

# Introduction to the book of

## 1 Samuel

### *The Birth of Samuel*

**1** There was a certain man from Ramathaim, a Zuphite<sup>a</sup> from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. <sup>2</sup>He had two wives; one was called Hannah and the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

<sup>3</sup>Year after year this man went up from his town to worship and sacrifice to the LORD Almighty at Shiloh, where Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, were priests of the LORD. <sup>4</sup>Whenever the time came for Elkanah to sacrifice, he would give portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters. <sup>5</sup>But to Hannah he gave a double portion be-

cause she was barren. He said to her, "Your servant has been praying here out of my great anguish and grief."

<sup>17</sup>Eli answered, "Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him."

<sup>18</sup>She said, "May your servant find favor and peace in your eyes." Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast.

<sup>19</sup>Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the LORD, and then went back to their homes. Elkanah lay with his wife, and the LORD remembered her. <sup>20</sup>So in the time Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, <sup>c</sup> saying, "Because I have asked the LORD for him."

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My mouth boasts over my enemies,  
for I delight in your deliverance.

<sup>2</sup>"There is no one holy<sup>a</sup> like the LORD;  
there is no one besides you;  
there is no Rock like our God.

<sup>3</sup>"Do not keep talking so proudly  
or let your mouth speak such  
arrogance,

for the LORD is a God who knows,  
and by him deeds are weighed.

<sup>4</sup>"The bows of the warriors are broken,  
but those who stumbled are armed  
with strength.

<sup>5</sup>Those who were full hire themselves  
out for food,  
but those who were hungry hunger  
no more.

She who was barren has borne seven  
children,  
but she who has had many sons  
pines away.

<sup>6</sup>"The LORD brings death and makes  
alive;  
he brings down to the grave<sup>b</sup> and  
raises up.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD sends poverty and wealth;  
he humbles and he exalts.

<sup>8</sup>He raises the poor from the dust



## **The New Testament exhorts us to read and study the Old Testament:**

John 5:39 - “You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.”

Romans 15:4 - “For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.”

2 Timothy 3:15-17 - “From childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

## **Four aspects of God's plan with the nation of Israel:**

- Israel's sinfulness demonstrates the world's need of a Saviour.
- Israel was appointed as guardian of God's revealed Word.
- Through Israel the Saviour would be born.
- Israel was God's chosen witness to the world.

## 1 Samuel Outline

Chapter	Subject
1-7	Main Character is Samuel
8-15	Main Characters are Samuel & Saul
16-31	Main Characters are Saul & David

At least 8 Psalms refer to 1 Samuel:  
Ps. 34, 52, 54, 56, 57, 59, 63, 142

## **1 Samuel describes Israel's failure under the family of the:**

- High priest (Eli) - Wicked sons
- Judge (Samuel) - Dishonest sons
- King (Saul) - He led his sons to disaster.

The LORD then extends grace to Israel and gives David as king.

**A number of major developments in Scripture linked with a young child:**

- God's Covenant with Abraham — Isaac as key to God's PROMISE.
- The Exodus from Egypt — Moses as key to Israel's REDEMPTION.
- Israel's transition to kingly rule — Samuel as key to Israel's SURVIVAL.
- Preservation of David's royal lineage — Josh as key to Israel's PROTECTION.

\*The ultimate fulfillment of God's Promise, Israel's Redemption, Survival and Protection depends on the ultimate Child, the Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ.