

SAMUEL'S STORY IN A NUTSHELL

- **The transitional era**
 - From the waning days of the judges (**Judges 21:25**) to the rise of the monarchy (**1 Samuel 8:4–7**).
 - Israel shifting from a tribal confederation to centralized kingship (**1 Samuel 9–10**).
- **Birth and dedication**
 - Hannah's vow and answered prayer (**1 Samuel 1:10–20**).
 - Samuel dedicated and ministering before the LORD (**1 Samuel 1:27–28; 2:11**).
 - Eli's failing priesthood and the decline at Shiloh (**1 Samuel 2:12–17, 22–25**).
- **The calling (1 Samuel 3)**
 - The LORD calls Samuel in the night (**1 Samuel 3:1–10**).
 - "From Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD" (**1 Samuel 3:20**).
 - National recognition of prophetic authority (**1 Samuel 3:19–21**).
- **Judge, priestly figure, prophet**
 - Samuel judging Israel (**1 Samuel 7:15–17**).
 - Offering sacrifices and leading intercession (**1 Samuel 7:9**).
 - Serving as God's prophetic mouthpiece (**1 Samuel 3:21; 7:3–4**).
- **Crisis with the Philistines**
 - The ark taken into battle superstitiously and captured (**1 Samuel 4:1–11**).
 - Later deliverance at Mizpeh through Samuel's intercession (**1 Samuel 7:5–14**).
- **The monarchy controversy**
 - Israel's demand for a king (**1 Samuel 8:4–5**).
 - Samuel's resistance (**1 Samuel 8:6**).
 - God's concession and warnings delivered through Samuel (**1 Samuel 8:7, 10–18**).
- **Anointer of kings (twice)**
 - Saul anointed at God's direction in response to the people's request (**1 Samuel 9:15–17; 10:1**).
 - David anointed by God's initiative after Saul's rejection (**1 Samuel 16:1–13**).
- **Later years and death**
 - Samuel withdraws but continues to confront Saul when necessary (**1 Samuel 15:10–23**).
 - Samuel dies and is mourned by all Israel ("all the Israelites were gathered together, and lamented him") (**1 Samuel 25:1**).

SAMUEL'S PROPHECIES

- **The word to Eli**
 - Judgment announced against Eli's house due to the sins of Hophni and Phinehas (**1 Samuel 2:27–36**).
 - The sentence reaffirmed directly to Samuel in the night vision (**1 Samuel 3:11–14**).
- **National prophetic authority**
 - "The LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground" (**1 Samuel 3:19**).
 - "All Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD" (**1 Samuel 3:20**).
 - Continued revelation at Shiloh (**1 Samuel 3:21**).
- **Warnings about the monarchy**
 - Israel's demand for a king and Samuel's displeasure (**1 Samuel 8:4–6**).
 - The detailed warnings about taxation, conscription, and loss of liberties (**1 Samuel 8:10–18**).
 - God's affirmation that Israel was rejecting Him, not Samuel (**1 Samuel 8:7**).
- **Prophecies concerning Saul**
 - Prediction of Saul's arrival before his anointing (**1 Samuel 9:15–17**).
 - Detailed prophetic signs given after anointing (**1 Samuel 10:1–7**).
 - Rebuke and prophecy of the kingdom being taken from Saul after the unlawful sacrifice (**1 Samuel 13:13–14**).
 - Judgment after the Amalekite failure—"The LORD hath rent the kingdom of Israel from thee this day" (**1 Samuel 15:26–28**).
- **Prophetic role regarding David**
 - The secret anointing of David in Bethlehem (**1 Samuel 16:1–13**).
 - The theological contrast: "man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart" (**1 Samuel 16:7**).
 - The Spirit departing from Saul and resting upon David (**1 Samuel 16:13–14**).
- **Prophetic acts more than words**
 - Samuel's leadership at Mizpeh resulting in Philistine defeat (**1 Samuel 7:5–14**).
 - His circuit judging Israel from year to year (**1 Samuel 7:15–17**).
 - His role as "seer," a title explained in the parenthetical note of **1 Samuel 9:9**.
- **Post-mortem prophecy**
 - Samuel's appearance after death when summoned by the woman at Endor (**1 Samuel 28:11–19**).
 - Prophecy of Saul's defeat and death the next day (**1 Samuel 28:19**).