same day **(2:30-34)**.

God will raise up a faithful priest, that will do according to His heart and His mind and God will build him a sure house and that priest will walk before His anointed forever. After a while, everyone that's left (children, grand-children and grand-children's children) in Eli's house will come and bow down and become beggars for money and food, asking for a job among the priests, so that they will have enough to eat **(2:35-36)**.

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I SAMUEL 3:1-21

NEXT 4:1-22

(1st Sam.) **3:1** **And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision.** Eli's sons were wicked and reckless, for they didn't do anything God commanded and had no respect for God, but God always has a ram in the bush. And that child was Samuel, the son Hannah had prayed for because she had been barren. Then God answered, and then she gave him back to the Lord. We see in the second chapter of 1st Samuel verse 18 that Samuel ministered before the Lord as a child. Although a child, he was faithful in his continuous ministry to the Lord! Also the 26th verse "The child Samuel grew on and was in favor both with the Lord and also with men." Eli probably trained his sons as priests when they were young, but when they got older, they strayed and did the opposite. But here Samuel is still ministering unto the Lord before Eli. He did not stray from God. And in those days a message from the Lord was a rare treasure, and no frequent vision; no Prophetic Word. Why? Corrupt leaders and people. Do we think it will come a time that we cannot hear God speak? That it will get so corrupt that God will stop speaking?

(1st Sam.) **3:2** **And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, that he could not see;**—So, as time passes, Eli is almost blind; blind spiritually to direct God's people, and his physical eyesight is dim that he could not see, nor perceive what's about to happen. So, he lays down to sleep. This may be the time for us to pray and not so much to sleep. I think this is what the lesson is about to show us.

(1st Sam.) **3:3** **And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep;**— This should never happen that the lamp in the temple suddenly goes out where the Ark of God rests. The Ark of God is in the Holy of Holies. This is significant: Why? Samuel also had laid down to sleep, but it's his job to see to it that the candlestick in the temple stay lit. and if God is not speaking to him, then he's in darkness and don't even know it.

Revelation 2:5 says *I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.* It's like one season of time has ended and another is developing, for God is now about to speak to the one who had been ministering unto Him in the temple. Are we ministering unto God or to self needs?

(1st Sam.) **3:4** **That the Lord called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I.** just as Samuel is about to go to sleep, the Lord Himself called Samuel by name and Samuel answers **Here am I.** Mind you we see that God did not call Eli.

(1st Sam.) **3:5** **And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.** Samuel thought it was Eli who called him, so he ran to Eli to see what he could do to help Eli, and said **Here am I.** But Eli didn't call for him, and he went back and laid down.

(1st Sam.) **3:6** **And the Lord called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.** Well, the same thing happened again for he had heard the voice called him by name. and Samuel ran to Eli again and said **Here am I.** and again Eli said I didn't call you my son, lie down again.

(1st Sam.) **3:7** **Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, neither was the word of the Lord yet revealed unto him.** God is getting Samuel ready to know His voice, for "Samuel does not know the voice of the Lord, for God had not ever reveal Himself to him." He knew how to serve in the temple, but had no encounter with God. Our relationship has to mature.

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(1st Sam.) **3:8** **And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the Lord had called the child.** Now, this is the third time the Lord calls Samuel's name. Samuel again gets up and goes to Eli and says **Here am I**, for I know you called me. So, now it dons on Eli, he perceives that this is the Lord calling Samuel.

(1st Sam.) **3:9** **Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, Lord; for thy servant heareth. So Samuel went and lay down in his place.** So, Eli then tells Samuel to go lay down and if you hear the voice again speaking to you, I want you to say **Speak, Lord, thy servant heareth**. With our Holy Ghost filled selves, do we know how to take counsel from someone else when it comes to God? And Samuel goes back to lay down waiting for the next time the voice will speak.

SYNOPSIS: 1 SAMUEL 3:10-18

As before, **10**the Lord called out saying Samuel, Samuel, and Samuel responded by saying **Speak, thy servant heareth**. That means Samuel was ready because God has his ears and heart. **11**The Lord tells Samuel that He's going to do a shocking thing in Israel, that will cause the ears of every one that hear will tingle, **12**for He will fulfill the things He had warned and spoken of concerning the house of Eli. When God begins, He will also make an end to it **13**forever for the iniquity which Eli knows of because his sons made themselves vile, and he didn't restrain them. Whatever God revealed meant he was to obey. God is revealing His holiness. **14**Therefore, He has sworn unto the house of Eli, that he evil of Eli's family can never be wiped out by sacrifice or offering. **15**Samuel stayed in bed until morning, and then he opened the doors of the temple as usual, but he was afraid to tell Eli the vision the Lord had spoken of. **16**But Eli calls Samuel to him, and Samuel answers, **Here am I**. **17**And Eli inquires as to what the Lord had said to him and don't hide anything. **18**Samuel told Eli everything the Lord told him and hid nothing from him.

(1st Sam.) **3:19** **And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.** As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him. It's not all about growing in height, but growing in maturity. The Lord made sure that all of Samuel's messages from Him came true. None of his messages fell to the ground.

(1st Sam.) **3:20** **And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord.** All the people who lived in Israel knew that Samuel was a true prophet from the Lord. They knew this from the north of the country to the south. Everyone from Dan to Beersheba knew God had established Samuel as a prophet of the Lord. Samuel did not have to tell anyone.

(1st Sam.) **3:21** **And the Lord appeared again in Shiloh: for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the Lord.** The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh and there He revealed Himself to Samuel through His Word. God continued to show up.

SUMMARY:

1st Samuel is about a child ministering unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was a rare treasure, and there was no frequent vision from God. 2So, as time passes, Eli is almost blind, and he lays down to sleep. 3It just so happens that the lamp in the temple goes out where the Ark of God rests, and Samuel also had laid down to sleep. 4Just as Samuel is about to go to sleep, the Lord Himself called Samuel by name and Samuel answers **Here am I**. 5Samuel thought it was Eli who called him, so he ran to Eli and said **Here am I**. But Eli didn't call for him, and he went back and laid down. 6Well, the same thing happened again for he had heard the

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voice call him by name. And Samuel ran to Eli again and said **Here am I**. And again Eli said I didn't call you my son, lie down again. 7God is getting Samuel ready to know His voice, for Samuel does not yet know the voice of the Lord, for God had not ever revealed Himself to him. 8Now, this is the third time the Lord calls Samuel's name. This time God speaks Samuel, Samuel, and Samuel again gets up and goes to Eli and says **Here am I**, for I know you called me. So, now it dons on Eli, that this is the Lord calling Samuel. 9So, Eli then tells Samuel to go lay down and if you hear the voice again speaking to you, I want you to say **Speak Lord, thy servant heareth**. And Samuel goes back to lay down waiting for the next time the voice will speak (**3:1-9**).

As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and He made sure that all of Samuel's messages from Him came true. All the people who lived in Israel knew that Samuel was a true prophet from the Lord. They knew this from the north of the country to the south. The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh and there He revealed Himself to Samuel through His Word (**3:19-21**).

APPLICATION:

God has His man in place to administer justice, but God makes all things possible for the rescue of His people when they return to Him. God's call... (by Daniel Batarseh)

1. Is inconvenient to the flesh.
2. Needs a heart that's eager to serve.
3. Is known to a sensitive spirit.
4. Given from a merciful confirmation.
5. Will always come with a cost.
6. Should always keep us humble.
7. Will be recognized by others.

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I SAMUEL 4:1-22

NEXT 5:1-12

INTRODUCTION:

Samuel was Israel's last judge. The book begins in the days of the judges and describes Israel's transition from a theocracy (led by God) to a monarchy (led by a king). ³The story concerning the ark falls into three sections that correspond closely to the three chapters in the biblical text: the loss of the ark (4:1b-22), the ark with the Philistines (5:1-6:1), and the ark returns to Israel (6:2-7:2).

SYNOPSIS:

In the first section, (Chapter 4) Israel's defeat at the hands of the Philistines is determined to be the result of their proceeding into battle without the ark, the symbol of God's presence, which housed the tablets of the covenant and was carried into battle ahead of the troops in the wilderness and during the conquest of Canaan (4:1-4). This plan, however, apparently treated the ark as an idol, because this time Israel experienced even greater casualties, Eli's sons died, and the ark was captured (4:10-11). News of the loss of the ark resulted in the death of Eli (4:12-18) as well his daughter-in-law, the wife of Phinehas. The devastating news brought early labor upon Phinehas's pregnant wife, and the premature birth of the child resulted in her death. She named the child "Ichabod," meaning "No Glory?" (if it is derived from Hebrew) or "Where is the Glory?" (if it is derived from Ugaritic), that is, "The glory has departed from Israel" (4:19-22).

