



BIBLE

STUDENT BOOK

▶ **6th Grade | Unit 3**

BIBLE 603

The Kingdom of Israel

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Author:

Cynthia P. Douglas, M.R.E.

Editor:

Richard W. Wheeler, M.A.Ed.

Consulting Editor:

W. Mel Alexander, Th.M., Ph.D.

Revision Editor:

Alan Christopherson, M.S.

MEDIA CREDITS:

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The Kingdom of Israel

Introduction

The first two LIFEPAKS (Bible 601 and 602) have provided instruction about God's word in the Old Testament. The books of the Law and the books of history were discussed. The books of the Law are the first five books of the Bible: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. The books of history are the next twelve books of the Bible: **Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther.**

The first three books of history (Joshua, Judges, and Ruth) were studied in Bible 602. In this LIFEPAK®, four additional books of history (1 Samuel; 2 Samuel; 1 Kings chapters 1-11; and 2 Chronicles chapters 1-9) will be studied. Following the Law and history, the next major division of the Old Testament is the five books of poetry: Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon. Since most of these books were written by David and Solomon, they will be studied in this LIFEPAK along with the lives and reigns of David and Solomon. You should review the names of the five books of the Law and the twelve books of history. In this LIFEPAK, you will also be asked to learn the names of the five books of poetry.

Your studies in this LIFEPAK will provide you with an opportunity to become better acquainted with the life and ministry of Samuel. Samuel was the last judge and the first prophet in Israel. He was also a priest. As you study the lives and reigns of Saul, David, and Solomon, you will be able to see more clearly how God relates to His people. God is gracious to forgive sins, but He is also righteous, and will punish sin in those who do not turn from it. In His Word, God tells both the good and the bad about His people, so that they may choose to follow the example of their good, but avoid the bad. Your study of this LIFEPAK will also better acquaint you with the books of poetry, their purpose and meaning.

This LIFEPAK includes the books of Samuel (sam' yul), the reign of Solomon, and the books of poetry. The history of Israel is continued from the end of the judges through the reigns of Saul, David, and Solomon.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAK. When you have finished this LIFEPAK, you should be able to:

1. Tell about the birth and early life of Samuel, his calling, and ministry.
2. Describe the spiritual condition in Israel when Samuel was born.
3. Give God's attitude toward Israel's request for a king.
4. Give the condition under which God would continue to bless Israel and their king.
5. List three signs given by Samuel to Saul.
6. Give two major steps in Saul's downfall.
7. Tell where and how long David reigned as king of Judah.
8. Tell how David established his kingdom in Israel.
9. Relate God's promise to build David a "house."
10. Tell how Solomon became king in Israel.
11. Identify the source of Solomon's wisdom.

1. THE BOOKS OF SAMUEL

The books of 1 and 2 Samuel were written originally as one book. Later, they were divided into two books when translated from the Hebrew language into the Greek language.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Tell about the birth and early life of Samuel, his calling, and ministry.
2. Describe the spiritual condition in Israel when Samuel was born.
3. Give God's attitude toward Israel's request for a king.
4. Give the condition under which God would continue to bless Israel and their king.
5. List three signs given by Samuel to Saul.
6. Give two major steps in Saul's downfall.
7. Tell where and how long David reigned as king of Judah.
8. Tell how David established his kingdom in Israel.
9. Relate God's promise to build David a "house."

Vocabulary

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

anoint (u noint'). To put oil on someone in a ceremony as a sign of being selected by God and set apart for an office.

armorbearer (är' mur ber' ur). One who carried the armor and weapons of a king or warrior.

corrupt (ku rupt'). Evil; wicked.

fast (fast). To not eat or drink by choice for a period of time. A religious act.

persecute (pèr' su kyüt). To treat badly; to do harm to again and again; to oppress.

priest (prēst). A minister who offered sacrifices and carried on services in the Tabernacle.

prophet (prof' it). One who, under the leadership of God, explains present (forthtelling) and future (foretelling) events as they relate to the will of God.

reign (rān). The rule of a king.

reject (ri jekt'). To refuse to use; to consider useless or unsatisfactory.

sacrifice (sak' ru fīs). An offering given to praise and thank God.

successor (suk ses' ur). A person who follows (or succeeds) another in office or position.

Tabernacle (tab' ur nak' ul). The tent of meeting where God dwelled and priests served.

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

Pronunciation Key: hat, āge, cāre, fār; let, ēqual, tērm; it, īce; hot, ōpen, ōrder; oil; out; cup, pūt, rüle; child; long; thin; /ʦH/ for then; /zh/ for measure; /u/ or /ə/ represents /a/ in about, /e/ in taken, /i/ in pencil, /o/ in lemon, and /u/ in circus.

