

# KINGDOM RECLAIMED

SUNDAY AUGUST 17 2025

## TITLE

- The First Book of Samuel describes the transition of leadership in Israel from judges to kings.
- The books of First and Second Samuel were originally one book in the Hebrew Bible, known as the “Book of Samuel” or simply “Samuel.”

## AUTHOR

- The author of First and Second Samuel is anonymous, but Jewish tradition says that it was written by Samuel.
- Samuel may have written the first portion of the book, but his death recorded in First Samuel 25:1 makes it clear that he did not write all of First and Second Samuel.

## DATE AND SETTING

- If Samuel wrote the material in the first twenty-four chapters, he did so soon before his death (c. 1015 b.c.).
- He was born around 1105 b.c., and ministered as a judge and prophet in Israel between about 1067 and 1015 b.c.
- The books of 1 & 2 Samuel end in the last days of David; so they must have been compiled after 971 b.c.
- First Samuel covers the ninety-four-year period from the birth of Samuel to the death of Saul (c. 1105–1101 b.c.).

## THEME AND PURPOSE

- 1 Samuel picks up the story of Israel left off in Judges
- Samuel followed Samson, and he too had to deal with the Philistines since Samson did not accomplish a permanent victory.
- It is true that Israel had no king, but fundamentally, that was because they refused to acknowledge God as their king.
- The real problem was not the lack of a king, but a lack of obedience to God as king.
- “In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit”. You can make up your own morality. You can decide for yourself what is right.

## 1 SAMUEL 1-7

- Narrates the ministry of Samuel during one of the most critical moments of Israel’s history.

**The first section (CH 1–3)** legitimizes Samuel by describing the holy events surrounding his birth and his sensitivity to God’s call during his childhood.

- The emphasis on the righteousness of Samuel and his family is heightened by contrasts with Eli and his wicked sons, the priests of the tabernacle at Shiloh.

**The second section (CH 4–7 )** describes the early wars between Israel and the Philistines and again shows the importance of Samuel’s ministry.

- Ever since Moses had led the nation out of Egypt, the Israelites had been a loosely organized confederation of tribes governed as a theocracy.
- God was their king, and he ruled through designated human leaders
- During the centuries prior to Samuel, the tribes were independent, joining only temporarily for purposes of joint military forays organized and led by divinely appointed judges.
- The narrative emphasizes the devotion and ethical character of Samuel’s parents, which provides a stark contrast to the apostate and degenerate nation of Israel at this time.

### **1 SAMUEL 13:8-9**

8 He waited seven days, the time appointed by Samuel. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and the people were scattering from him. 9 So Saul said, “Bring the burnt offering here to me, and the peace offerings.” And he offered the burnt offering.

### **1 SAMUEL 13:11-13**

11 Samuel said, “What have you done?” And Saul said, “When I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines had mustered at Michmash, 12 I said, ‘Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the favor of the Lord.’ So I forced myself, and offered the burnt offering.” 13 And Samuel said to Saul, “You have done foolishly. You have not kept the command of the Lord your God, with which he commanded you. For then the Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel forever.

\_\_\_\_\_ Everything

Taking \_\_\_\_\_, Shifting **Blame**

Overreacting to \_\_\_\_\_

Insecure leaders make everything about \_\_\_\_\_.

Secure leaders make everything about \_\_\_\_\_.