I SAMUEL 5:1-12

NEXT 6:1-21

SYNOPSIS:

The middle section, (Chapter 5) describes the fate of the ark among the Philistines, or better, the fate of the Philistines, since they experienced nothing but trouble after bringing their hard-won spoil to the temple in Ashdod (5:1-2). The next morning the Philistines found their god, Dagon, face down, "worshipping" before the ark. This time his head and hands had been cut off. And to this day the priests of Dagon and worshipers to the Dagon shrine in Ashdod avoid stepping on the threshold of that temple (5: 3-5). To make matters worse, the Lord began to destroy the people with plagues, mice, and tumors. Wherever the Ark was moved throughout its seven-month sojourn among the Philistines, they all realized that they couldn't keep it, for they would be killed by the plaques wherever it stayed (5:6-12).

I SAMUEL 6:1-21

NEXT 7:1-17

SYNOPSIS:

The final section, (Chapter 6) describes the return of the ark to Israel. The Philistines came up with an ingenious plan to rid themselves of the dangerous ark without admitting that their troubles were the result of God's judgment. They placed the ark and a guilt offering of golden tumors on a cart drawn by two milch cows and claimed that God's responsibility would be indicated only if these cows chose to return the ark to Israel (fat chance!) rather than return to their own calves (6:1-11). That God was, in fact, responsible is unambiguously indicated by the cows' unswerving march into Israelite territory, much to the joy of the residents of Beth-shemesh (6:12-18). God struck some of the men of Bethshemesh because they looked into the Ark of the Lord. And some 50,062 men were slaughtered. Their question was who could stand before this holy God? And who could take the Ark off of their hands? So, messengers of Bethshemesh were sent to Kirjathjearim saying "the Philistines have returned the Ark of the Lord, come and get it." (6:21).

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³ <http://www.enterthebible.org/oldtestament.aspx?rid=29>

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1 SAMUEL 7:1-17

NEXT 8:1-11, 18-22

1st Samuel **7:1** **And the men of Kirjath-jearim came, and fetched up the Ark of the Lord, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the Ark of the Lord.** The Philistines are trying to return the Ark of the Lord in chapter 6 back to Israel. The Ark was being delivered to the Israelite town of Beth-shemesh, however 70 Israelite men were killed by God after looking inside the Ark. People who sin, cannot touch anything holy. They were disobedient for even trying to touch, let alone see, for Numbers 4:20 says "But they shall not go in to see when the holy things are covered, lest they die." So, the people were afraid of God. Afterwards the people of Beth-shemesh asks the people of Kirjathjearim (a town of the Gibeonites on the boundary of Judah and Benjamin) to come take the Ark away. So, the men of Kirjathjearim came, and retrieved the Ark of the Lord, and they brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar, his son to keep the Ark of the Lord.

1st Samuel **7:2** **And it came to pass, while the Ark abode in Kirjath-jearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the House of Israel lamented after the Lord.** Well, it came to pass, that the Ark remained in Kirjathjearim, for as long as twenty years, and during that time all the house of Israel were sorrowful after the Lord because the Lord had seemingly abandoned them. But, it was the fact that Israel had placed and worshiped all these foreign gods and idols before the only true God. So, where is Samuel, the prophet for 20yrs.? He had been standing in the gap for Israel; praying for mercy instead of judgment before God, for he had always ministered unto God. Verse 8 says "Don't stop crying out to the LORD our God for us.

1st Samuel **7:3** **And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye 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.** Samuel is the one who is recognized as a judge of the Lord during this time. His main task in life was to bring the people back to the Lord. His work is revival and unification of the people under God's chosen ruler. This is the time for the house of Israel to make a decision, for sorrow had gripped Israel for 20yrs. When Samuel spoke to them, he tells them if they will do something, then this will happen. They have to be willing vessels for God's help. In order for God to help, they had to consider their ways and determine to trust God; they had to do what Samuel had spoken.

1. **They had to return to the Lord with all their heart.** God wanted His people to worship Him from the heart, but they had been influenced by the outward and visible form of Canaanite religion. People are not won to the Lord by the route of intellectualism, but rather by appealing to their hearts.

2. **They were to put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth.** He speaks as a prophet when he tells them to put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth. The people had backslidden into idolatry. The Astaroth (a Hebrew plural form) were statues of an almost universal goddess of sex and fertility. Whatever holds first place in our lives or controls us becomes our god. If we have foreign gods in our lives we need to ask God to help us dethrone them, making the true God our first priority.

3. **They were to prepare their hearts unto the Lord.** They had to determine to only obey the Lord. "To determine" means to set your mind on a course of action. This kind of commitment means that you don't back out, but you work toward the goal you have set. If you have made a decision to follow God, don't allow excuses, distractions, or second thoughts to deter you from your goal.

4. **They were to only serve the Lord.** That is, direct your hearts to Him while in His service.

It seems that there was an opposition of "if." "If ye do return unto the Lord..." The conditions of returning to the Lord here is the act of repentance which is returning to; a change of direction back to the Lord. By preparing their hearts to serve the Lord, then the outcome would be that the Lord will deliver them out of the hand of the

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Philistines. Either you're in or out; you repent, or you stay stuck. Repentance is always the way to God. "Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen." 1 John 5:21. God will then be their Deliverer!

1st Samuel **7:4** **Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the Lord only.** These were not two particular deities, but two genera of idols; the one masculine, Baalim; the other feminine, Ashtaroth. Baalim is the plural of Baal. Baal was the chief Canaanite god, the son of Dagan, and the god of agriculture. Basically, Ba'al was the storm god, the bringer of rain, and thus fertility, to the land.

1st Samuel **7:5** **And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the Lord.** Now it's time to come before the Lord's presence. We all have to back up what we commit to. Samuel intercedes for Israel and Samuel said, "Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the Lord." Mizpeh had special significance for the Israelite nation. It was at Mizpeh where the Israelites had earlier gathered to mobilize against the tribe of Benjamin (Jdgs.20:1). Samuel was appointed to judge there (7:6), and Saul, Israel's first king was crowned there (10:7). And this is the place Samuel gathers them together to pray for the Israelites. Samuel was known as an intercessor. He planned to lead the people in a time of worship and intercession as they gathered to Mizpeh for deliverance from their enemies, but if they had iniquity in their hearts, the Lord would not hear them.

1st Samuel **7:6** **And they gathered together to Mizpeh, and drew water, and poured it out before the Lord, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have sinned against the Lord. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh.** **First**, they had to pour out water before the Lord which became a practice at the Feast of Tabernacles, commemorating the times the Lord provided water in the wilderness (Jh.7:37-39). Pouring water "before the Lord" was a sign of repentance for sin; turning from idols and determining to obey the Lord alone was what the Israelites needed to do. **Second**, the people fasted, and this was required only on the annual Day of Atonement, which preceded the Feast of Tabernacles. The key activity that day was their confession: "We have sinned against the Lord." God's covenant promise to Israel was that He would forgive their sins if they sincerely confessed them to Him (Lev.26:40-45), for no amount of sacrifices or rituals could wash away their sins. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpeh. They outwardly showed a sign of repentance and surrender.

1st Samuel **7:7** **And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpeh, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines.** ⁴Notice what happens immediately after they are restored before God, the enemy rises up to confront them. As soon as you become a threat to the enemy, he will be right there ready to destroy you. ⁵The Philistines have not yet learned their lesson from the heavy hand of God. They assumed that the nation of Israel has gathered at Mizpeh for war. The Philistines have been victorious in waging war with the Israelites before, and so they assume they will be successful once again. The five Philistine lords (the mobilized army) went up against the Israelites. However, Israel is now afraid of what the Philistines might do to them. They do not have the Ark to take to war with them, so all they can do is cast themselves upon God and trust in Him. But, they have to remember that they had just repented and fasted unto the Lord that day. Surely, the Lord is on their side! He is their greatest weapon! He is their battleaxe! He is their armor!

1st Samuel **7:8** **And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Cease not to cry unto the Lord our God for us, that he will save us out of the hand of the Philistines.** Samuel was a man of prayer and God answered him that day. He was a strong spiritual leader set there to intercede unto God for the people. "The effectual fervent

⁴ <http://www.cmanitowoc.org/Library/Guglielmo-Joe/Studies/TH/09-1SA/TH1019.HTM>

⁵ <http://bible.org/seriespage/hands-dagon-and-hand-god-1-samuel-51-717>

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prayer of a righteous man availeth much" Jam.5:16c. That's why we should never cease to cry out to the Lord. Jesus, our great Intercessor never ceases, is never silent, for He's always appearing in the presence of God for us. There is power in prayer! The salvation here is purely physical deliverance from the Philistines, but it is typical of spiritual salvation; and both the word "save" (Heb. yasha'), and the concept of salvation are very prominent in this book. The name "Joshua" in the Old Testament and the name "Jesus" in the New Testament come from this word and mean "Jehovah is salvation." When we cry out to the Lord to save us from our sins, He will also deliver us

1st Samuel 7:9 And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a burnt offering wholly unto the Lord: and Samuel cried unto the Lord for Israel; and the Lord heard him. Samuel did what the people asked and offered a lamb for a burnt offering; and the Lord accepted the sacrifice, answered the prayer for deliverance, and again saved His people. The whole Burnt Offering was a type of Christ giving His Perfection to imperfect people, at least to those who will believe. Samuel was a Levite and accordingly (1Chron.23:27-32), he could offer a Burnt Offering. He could not enter the Tabernacle, though, not being a son of Aaron; in fact, the Tabernacle, at this time, was useless as a center of worship; for the Throne of God, that is, the Ark, had been removed from it.