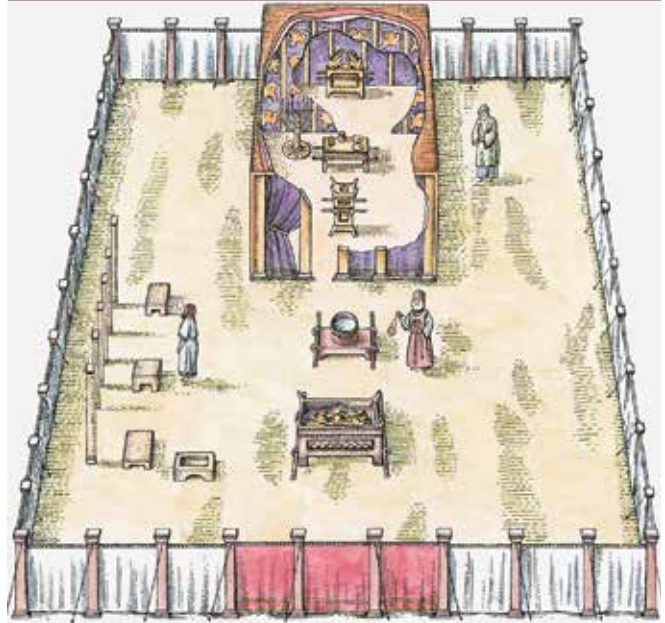
THE MINISTRY OF SAMUEL

During the period of the judges, Israel's **priests** were **corrupt**. Idolatry was widely practiced. In the beginning of 1 Samuel, the evil deeds of Eli's sons are discussed. Eli and his sons were priests, yet they were wicked men. In those dark days of sin in Israel, God raised up Samuel to minister to His people. God used Samuel to direct Israel away from their disobedience.

Samuel's birth. Each year Elkanah (el kae' nuh) and his wife, Hannah (han' uh), went to the house of the Lord in Shiloh to offer **sacrifices** to the Lord. Hannah was sad because she had no children. She prayed to God. In her prayer Hannah asked God for a son. She promised God that, if He would give her a son, she would dedicate her son (give him back) to God.

Our Lord answered Hannah's prayer and gave her and Elkanah a son. She named her son Samuel. *Samuel* means *asked of God*. Hannah was faithful to her promise. When Samuel was old enough to be away from his mother, she took him to the **Tabernacle** in Shiloh. Eli (ē' li) was the high priest at the Tabernacle in Shiloh.

Read 1 Samuel Chapters 1-3



| Tabernacle

Samuel lived in the Tabernacle with Eli and became a helper of Eli and a faithful servant of the Lord.



Complete the following statements.

- 1.1 The mother of Samuel was _____.
- 1.2 Samuel's father was _____.
- 1.3 Each year, Samuel's mother and father went to the Tabernacle in Shiloh to _____.
- 1.4 The tent of meeting where God dwelled and where priests served was called a _____.
- 1.5 Samuel's name means _____.

Answer the following questions using complete sentences.

1.6 Why was Hannah sad when she went to the house of the Lord in Shiloh? _____

1.7 What did Hannah promise the Lord when she prayed at the house of the Lord in Shiloh?

1.8 How was Hannah faithful to the promise she made to the Lord? _____

1.9 What were the spiritual conditions in Israel when Samuel was born? _____

1.10 How were Eli's sons and Samuel different? _____

Samuel's call. God appeared to the young man Samuel at Shiloh and gave him a special call. One night, Samuel heard someone call his name. Thinking that Eli had called, Samuel ran to Eli and said, "Here am I." Eli told Samuel that he had not called. Again Samuel heard his name called, and again he went to Eli and said, "Here am I." When Samuel heard his name called again the third time and went to Eli, Eli understood that the Lord had spoken to Samuel. Eli told Samuel to say, "Speak, Lord, for thy servant heareth," when he heard his name called again.

Samuel followed Eli's instructions. That night, God told Samuel that He would punish Eli and his sons. Eli's sons would be punished because they were wicked. Eli would be punished because he did not correct his sons. Samuel would continue his ministry as a priest. God called him to minister also as a **prophet**.

Samuel's ministry. In the early years of Samuel's life and ministry, he performed priestly duties as Eli's assistant. The Lord had promised, "And I will raise me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in mine [my] heart and in my mind ..." This reference must have been to Samuel. His call came immediately after that promise. Eli recognized that God had called Samuel. He also realized that God would punish him and his sons. Samuel's first prophetic ministry had been God's message of judgment to Eli. All Israel knew that Samuel was established to be prophet of the Lord (1 Samuel 3:20).

Samuel's ministry as a judge in Israel is discussed in 1 Samuel chapter 7. He called the people of Israel back from idolatry to the true God of Israel. The Lord then delivered Israel from the Philistines by the ministry of Samuel. Samuel was the last judge of Israel and the first prophet in Israel. He also had a faithful ministry as a priest.



Map 1 | Where Samuel Was Born and Served God

THE REIGN OF SAUL

In his later years Samuel was approached by the elders of Israel concerning his **successor**. He had made the mistake of appointing his sons as judges over Israel. Samuel's sons did not follow their father's example. They were greedy and dishonest.