1st Samuel 7:10 And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the Lord thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel. Getting right with God may cause the enemy to attack, but it also gives you great help from God for He's right on time. The Philistines didn't want to give the Israelites a chance to get their army together, and they began to draw near to battle against Israel while Samuel is in the middle of offering up his sacrifice unto the Lord. With Samuel's prayer and his sacrifice, it was not an empty shadow, for God accepted it and thundered with a great thunder! He moved noisily and confused the Philistines, therefore making it easy for the Israelites to win. They were struck down and defeated before Israel. God showed His allegiance to Israel in no uncertain terms.

1st Samuel 7:11 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Bethcar. This had given the men of Israel courage, for it says, "...the men of Israel went out of Mizpeh"; went out and pursued the Philistines. They were no longer afraid. They rise-up and push them all the way to "Bethcar", which means "house of the lamb." They literally had the advantage, rushing out and chasing after, and pursuing the Philistines, and eventually striking them down, killing them until they came to "house of the lamb." ⁶There are going to be times that God will bring about the victory all by Himself. But there are also going to be times that we have a part in the victory, in "chasing those Philistines" out of our lives. Samuel had sacrificed a lamb. Now they pursued the Philistines as far as the "house of the lamb." You see, their victory was assured with the sacrifice of the lamb, but it was not completed until they entered the house of the lamb. Our victory over the enemy began with the sacrifice of the Lamb, Jesus Christ, but the battles will continue until we go to be with Him, and enter the house of the Lamb. ⁷God gave Israel the victory, and they stood strong.

1st Samuel 7:12 Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us. ⁸In order to commemorate God's help in defeating the Philistines, Samuel set up a stone between Mizpeh and Shen and called it Ebenezer, which means "stone of help." This stone would become a visible reminder that God is the "Helper" of Israel.

1st Samuel 7:13 So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the coast of Israel: and

⁶ <http://www.calvaryfullerton.org/Bstudy/09%201Sa/2002/091Sa07-09.htm>

⁷ <http://www.ccmanitowoc.org/Library/Guglielmo-Joe/Studies/TH/09-1SA/TH1019.HTM>

⁸ <http://tomhogsed.com/>

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the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. The Philistines' reign was over, and they were not to come near or invade the coast of Israel again. God continued to bless the nation of Israel. The hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.

1st Samuel 7:14 And the cities which the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron even unto Gath; and the coasts thereof did Israel deliver out of the hands of the Philistines. And there was peace between Israel and the Amorites. Even the cities in which the Philistines had taken were restored to Israel and peace was gained with the Amorites; they became allies.

1st Samuel 7:15 And Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. Samuel was considered to be God's appointed leader. Mizpeh marked the beginning of Samuel's public ministry to the whole nation of Israel. He judged Israel all the days of his life. (Samuel is supposed to have lived one hundred years; he did not begin to judge Israel till he was about forty years of age; and if he was one hundred years of age when he died, he must have been a judge sixty years, and consequently filled that office during the whole of Saul's reign).

1st Samuel 7:16 And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places. This was about a 50 mile circuit that Samuel traveled as he instructed the people in the things of God and judged them.⁹When he was at Beth-el, the tribe of Ephraim, and all the northern parts of the country, could attend him; when at Gilgal, the tribe of Benjamin, and those beyond Jordan might have easy access to him; and when at Mizpeh, he was within reach of Judah, Simeon, and Gad.

1st Samuel 7:17 And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he built an altar unto the Lord. But Ramah was the place of his ordinary abode; and there he held his court, for there he judged Israel. The altar at Ramah, although it was in violation of the technical points of the law (Deut.12:5, 13), was permitted because of the need for revival and unification of the nation. It was better than having no sacrifices at all.

SUMMARY:

The people of Beth-shemesh asks the people of Kirjathjearim to come take the Ark away. So, the men of Kirjathjearim came, and retrieved the Ark of the Lord, and they brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar, his son to keep the Ark of the Lord. Well, it came to pass, that the Ark remained in Kirjathjearim, for as long as twenty years, and during that time all the house of Israel were sorrowful after the Lord because the Lord had seemingly abandoned them. But, it was the fact that Israel had placed and worshiped all these foreign gods and idols before the only true God (**7:1-2**). The story is about the repentance of Israel and God hears their cry. Samuel is set as a judge, prophet and priest with authority. We begin with Israel gathering to ask God's forgiveness. If they return unto the Lord with all their hearts; put away the strange gods, and prepare their hearts for Him, He will deliver them out of the hand of the Philistines (**7:3-4**). Obviously, this was long in coming, and Samuel initiated the place of meeting (**7:5**). When Israel gathered, Samuel offered up a young whole lamb on behalf of Israel as they drew and poured water out before the Lord and fasted. When the Philistines heard about the gathering, they had assumed that Israel was gathering to revolt against Philistine oppression (**7:6-7**). What they didn't know was that Israel was afraid. Samuel did not cease

⁹ http://bible.cc/1_samuel/7-16.htm

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to cry out to the Lord. The Philistines swiftly moved against Israel during this time of repentance and God showed His allegiance to Israel in no uncertain terms. The Philistines drew near, but the Lord thundered with a great thunder upon the Philistines, confusing them and therefore the Israelites chased and killed the Philistines back to Beth-car territory (**7:8–11**). Samuel set up a stone between Mizpeh and Shen and called it Ebenezer, which means "stone of help." The Philistines' reign was over, and they were not to come near or invade the coast of Israel again. God continued to bless the nation of Israel, even the cities in which the Philistines had taken were restored to Israel and peace was gained with the Amorites; they became allies. Samuel was considered to be God's appointed leader. This chapter concludes with a note on Samuel's circuit, indicating that his authority was well-established, and that it continued throughout his life. He abode in Ramah and there he built an altar unto the Lord (**7:1–17**).

APPLICATION:

God has His man in place to administer justice but God makes all things possible for the rescue of His people when they return to Him.

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1 SAMUEL 8:1-11, 18-22

NEXT 9:18-27

1st Samuel **8:1** **And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel.** Samuel judged Israel well, but now he has gotten old and he wanted to pass the torch, so, he appointed his sons to be judges over Israel.

1st Samuel **8:2** **Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: they were judges in Beersheba.** Samuel had two sons to judge Israel in his place. Joel was the firstborn and Abiah was his second son. ¹⁰"Joel" means Jehovah is God. "Abiah" means the LORD is my father.

1st Samuel **8:3** **And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.** However, placing his sons in such powerful positions did not work, for they refused to walk in the manner of God. They walked in their own ways and not in Samuel or God's ways. They were greedy after money, took bribes, and corrupted the administration of justice.

1st Samuel **8:4** **Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, Things had become so corrupted that it was time for others to step in.** It says all the elders of Israel got together and came straight to Samuel in Ramah.

1st Samuel **8:5** **And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.** The elders began to tell Samuel that his age has gotten in the way; too old. And his sons are walking all over him, for his sons were not walking in his ways. So, the answer they suggest for their situation is for Samuel to make them a king to judge like all the other nations. Samuel's sons were not good judge material. Now the elders want their own king in power; never mind consulting God or what He wants to be in their lives as a nation.

1st Samuel **8:6** **But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD.** Aha, now Samuel is displeased! So, they don't want Samuel's choice anymore, they want their own choice—a king. Samuel now goes to God to pray.

1st Samuel **8:7** **And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.** And what do you know, God is mad, not at Samuel but at the people. God tells Samuel to listen to the voice of the people (they have spoken) for they know what they want, and it wasn't God. So Samuel is not to get angry or mad because God tells him that it wasn't him (Samuel) that the people had rejected, but it was God Himself that they have rejected. They didn't want God to reign as King any longer over them. They rather have a man like other nations, one they can see like them; one in the flesh and not of the Spirit! And one that's an earthly and not a heavenly King!

1st Samuel **8:8** **According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee.** And God says as they have done from the day He brought them out of Egypt, they are still doing it today, that is: they have forsaken Him, and served other gods. And so they are behaving in a similar fashion with Samuel. They're forgetting all he's done for them when he goes to God on their behalf, and it's so funny and very disturbing how they so quickly forgot what God had done for them.

1st Samuel **8:9** **Now therefore hearken unto their voice: howbeit yet protest solemnly unto them, and shew them the manner of the king that shall reign over them.** God tells Samuel to listen as they voice what they want, but solemnly (seriously) warn them of your disapproval; show them the procedure and ways of the king who will rule over them; what rights their king will have over them, for they have never had a king before. Warn them of the consequences, so they would have full knowledge of their actions when they don't take your advice.

¹⁰<http://www.lovetheLord.com/books/1samuel/08.html>

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1st Samuel **8:10** **And Samuel told all the words of the LORD unto the people that asked of him a king.** Samuel was very specific in telling them all the words of the Lord.

1st Samuel **8:11** **And he said, This will be the manner of the king that shall reign over you: 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.** Samuel began to instruct them in specific details of the manner of the king. The king will conscript; literally take their sons and appoint them for himself, for his chariots and to be his horsemen, and make their sons run before his chariots. Samuel carefully explained all the negative consequences of having a king (Read 12-17).

1st Samuel **8:18** **And ye shall cry out in that day because of your king which ye shall have chosen you; and the LORD will not hear you in that day.** Samuel makes it very plain to the people, telling them that they will have bitter tears because of this king they are demanding, but the Lord will not help them in that day. God knows they would get into trouble and want to call upon the Lord to save them, but Samuel tells them He won't help them! This means that this is not what God had chosen for them, but, this is what they had chosen!

1st Samuel **8:19** **Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us;**—Any way, the people refused to obey the warning of Samuel's voice; they refused to adhere; they said "No." When the heart is set on doing a thing, it will override all caution (throw caution to the wind) and the Spirit's leading. The matter is settled! They want a king over them.

1st Samuel **8:20** **That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.** Why? Why do they want what they want? Because they want to be like all the other nations, and that their king would judge them and fight for them in battle. They want earthly strength instead of spiritual strength.

1st Samuel **8:21-22** Samuel told the Lord what the people said, and the Lord tells Samuel to do as they said and give them a king. Samuel agreed and sent the men home (to their city).

SUMMARY:

Samuel judged Israel well, but now he has gotten old and he wanted to pass the torch to his sons to be judges over Israel: Joel was the firstborn and Abiah was his second son. However, they refused to walk in the manner of God. They walked in their own ways of being greedy after money, taking bribes, and corrupting justice. All the elders of Israel went to Samuel in Ramah, telling him that he's gotten too old, and they wanted a king to rule over them. Samuel goes to God in prayer (**8:1-6**).

God tells Samuel to listen to them don't get angry because it wasn't him (Samuel) that the people rejected, it was God Himself that they have rejected. They have done this from the day He brought them out of Egypt, and they are still forsaking Him today, by serving other gods. God tells Samuel to listen to them, but seriously warn them of his disapproval; show them the ways and rights of the king who will rule over them. Warn them of the consequences, so they would have full knowledge of their actions in not taking your advice. Samuel was very specific in telling them all the words of the Lord. The king will literally take their sons and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen, and make them run before his chariots. Samuel carefully explained all the negative consequences of having a king (**8:7-11**).

And in the day they have bitter tears because of this king they are demanding, the Lord will not help them. The people refused to obey the warning of Samuel's voice. They said no, they want a king over them. Why? Because they want to be like all the other nations, and that their king would judge them, and fight for them in battle. They want earthly strength instead of spiritual strength (**8:18-20**).

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I SAMUEL 9:18-27NEXT 10:1-16**SYNOPSIS:**

1st Samuel **9:18-24** Saul approaches Samuel and asks him if he knew the location of the seer's house. Samuel answered "I am the seer. Go up before me and we'll eat together and in the morning I'll tell you what you want and send you on your way." And Samuel told him not to worry about the donkeys that were lost three days ago, for they were found. Samuel comments: "And anyway you own all the wealth in Israel now—meaning you and all your family is the focus of all Israel's hopes." Saul thinks he and his family are least in the families of tribes because Benjamin is the smallest of tribes and why is Samuel talking like this. When Saul and the servant got to the parlour (the hall) to eat, Samuel seated them at the head of the table; the chiefest place, honoring them above the 30 special guests. This was really a well-organized surprise celebration for the anointing of Saul that Saul didn't even know about. The cook had already been instructed to hold out; set aside the best meat (the shoulder...), for Samuel had been expecting Saul before he was invited. And it was brought and placed before Saul, and he ate with Samuel that day.

1st Samuel **9:25** **And when they were come down from the high place into the city, Samuel communed with Saul upon the top of the house.** After a surprise feast, Saul and Samuel and the servant came down from the high place and returned to the city. And Samuel took Saul up to the porch on the roof of the house and talked with him there alone.

1st Samuel **9:26** **And they arose early: and it came to pass about the spring of the day, that Samuel called Saul to the top of the house, saying, Up, that I may send thee away. And Saul arose, and they went out both of them, he and Samuel, abroad.** The next day they arose early from sleep in the dawn; break of day and Samuel called Saul to the top of the house saying "Get up it is time for you to be on your way." And they went out into the street.

1st Samuel **9:27** **And as they were going down to the end of the city, Samuel said to Saul, Bid the servant pass on before us, (and he passed on,) but stand thou still a while, that I may shew thee the word of God.** Samuel and Saul approaches the edge of the city (city walls) and Samuel tells Saul to send his servant on ahead of them, and Saul was to stay awhile so Samuel could give a special message; a Word from God to him.

SUMMARY:

After a surprise feast, Saul and Samuel and the servant came down from the high place and returned to the city. And Samuel took Saul up to the porch on the roof of the house and talked with him there alone. The next day it was time to leave. Samuel and Saul talked as the servant went ahead. Samuel needed to give a special message; a Word from God to Saul. (**9:25-27**)

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I SAMUEL 10:1-16

NEXT 12:1-24

1st Samuel 10:1 Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, **Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?**— Samuel takes a vial of oil and begins to pour it upon Saul's head, and kissed him saying: "Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?"

When an Israelite king took office he was not only crowned, he was anointed. The coronation was the political act of establishing the king as ruler; the anointing was the religious act of making the king God's representative to the people. A king was always anointed by a priest or prophet. The special anointing oil was a mixture of olive oil, myrrh, and other expensive spices. It was poured over the king's head to symbolize the presence and power of the Holy Spirit of God in his life. The anointing ceremony was to remind the king of his great responsibility to lead his people by God's wisdom and not his own.

SYNOPSIS:

Samuel gives three signs or prophecies to authenticate the anointing:

1st Samuel 10:2 When you leave me today, you will see two men beside Rachel's tomb at Zelzah, on the border of Benjamin. They will tell you that the donkeys have been found and that your father has stopped worrying about them and is now worried about you. He is asking, 'Have you seen my son?'

1st Samuel 10:3 "When you get to the oak of Tabor, you will see three men coming toward you who are on their way to worship God at Bethel. One will be bringing three young goats, another will have three loaves of bread, and the third will be carrying a wineskin full of wine. **10:4** They will greet you and offer you two of the loaves, which you are to accept.

1st Samuel 10:5 "When you arrive at Gibeah of God, where the garrison of the Philistines is located, you will meet a band of prophets coming down from the place of worship. They will be playing a harp, a tambourine, a flute, and a lyre, and they will be prophesying.

1st Samuel 10:6 **And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man.** Samuel explains that the Spirit of the Lord will come mightily upon him and he will prophesy with these prophets, turning him into another man, meaning his spirit will be empowered and transformed; he will feel and act like a different person—becoming God's anointed king—a person the Lord can use, for God's Spirit will do the leading and guiding.

1st Samuel 10:7 **And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee.** Samuel lets Saul know that whenever he experiences these signs; when they come upon him, do whatever his hands finds him to do; whatever job, do it, for God will be and is with him.

1st Samuel 10:8 **And thou shalt go down before me to Gilgal; and, behold, I will come down unto thee, to offer burnt offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings: seven days shalt thou tarry, till I come to thee, and shew thee what thou shalt do.** Samuel says go on down to Gilgal ahead him. He's coming afterwards to offer burnt offerings, and sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings. However, Saul is to wait seven days for Samuel, and he will give further information when he arrives.

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1st Samuel 10:9 **And it was so, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart: and all those signs came to pass that day.** As soon as Samuel ended the conversation and Saul turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave Saul a new heart; a changed heart. This means that his former lack of courage and dedication was gone, and in its place was the desire to do great things for God. It was this inner drive which enabled Saul to be used by God for the deliverance of His people from the Philistines. And all of what Samuel had told Saul—those signs were fulfilled that day.

1st Samuel 10:10 **And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.** Saul and the servant arrived at the hill and saw a band of prophets coming right in front of him. "And the Spirit of God came upon Saul, and Saul prophesied right along with them." This one act of prophesy on the part of Saul served two purposes: 1.) It gave Saul confidence in himself, for he was able to see what Samuel had said was true. 2.) And it became proverbial (familiar saying) among the people, so that they could trust Saul as their king and know that God had in fact chosen him.