The Ammonites were threatening Israel from the east. Wanting to be like other nations around them, the people of Israel requested a king. Samuel was distressed by the elders' request. He thought that the Israelites were rejecting him as their leader. Samuel was assured by the Lord that Israel's request was not a rejection of him, but a rejection of the Lord. God responded to Israel's request. He selected Saul to reign in Israel as king.

The selection of Saul. Saul was from the tribe of Benjamin. He was the son of Kish. In search of his father's stray donkeys, Saul came to Ramah (rā' muh) where Samuel lived. The Lord had told Samuel that the one He had chosen to be king would be sent to him out of the land of Benjamin. When Saul came to Samuel's house, the Lord told Samuel that he was the one selected to become king. Samuel told Saul that God had chosen him to be king in Israel, and he **anointed** Saul with oil.

As he departed from Samuel's house in Ramah, Saul was given three signs by which he would know that God was with him. First, he would meet two men by Rachel's grave. Those men would tell him that his father's stray donkeys had been found. Second, he would meet three men on their way to Bethel. They would be carrying some goats, bread, and drink. The three men would greet Saul and give him two loaves of bread. Third, he would come to a hill where he would meet a group of prophets. The prophets would be prophesying, and Saul would also prophesy. Samuel told Saul that when these signs came to pass, he should go to Gilgal and wait for Samuel.

Read 1 Samuel Chapters 10, 11, and 15



| Saul came to Samuel's house.

Saul was to go to the place of sacrifice at Gilgal, but he was not to offer the sacrifice. He was to wait for the priest of God, Samuel, to offer sacrifices to God—a lesson Saul would need to remember. The new king in Israel would look to God and to God's servant, Samuel, for direction.

God also proved that Saul was His choice as king of Israel by giving Saul a military victory over the Ammonites. The king of the Ammonites and his army surrounded the city of Jabesh-gilead (jab' ish-gil' ē ad).

The men of Jabesh-gilead asked the Ammonites to make an agreement with them. They offered to become servants of the Ammonites. The Ammonites would agree to make this agreement with the men of that city only if they would blind the right eyes of all the men. When Saul heard about the threat to Jabesh-gilead by the Ammonites, he called together a large army from Israel and Judah and defeated the Ammonites. This victory proved to the Israelites that Saul was God's choice as king of Israel.

**Complete the following activities.**

1.21 Explain in detail why Israel wanted a king. _____

1.22 Pretend that you are Saul. You are trying to find your father's donkeys that are lost. You go to the home of the prophet in Israel hoping he can help you find the lost donkeys. The prophet of God tells you that you will become king in Israel—chosen by God. Samuel anoints you with oil and promises signs by which you will know that what he is telling you will surely come to pass. On a separate paper, describe your experience. What did you feel? What were your actions? What did you do next? Share your paper with a friend. Your teacher will evaluate your paper with you.

TEACHER CHECK

_____ initials

_____ date

1.23 List the three signs given to Saul by Samuel.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

1.24 Explain in your own words what Saul was to do at Gilgal. _____

1.25 Discuss Saul's military victory over the Ammonites and its purpose. _____

Complete the following statements.

1.26 Saul was from the tribe of _____ .

1.27 A person who follows another in office or position is his _____ .

1.28 Saul's father was named _____ .

1.29 When Saul visited Samuel, Samuel lived in _____ .

SELF TEST 1

Match the following items (each answer, 2 points).

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|---------|----|----------------------------------|
| 1.01 | _____ | Hannah | a. | Samuel's father |
| 1.02 | _____ | Ramah | b. | where the Tabernacle was located |
| 1.03 | _____ | Samuel | c. | Samuel's mother |
| 1.04 | _____ | Kish | d. | home of Samuel |
| 1.05 | _____ | Agag | e. | priest in Shiloh |
| 1.06 | _____ | Elkanah | f. | Saul's mother |
| 1.07 | _____ | Gilgal | g. | Saul's father |
| 1.08 | _____ | Saul | h. | priest, prophet, judge |
| 1.09 | _____ | Shiloh | i. | king of the Amalekites |
| 1.010 | _____ | Eli | j. | where the people made Saul king |
| | | | k. | Israel's first king |

Complete the following statements (each answer, 4 points).

- 1.011 Riding a mule, Absalom caught his long _____ in a tree.
- 1.012 Absalom killed his half brother, Amnon, for the wrong done to his full sister _____ .
- 1.013 As truth, God's Word does not avoid reporting the _____ of His people.
- 1.014 God would have believers follow the _____ given in His Word.
- 1.015 David's men first entered Jerusalem by way of a _____ .
- 1.016 Like Hebron, the history of Jerusalem went back to _____ .
- 1.017 Hebron was an appropriate city for the capital of _____ .
- 1.018 As king of Israel, David's first major responsibility was the location of a suitable _____ .
- 1.019 David told Nathan that he wanted to build _____ a house in Jerusalem.
- 1.020 David established his kingdom by _____ .



804 N. 2nd Ave. E.
Rock Rapids, IA 51246-1759

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