1st Samuel 10:11 **And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, What is this that is come unto the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?—**Those who had previously known Saul were really surprised at what they were seeing, him prophesying with the prophets. They began to ask: "Is this the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?" A "prophet" is someone sent by God to predict; utter divine revelations. Although many prophets predicted events, they also inspire people to live in faithfulness to God. When Saul's friends heard inspired words coming from Saul, they exclaimed, "What? Saul a prophet?" This was an expression of surprise at worldly Saul becoming religious

1st Samuel 10:12 **And one of the same place answered and said, But who is their father? Therefore it became a proverb, Is Saul also among the prophets?—**The people talking among themselves (v.11) as they heard and had seen Saul prophesying were compelled to ask what is Kish's son Saul doing prophesying with the prophets (v.11)? So, one of them answers and say: "But who is their father?", meaning who instructs and inspires them; who can find out the identity of the leader or father of the prophetic band that now includes Saul. So they would say: "Is Saul also among the prophets?" So, it became a proverb, ¹¹used when any strange or unexpected thing happened.

1st Samuel 10:13 **And when he had made an end of prophesying, he came to the high place.** When Saul had finished prophesying, he climbed to the hill of the high place (altar).

1st Samuel 10:14 **And Saul's uncle said unto him and to his servant, Whither went ye? And he said, To seek the asses: and when we saw that they were no where, we came to Samuel.** Saul's uncle began to question where he and his servant had been. Saul begins to explain that they were looking for the lost donkeys, and weren't able to find them, so they went to Samuel to ask him.

1st Samuel 10:15 **And Saul's uncle said, Tell me, I pray thee, what Samuel said unto you.** Saul tells of his encounter with Samuel.

1st Samuel 10:16 **And Saul said unto his uncle, He told us plainly that the asses were found. But of the matter of the kingdom, whereof Samuel spake, he told him not.** Saul tells his uncle that Samuel said: he was

¹¹ https://biblehub.com/commentaries/1_samuel/10-12.htm
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html> 1 SAMUEL

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not to worry because the donkeys were found, but Saul didn't give out any information to his uncle concerning the matter of the kingdom or him becoming king.

SUMMARY:

Samuel takes a vial of oil and begins to pour it upon Saul's head, and kissed him saying: "Is it not because the LORD hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?" (10:1)

Samuel lets Saul know that whenever he experiences these signs; when they come upon him, do whatever his hands finds him to do; whatever job, do it, for God will be and is with him. He tells him to go to Gilgal and wait seven days for him, for he's coming to offer burnt offerings, and to sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings and will give further information when he arrives (10:6-8).

As soon as Samuel ended the conversation and Saul turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave Saul a new heart; a changed heart. And all of what Samuel had told Saul—those signs were fulfilled that day. Saul and the servant arrived at the hill, and saw a band of prophets coming right in front of him. "And the Spirit of God came upon Saul, and he prophesied right along with them." Those who had previously known Saul saw him prophesying with the prophets and were really surprised at what they were seeing. They began to ask: "Is this the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?" And one of them answers: "But who is their father?", meaning who instructs and inspires this band of prophets. It became a proverb "Is Saul also among the prophets?" When Saul had finished prophesying, he climbed to the hill of the high place (altar) (10:9-13).

Now, Saul's uncle sees him and began to question where he and his servant had been. Saul begins to explain that they were looking for the lost donkeys, and weren't able to find them, so they went to Samuel to ask him. Saul tells of his encounter with Samuel. Samuel said not to worry because the donkeys were found, but Saul didn't give out any information to his uncle concerning the matter of the kingdom or him becoming king (10:14-16).

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I SAMUEL 12:1-24

NEXT 13:1-22

SYNOPSIS:

1st Samuel 12:1-24 Samuel has anointed and officially presented Saul as their king (10:1, 24). He has transferred leadership from himself to Saul. Samuel's role was priest (trained by Eli), judge (the last judge of Israel), and prophet of God. So, Samuel wanted it to be made known publicly in front of many witnesses. And he tells them that he has done what they asked, and has given them a king, and asks if he has ever defrauded, oppressed, or taken a bribe, and they said no. Then Samuel reminds them of God's goodness and blessings—appointed Moses and Aaron, and brought them out of the land of Egypt. Then Samuel reminds them of the blessing of their ancestors when they cried out to the Lord, and as soon as He sent help, they soon forgot. He lets them know that "the Lord your God was already your king, and now here's the king you've chosen—look him over—you've asked for him, and the Lord answered your request." He places some ifs in the front of them: If you follow...it will be well. If you rebel...His hand will be heavy upon them as it was upon their ancestors. Samuel says he's going to pray for God to send rain and thunder which is not supposed to come at wheat harvest, just so they can see the great miracles of the Lord, and realize the extent of their wickedness in asking for a king. Samuel called upon the Lord in prayer and God did just what Samuel asked. The people began to ask Samuel to pray to God for them that God don't kill them, for they were very much afraid, and they now realized they had added to their sins for asking for a king. Samuel still reassures them and tells them "don't be afraid even though you have done wrong. But this is the time to worship God enthusiastically!" Samuel really gives them a really touching and inspiring speech of how special they are; how he will continue to pray and help them. But he also ends with a warning that if they continue to sin, they and their king will be destroyed!

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1 SAMUEL 13:1-22

NEXT 14:1-13

1st Samuel **13:1** **Saul reigned one year; and when he had reigned two years over Israel,**—There is a lot of controversy about Saul's age and how long his reign. This scripture is saying Saul had reigned for two years over Israel but by this time (13:1) he had reigned only one year.

1st Samuel **13:2** **Saul chose him three thousand men of Israel; whereof two thousand were with Saul in Michmash and in mount Bethel, and a thousand were with Jonathan in Gibeah of Benjamin: and the rest of the people he sent every man to his tent.** King Saul didn't waste any time assembling his army. He chose 3,000 men in Israel. However, he split them up and had 2,000 men spread within Michmash (located about 7mi. e of Jerusalem) and Mount Bethel with him. And the other 1,000 were with Jonathan, Saul's son in Gibeah of Benjamin (located 3 mi. N of Jerusalem). So, the other people were sent to their own tent.

1st Samuel **13:3** **And Jonathan smote the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines heard of it. And Saul blew the trumpet throughout all the land, saying, Let the Hebrews hear.** *"The garrison"* is the military base, stronghold or outpost. So, Jonathan struck and overcame the outpost of the Philistines in Geba located about 5 mi. NNE of Jerusalem and 1½ mi. SW of Michmash. The Philistines heard the news that one of their outpost was overcome by the Israelites. While Jonathan attacked the post, Saul blew the trumpet throughout the land saying *"Let the Hebrews hear."*

1st Samuel **13:4** **And all Israel heard say that Saul had smitten a garrison of the Philistines, and that Israel also was had in abomination with the Philistines. And the people were called together after Saul to Gilgal.** All of Israel began to chant: "Saul had attacked the Philistine outpost and Israel has become obnoxious (an abomination) to the Philistines." Of course King Saul had gotten all the credit for the battle that destroyed the Philistines. The people (Israelites) were summoned to join the regular army in Gilgal, and they waited with great anxiety for Samuel, and growing more and more fearful of the vastly superior army of the Philistines, for the Israelites knew the Philistines were coming.

1st Samuel **13:5** **And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the sea shore in multitude: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Bethaven.** The Philistines had gathered together 30,000 chariots (KJV) (some books have 3,000 chariots probably to correspond to the horsemen—two horsemen per chariot) and 6,000 horsemen; and other soldiers too numerous and thick as sand along the seashore, coming up together and pitching their tents in Michmash east of Bethaven getting ready to fight Israel.

1st Samuel **13:6** **When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait, (for the people were distressed,) then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits.** Well, the time has come and now the men of Israel see the danger of them being hedged in by the Philistines, and their troops began to be troubled and they panicked. The Israelites began to hide themselves in caves, in thickets, in rocks, in high places, and in pits. They forgot that God was on their side. They forgot God gave them that first battle instead of Saul.

1st Samuel **13:7** **And some of the Hebrews went over Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. As for Saul, he was yet in Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.** Well, they were still running and some ran as far as the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead, but Saul was still in Gilgal with all the trembling people following him.

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1ST Samuel 13:8 **And he tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.** This was the time that Samuel had told Saul to tarry for 7 days in Gilgal (10:8). The people were so scattered and scare, but Saul was there waiting on Samuel, who was to come and offer burnt offerings, and sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings. However, he had not showed up yet.

1ST Samuel 13:9 **And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering.** Oh Oh, Saul had become impatient because he says bring him the burnt offerings and peace offerings. He was not supposed to move on his own, but he did. He offered the burnt offering. So, rather than wait for Samuel who had done it before (7:9-10), Saul offered the sacrifice unto God by himself. If God would have told him to offer sacrifices, then he would be operating under the direct order of God to fulfill this, however according to 10:8 "and (I'll) shew thee what thou shalt do", he was operating under the Prophet of God, Samuel who gave him the charge from the Lord in 12:14-15, and who would be there to oversee him. Under pressure from the approaching Philistines, he took matters into his own hands and disobeyed God. Offering a sacrifice to God before a crucial battle was a good thing, but he did it at the wrong time and in the wrong way. Our true spiritual character is revealed under pressure as was Saul's. The methods we use to accomplish our goals are as important as is the attainment of those goals. Neither Saul nor we can work independently of God's laws, priests, or prophets.

1ST Samuel 13:10 **And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him.** And as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel arrives; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. Can you imagine that Saul is happy, going out to greet and meet Saul, cause he thinks he's done a good thing?

1ST Samuel 13:11 **And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;**—Samuel arrives and asked "what have you done?" This expression shows that Samuel is disappointed. Saul saw a problem; he handled it the best he knew. 1.) His people were scattered, 2.) Samuel had not arrived within the days appointed, 3) and the Philistines were mobilized in Michmash (located about 7mi. e of Jerusalem) to come against them. God could see through all these excuses.

1ST Samuel 13:12 **Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the LORD: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering.** So, this is what Saul thought as he's relaying the message that was going on in his head to Samuel. So, he had to react first to the Philistines before they came down from Gilgal on him. He hadn't made supplication (request in prayer) unto the Lord. Then he says he had to force himself to offer the burn offering.

1ST Samuel 13:13 **And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the LORD have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever.** Samuel didn't have any compassion upon Saul. He tells Saul that he had acted foolishly. He had not kept the commandment of the Lord his God which he was commanded to do. This was Saul's sin, disobedience. His sin was a sin against God, for Samuel was the prophet of God and spoke the Word of God to him! When you're faced with a difficult decision, make sure that impatience does not drive you to do what is not in agreement with God's Word. When you know what God wants, don't go against that plan regardless of the circumstances. God often uses delays to test our obedience and patience. Saul had plenty of excuses, but Samuel zeroed in on the real issue: *"You have disobeyed the commandment of the Lord your God."* If Saul would have done what Samuel had said; and not rebelled against the Lord's commandment, the Lord would have

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established the reign of Saul's kingdom upon Israel forever.

1ST Samuel 13:14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee. God knows our hearts and motives of things. He forgives, restores, and blesses only when we are honest about our sins. By lying to hide his sins behind excuses, Saul lost his kingship. God had already sought a man that operates after His own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be ruler over His people, because Saul had not kept that which the LORD commanded of him.

SYNOPSIS:

1ST Samuel 13:15-22 Then Samuel arose and went up from Gilgal to Gibeah of Benjamin. And Saul assembled his 600 [fighting] men. And the raiding party came from the Philistine camp in three companies: one company turned toward Ophrah, to the land of Shual, another company turned toward Beth-horon, and another toward the border overlooking the Valley of Zeboim toward the wilderness. There were no blacksmiths in the land of Israel. So, the Philistines had said, 'If the Israelites have blacksmiths, they will be able to make swords or spears.' The Israelites used ploughs, hoes, axes, and sickles on their farmland. These tools got blunt. So they had to take them to the Philistines' blacksmiths who made them sharp again. The Israelites had to pay 8 grams of silver to have each plough and hoe made sharp again. They paid 4 grams of silver for each axe, sickle and ox-goad. When the battle began, only Saul and Jonathan had a sword and spear. The other soldiers did not have any swords or spears.

SUMMARY:

The Philistines had gathered chariots and horsemen, and soldiers too numerous and thick as sand along the seashore; others camping in Michmast east of Bethaven getting ready to fight Israel. The men of Israel saw that they were about to be hedged in, and became distressed going to hide themselves in caves, in thickets, in rocks, in high places, and in pits. Some of the people ran as far as the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead, but Saul was still in Gilgal with all the trembling people following him (**13:5-7**).

Samuel had told Saul to tarry for 7 days in Gilgal. He was coming to offer burnt offerings, and sacrifice sacrifices of peace offerings, however, he had not arrived yet. Saul had become impatient because he tells the servant to bring him the burnt offerings and peace offerings. Then he offered the burnt offering. And as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel arrives; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him. Samuel asked "what have you done?" Saul began to give Samuel every excuse he could think of: His people were scattered, 2.) Samuel had not arrived within the days appointed, 3) and the Philistines were mobilized in Michmash to come against them. Therefore, Samuel says he had to react to the Philistines before they came down from Gilgal. He hadn't made supplication (request in prayer) unto the Lord. Then he says he had to force himself to offer the burn offering (**13:8-12**).

Samuel tells Saul that he had acted foolishly. He had not kept the commandment of the Lord his God which he was commanded to do. This was Saul's sin, disobedience. If Saul would have done what Samuel had said; and not rebelled against the Lord's commandment, the Lord would have established the reign of Saul's kingdom upon Israel forever. By lying to hide his sins behind excuses, Saul lost his kingship. God had already sought a man that operates after His own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be ruler over His people, because Saul had not kept that which the LORD commanded of him (**13:13-14**).

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1 SAMUEL 14:1-13

NEXT 17:40-51

1st Samuel 14:1 Now it came to pass upon a day, that Jonathan the son of Saul said unto the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over to the Philistines' garrison, that is on the other side. But he told not his father. Jonathan, the son of Saul the king planned a secret reconnaissance (scouting expedition; investigation) to the other side into the garrison camp of the Philistines. So, he told his armor bearer to come and go with him to seek out the Philistine's garrison (outpost). He had not checked this out nor talked about this with his father the king. Either he was trying to prove something or he didn't get all the credit due him for attacking and destroying the garrison of the Philistine army camped at Geba in chapter 13:3, 4. His father took the credit.

1st Samuel 14:2 And Saul tarried in the uttermost part of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree which is in Migron: and the people that were with him were about six hundred men;— Saul didn't receive a message or anything of what Jonathan was about to do. Saul had stayed in the uttermost part of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree in Migron (a town of Benjamin north of Michmash) and remained with his small army of 600 men.

A "pomegranate tree" is about 12 feet high. Its fruit is about the size of an apple, having a red rind and a red pulp enclosing many seeds.

1st Samuel 14:3 And Ahiah, the son of Ahitub, Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the Lord's priest in Shiloh, wearing an ephod. And the people knew not that Jonathan was gone. The priest by the name of Ahiah remained there with Saul. The priest is Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli. The intriguing thing about this family: Ichabod,¹² a malicious priest at the biblical shrine of Shiloh, was born on the day that the Israelites' Ark of God was taken into Philistine captivity. His mother went into labour due to the shock of hearing that her husband and Eli, her father-in-law, had died and that the Ark had been captured. He is also named later as the brother of Ahitub. He was wearing an ephod. The Lord had rejected Eli's household; his sons were worthless and didn't know anything about the priesthood, yet Eli's great-grandson (Ahiah) is here with Saul. And no one knew Jonathan had left the camp.

1st Samuel 14:4 And between the passages, by which Jonathan sought to go over unto the Philistines' garrison, there was a sharp rock on the one side, and a sharp rock on the other side: and the name of the one was Bozez, and the name of the other Seneh. The path he took to reach the Philistine's garrison was a narrow path over two sharp rocks which had been named Boaz (means the gleaming one) on one side and a sharp rock on the other side named Seneth (means the thorny one). This reconnaissance was done secretly.

1st Samuel 14:5 The forefront of the one was situate northward over against Michmash, and the other southward over against Gibeah. Therefore, the rock on the north had risen on front of Michmash (a town of Benjamin south-east of Bethel), and the southern one was on front of Gibeah (a frontier city of Benjamin near the border of Judah).

1st Samuel 14:6 And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: 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. This was Part 1 of the plan. Jonathan and the young armor-bearer (just the two of them) moved boldly using an audacious (daring) plan into the Philistine camp because of

¹² <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ichabod>

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the faith-filled word that came out of Jonathan's mouth. He implied that "it may be that the Lord will work for us, for there was no restraint (restriction) for the Lord to save by many or by few!" While everyone else was afraid to enter into the camp of the uncircumcised, the two trusted God to give Him the victory and act upon that trust, knowing the size of their army had no relationship to God's ability to help them. Do you remember in the early years of your coming to Christ that you made bold moves because of your faith in God? Then continue!

1ST Samuel **14:7** **And his armourbearer said unto him, Do all that is in thine heart: turn thee; behold, I am with thee according to thy heart.** Even the armor-bearer gave Jonathan encouragement, that he was ready to follow him. Whatever was in the heart of Jonathan, the armor-bearer was in accord with him. They were one in heart! Remember we can never do anything for the Lord being divided and expect the victory.

1ST Samuel **14:8** **Then said Jonathan, Behold, we will pass over unto these men, and we will discover ourselves unto them.** Part 2 of the plan. The plan was to cross over where these men are and allow themselves to be seen by the Philistines.

1ST Samuel **14:9** **If they say thus unto us, Tarry until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them.** After allowing themselves to be seen, Jonathan's surprise plan was: "If they say thus unto us, Tarry until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them."

1ST Samuel **14:10** **But if they say thus, Come up unto us; then we will go up: for the Lord hath delivered them into our hand: and this shall be a sign unto us.** This is Part 3 of the plan (verses 9, 10). But is these men say: "Come up unto us; then we will go up: for the Lord hath delivered them into our hand: and this shall be a sign unto us." The plan seemed so simple, and it would be a sign from God to them that it had to be God!

1ST Samuel **14:11** **And both of them discovered themselves unto the garrison of the Philistines: and the Philistines said, Behold, the Hebrews come forth out of the holes where they had hid themselves.** This approach was so sudden that both of them were smack-dab in the garrison of the Philistines and the Philistines begin to say 'look there's the Hebrews (Israelites), coming out of the holes they were hiding in.'

1ST Samuel **14:12** **And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armourbearer, and said, Come up to us, and we will shew you a thing. And Jonathan said unto his armourbearer, Come up after me: for the Lord hath delivered them into the hand of Israel.** What a spectacular moment in the life of a warrior. The Philistine men of the garrison answered Jonathan and the armor-bearer just as they desired them to answer with the signal word—"Come Up!" Come up to us and we'll show you a thing, meaning how to fight. Upon Jonathan hearing this, he knew the Lord was on his side. So, Jonathan told his armor-bearer to "Come up after him for the Lord had delivered the Philistines into the hand of Israel." This victory was not just for him and the armor-bearer, but it was for all of Israel. Whatever victory God allows you to win is not just for you, but for a generation to come!

1ST Samuel **14:13** **And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armourbearer after him: and they fell before Jonathan; and his armourbearer slew after him.** So, Jonathan didn't waste any time. He climbed up upon his hands and feet with his armor-bearer coming behind him, and the enemy fell before Jonathan as he and his armor-bearer killed them.

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SUMMARY:

Jonathan, the son of Saul the king, planned a secret reconnaissance (scouting expedition; investigation) to the other side into the garrison camp of the Philistines. So, he told his armor bearer to come and go with him. He did not talk about this with his father the king. Saul didn't receive a message or anything of what Jonathan was about to do. Saul had stayed in the uttermost part of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree in Migron and remained with his small army of 600 men. Ahiah the priest remained there with Saul, and no one knew Jonathan had left the camp. The path he took to reach the Philistine's garrison was a narrow path over two sharp rocks which had been named Boaz on one side and a shark rock on the other side named Seneth. This was done secretly. Therefore, the rock on the north was in front of Michmash, and the southern one was in front of Gibeah (**1 Sam. 14:1-5**).

Jonathan and the young armor-bearer (just the two of them) moved boldly using an audacious (daring) plan into the Philistine's camp because of the faith-filled word that came out of Jonathan's mouth. He implied that "it may be that the Lord will work for us, for there was no restraint (restriction) for the Lord to save by many or by few!" Even the armor-bearer gave Jonathan encouragement that he was ready to follow him. Whatever was in the heart of Jonathan, the armor-bearer was in accord with him. The plan was to cross over where these men are and allow themselves to be seen by the Philistines. After allowing themselves to be seen, Jonathan's surprise plan was to hear a certain phrase that the Philistines would say, and he would know that the Lord had given the Philistines into his hands, for it was a sign unto them (**1 Sam. 14:6-10**).

This approach was so sudden that both of them were smack-dab in the garrison of the Philistines and the Philistines begin to say 'look there's the Hebrews (Israelites), coming out of the holes they were hiding in.' This was a spectacular moment in the life of a warrior. The Philistine men of the garrison answered Jonathan and the armor-bearer just as they desired them to answer with the signal word—"Come Up!" "Come up to us and we'll show you a thing, meaning how to fight." Upon Jonathan hearing this, he knew the Lord was on his side. So, Jonathan told his armor-bearer to "Come up after him for the Lord had delivered the Philistines into the hand of Israel." This victory was not just for him and the armor-bearer, but it was for all of Israel. So, Jonathan didn't waste any time. He climbed up upon his hands and feet with his armor-bearer coming behind him, and the enemy fell before Jonathan, as he and his armor-bearer killed them (**1 Sam. 14:11-13**).

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I SAMUEL 17:40-51

NEXT 19:1-17

INTRODUCTION:

¹³The Philistine army had gathered for war against Israel. The two armies faced each other, camped for battle on opposite sides of a steep valley. A Philistine giant measuring over nine feet tall and wearing full armor came out each day for forty days, mocking and challenging the Israelites to fight. One day David, the youngest son of Jesse, was sent to the battle lines by his father to bring back news of his brothers. David was just a young teenager at the time. While there, David heard Goliath shouting his daily defiance, and he saw the great fear stirred within the men of Israel. David responded, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of God?" So David volunteered to fight Goliath. The king (Saul) had to be persuaded, but he finally agreed to let David oppose the giant. None of the king's armor fitted David.

1st Samuel **17:40** **And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag which he had, even in a scrip; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.** The tools of the shepherd proved to be appropriate weapons. Dressed in his simple tunic, David grasped in his hand his shepherd's staff and chose 5 smooth stones out of the brook, placing them in his shepherd's bag, with his sling in his hand, and approached Goliath, the Philistine.

1st Samuel **17:41** **And the Philistine came on and drew near unto David; and the man that bare the shield went before him.** Goliath, the Philistine walked out towards David with his shield bearer ahead of him.

1st Samuel **17:42** **And when the Philistine looked about, and saw David, he disdained him: for he was but a youth, and ruddy, and of a fair countenance.** When Goliath finally saw David, he began to sneer in contempt at this ruddy youth and good-looking in appearance.

1st Samuel **17:43** **And the Philistine said unto David, Am I a dog, that thou comest to me with staves? And the Philistine cursed David by his gods.** Goliath yelled out to David: "Am I a dog, that thou come to me with staves? (sticks)" As we really look at the metaphor of a "dog" would mean that he posed the threat of a wild dog coming toward the sheep that must be chased away with sticks or killed by the shepherd. The giant continued to curse David by his gods, hurling threats and insults.

1st Samuel **17:44** **And the Philistine said to David, Come to me, and I will give thy flesh unto the fowls of the air, and to the beasts of the field.** Goliath continued to yell at David saying "Come to me and I will feed your body to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field."

1st Samuel **17:45** **Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.** David turned it around on Goliath. He's answering verse 43. He's not coming with some sticks, he's coming with more power than the shield bearer is carrying and more strength than Goliath himself has, and more boldness in his speech than the armies of Israel! When he said "You come to me with a sword and spear, and shield" (carnal weapons), he let Goliath know, "I come in the name of the LORD of hosts,

¹³ <https://www.learnreligions.com/david-and-goliath-700211>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html> 1 SAMUEL

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the God of the armies of Israel, (spiritual weapons) whom he has decided to come up against." Now that's some bold talk! Whatever David spoke he brought with him!

1ST Samuel **17:46** **This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; 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.** Goliath will never see it coming. David made a very bold declaration, even using some of the words Goliath said: "This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; 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." All is to the glory of the Lord!

1ST Samuel **17:47** **And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD'S, and he will give you into our hands.** David is still declaring to Goliath even though this is a lesson for all of Israel, that the Lord does not save (fulfill His plan) with sword and spear. They have to remember that the battle is the Lord's and He can work without regard to human means (sword and spear), for he told Goliath: "He (God) will give you into our hands."

1ST Samuel **17:48** **And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.** This roused Goliath and he kept coming closer to attack David, and David hastily ran in the direction of the army to attack Goliath.

1ST Samuel **17:49** **And David put his hand in his bag, and took thence a stone, and slang it, and smote the Philistine in his forehead, that the stone sunk into his forehead; and he fell upon his face to the earth.** While running, David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone, placed it in the sling that was in his hand, and slung it to where the stone flew perfectly by the wind of God and struck and killed Goliath. The stone penetrated so hard that it sunk right into his forehead, and he fell face down to the earth.

1ST Samuel **17:50** **So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.** David overcame and conquered Goliath with a sling and a stone which struck and killed him. David had already said that he was going to take his head (17:46), but, he didn't have a sword in his hand.

1ST Samuel **17:51** **Therefore David ran, and stood upon the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw their champion was dead, they fled.** So, David ran and took Goliath's sword, drew it out of Goliath's sheath, stood upon his body to finish what he started by cutting off his head.

SUMMARY:

David grasped in his hand his shepherd's staff and chose 5 smooth stones out of the brook. He placed them in his shepherd's bag, and with his sling in his hand, he approached Goliath, the Philistine. Goliath walked out towards David with his shield bearer ahead of him (**17:40-41**).

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When Goliath finally saw David, he began to sneer in contempt at this ruddy youth, and good-looking in appearance. Then Goliath yelled out to David: "Am I a dog, that thou come to me with staves? (sticks)" He continued to curse David by his gods, hurling threats and insults. And said *"Come to me and I will feed your body to the birds of the air and to the beasts of the field."* Then David said to the Philistine, "Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied." David made a very bold declaration, even using some of the words Goliath said: "This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; 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". All is to the glory of the Lord! David is still declaring to Goliath even though this is a lesson for all of Israel, that the Lord does not save (fulfill His plan) with sword and spear. They have to remember that the battle is the Lord's and He can work without regard to human means, for he told Goliath: "He (God) will give you into our hands" (**17:42-47**).

This roused Goliath and he kept coming closer to attack David, but David hastily ran in the direction of the army to attack him. While running David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone, placed it the sling that was in his hand, and slung the stone flew perfectly by the wind of God and struck and killed Goliath. The stone penetrated so hard that it sunk right into his forehead, and he fell face down to the earth. David overcame and conquered Goliath with a sling and a stone which struck and killed him. David had already said that he was going to take his head (17:46), but, he didn't have a sword in his hand, so, David ran and took Goliath's sword, drew it out of Goliath's sheath, stood upon his body to finish what he started by cutting off his head (**17:48-51**).

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INTRODUCTION:

1ST Samuel **19:1** **And Saul spake to Jonathan his son, and to all his servants, that they should kill David.** King Saul has gotten sick and tired since the Philistines couldn't kill David, so, he's called a meeting to speak with his son Jonathan and all his servants to urge them to kill David.

1ST Samuel **19:2** **But Jonathan Saul's son delighted much in David: and Jonathan told David, saying, Saul my father seeketh to kill thee: now therefore, I pray thee, take heed to thyself until the morning, and abide in a secret place, and hide thyself:—**Well, we know that talk was not going to sit well with Jonathan according to 18:1. Their souls were knit together in unison. So after the meeting, Jonathan communicated with David that his father was out to kill him, so be careful and guard himself until morning. He was to stay in a secret place and keep himself hidden.

1ST Samuel **19:3** **And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where thou art, and I will commune with my father of thee; and what I see, that I will tell thee.** You know the saying: keep your friends close, but keep your enemies closer. You want to know what your enemy is up to in order to protect yourself. So Jonathan says he'll go and stand beside his father in the field, meaning, keep an eye on him; see what he's up to. And by speaking to his father, he will see what's going on and will be able to tell David.

1ST Samuel **19:4** **And Jonathan spake good of David unto Saul his father, and said unto him, Let not the king sin against his servant, against David; because he hath not sinned against thee, and because his works have been to thee-ward very good:—**So, Jonathan is saying good things about David to Saul, his father, and trying to get him not to wrong or be against his servant David because he hasn't wronged him (the king) nor did any harm to him, because his works have been very good toward the king. He's always helped and behaved admirably in any way he could.

1ST Samuel **19:5** **For he did put his life in his hand, and slew the Philistine, and the LORD wrought a great salvation for all Israel: thou sawest it, and didst rejoice: wherefore then wilt thou sin against innocent blood, to slay David without a cause?—**Jonathan continued to speak for the good of David to his father saying you know you put your life in David's hand when he killed the Philistine (Goliath). What a great victory of salvation for all of Israel, and then exclaiming "you saw it and rejoiced." So point blank Jonathan asks: "Why would you want to murder (shed innocent blood of) an innocent man? There is no reason for it at all!"

1ST Samuel **19:6** **And Saul hearkened unto the voice of Jonathan: and Saul sware, As the LORD liveth, he shall not be slain.** So, Saul heard and heeded the voice of Jonathan, and swore as the Lord lives that David shall not be killed. So, something got through to Saul and touched his heart for a moment.

1ST Samuel **19:7** **And Jonathan called David, and Jonathan shewed him all those things. And Jonathan brought David to Saul, and he was in his presence, as in times past.** Jonathan was happy to hear that his father had changed his mind, so he calls for David to tell him all the things that Saul had said. Jonathan then brings David before Saul again in his presence, and it was as it had been before (a calm before the storm).

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

1st Samuel 19:8 **And there was war again: and David went out, and fought with the Philistines, and slew them with a great slaughter; and they fled from him.** War broke out and David went out to lead his troops against the Philistines. They fought and killed them in great numbers and the Philistines fled from them.

1st Samuel 19:9 **And the evil spirit from the LORD was upon Saul, as he sat in his house with his javelin in his hand: and David played with his hand.** Just as before, the Lord sends the evil spirit upon Saul while he's sitting in his house with a javelin (spear)—carnal weapon in his hand, while David is playing the harp—spiritual weapon with his hand.

1st Samuel 19:10 **And Saul sought to smite David even to the wall with the javelin; but he slipped away out of Saul's presence, and he smote the javelin into the wall: and David fled, and escaped that night.** So, while the music is playing, Saul's bitterness and rage has reached its point to where he sought to strike David; hurling the javelin (spear) trying to pin David to the wall, but David eluded; slipped away out of Saul's presence. So, Saul drove the javelin (spear) into the wall as David fled, and escaped that night.

1st Samuel 19:11 **Saul also sent messengers unto David's house, to watch him, and to slay him in the morning: and Michal David's wife told him, saying, If thou save not thy life to night, to morrow thou shalt be slain.** Saul had proven where his state of mind was, for he sent messengers to watch David's house; to see when he comes out so they could kill him in the morning. Michal, David's wife warned him that if he doesn't get away tonight to save his life, he would be dead by tomorrow. Michal is far from being a snare (18:21) as her father thought she would be. She became instrumental in saving David's life and displaying a covenantal love and faithfulness similar to her brother Jonathan.

1st Samuel 19:12 **So Michal let David down through a window: and he went, and fled, and escaped.** Truly Saul did not expect this to happen. Michal helped David escape from the hand of her father Saul. He got down or lowered himself down through a window, stilling away, fleeing, and escaping in the night.

1st Samuel 19:13 **And Michal took an image, and laid it in the bed, and put a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster, and covered it with a cloth.** Aha talking about a laid out plan coming together! Then Michal took an idol and laid it in the bed where David would have laid, and put a pillow of goats' hair at the head place and covered it with a cloth.

1st Samuel 19:14 **And when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, He is sick.** And the messengers Saul had sent came to take David but Michal said he was sick, meaning he can't be disturbed.

1st Samuel 19:15 **And Saul sent the messengers again to see David, saying, Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may slay him.** So, evidently they bought that lie, but Saul didn't, so, he again sent messengers to David's house saying, "Bring David and the bed so I can kill him!"

1st Samuel 19:16 **And when the messengers were come in, behold, there was an image in the bed, with a pillow of goats' hair for his bolster.** By now the messengers should be dumb-founded because they find out that there was only an image in the bed, a pillow of goat's hair for the head place, and no David!

1st Samuel 19:17 **And Saul said unto Michal, Why hast thou deceived me so, and sent away mine enemy, that he is escaped? And Michal answered Saul, He said unto me, Let me go; why should I kill thee?—Saul**

PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

is disappointed in his daughter Michal and asks why had she deceived him so, for she knew David was her father's enemy and she has sent him away; let him go free; and allowed him to escape. And to answer her father's question she lied by saying "He said unto me, Let me go; why should I kill thee?" Or another translation: "He threatened to kill me if I didn't help!"

SUMMARY:

War broke out and David went out to lead his troops against the Philistines. They fought and killed them in great numbers and the Philistines fled from them. Just as before, the Lord sends the evil spirit upon Saul while he's sitting in his house with a javelin (spear) in his hand, while David is playing the harp with his hand. While the music is playing, Saul's bitterness and rage has reached its point to where he sought to strike David; hurling the javelin (spear) trying to pin David to the wall, but David eluded; slipped away out of Saul's presence. So, Saul drove the javelin (spear) into the wall as David fled, and escaped that night (**19:8-10**).

Saul had proven where his state of mind was, for he sent messengers to watch David's house; to see when he comes out so they could kill him in the morning. Michal, David's wife warned him that if he doesn't get away tonight to save his life, he would be dead by tomorrow. Michal helped David escape from the hand of her father Saul. He got down or lowered himself down through a window, stilling away, fleeing, and escaping in the night (**19:11-12**).

Then she took an idol and laid it in the bed where David would have laid, and put a pillow of goats' hair at the head place and covered it with a cloth. And the messengers Saul sent came to take David, but Michal said he was sick, meaning he can't be disturbed. Saul didn't buy that, and sent messengers back to David's house again saying, "Bring David and the bed so I can kill him!" By now the messengers couldn't find David at all. They just found the image and pillow of goat's hair. Saul asked his daughter Michal "why she had deceived him knowing that David was his enemy and let him escape?" And she answered with a lie saying "He threatened to kill me if I didn't help!" (**19:13-17**).

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