

1 Samuel - "The Last Judge To First King"

From Whom: Jewish tradition ascribed the writing of "Samuel" to Samuel himself or to Samuel, Nathan, and Gad (based on **1 Chron. 29:29**).

"Now the acts of King David, first and last, indeed they are written in the book of Samuel the seer, in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the book of Gad the seer" - *NKJV*

The consensus is that the unknown author used the journals, notes, and writings of all three, composing the two books during the Exile in Babylon (560-540 B.C.)

To Whom: First and Second Samuel were considered as one book in the earliest Hebrew manuscript and were later divided into the two books we have today. Naturally, the book of 1 Samuel was written as an historical account of Israel's transition from a Theocracy to a Monarchy. It records for Israel, the history of Samuel's life and the life of Saul, Israel's first anointed King.

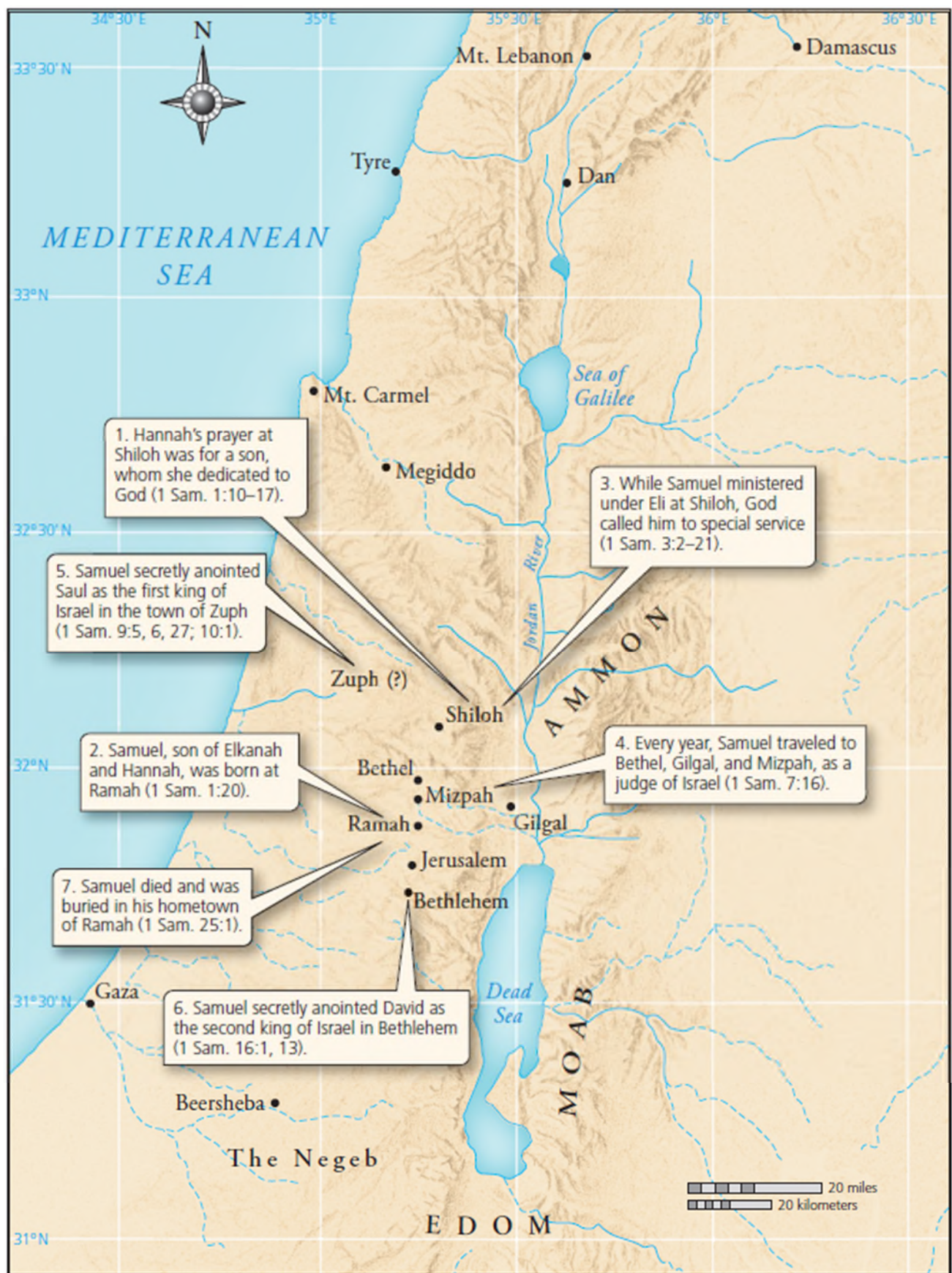
What/ Theme: As stated previously, 1 Samuel showcase's the life of Samuel and the life of Saul as King of Israel. It was written to show Israel how they chose a king but, in the process, they blatantly neglected and abandoned God. A record of the consequences associated with insisting on God's *permissive will*, rather than his perfect will and timing.

Where/ Notable People: Key personalities include Eli, Hannah, Samuel, Saul, Jonathan, and David. The major cities of 1 Samuel are to be found in these central highlands: Shiloh, the residence of Eli and the tabernacle; Ramah, the hometown of Samuel; Gibeah, the headquarters of Saul; Bethlehem, the birthplace of David.

Outline:

- 1) Samuel: Prophet and Judge to Israel (**1:1–7:17**)
 - a) Samuel the Prophet (**1:1–4:1a**)
 - i) The prayer of Hannah (**2:1–10**)
 - ii) The growth of Samuel (**2:11–26**)
 - iii) The Word of the Lord through Samuel (**3:1–4:1a**)
 - b) Samuel the Judge (**4:1b–7:17**)
 - i) The saga of the ark and the death of Eli and his two sons (**4:1b–7:1**)
 - ii) Israel's victory over the Philistines and the judgeship of Samuel (**7:2–17**)
- 2) Saul: First King Over Israel (**8:1–15:35**)

- a) The Rise of Saul to the Kingship (**8:1–12:25**)
 - i) The demand of Israel for a king (**8:1–22**)
 - ii) The process of Saul becoming king (**9:1–11:13**)
- b) The Decline of Saul in the Kingship (**13:1–15:35**)
 - i) The rejection of Saul (**15:1–35**)
- 3) David and Saul: Transfer of the Kingship in Israel (**16:1–31:13**)
 - a) The Introduction of David (**16:1–17:58**)
 - i) The anointing of David (**16:1–13**)
 - ii) David in the court of Saul (**16:14–23**)
 - iii) David, the warrior of the Lord (**17:1–58**)
 - b) David Driven from the Court of Saul (**18:1–20:42**)
 - i) The defense of David by Jonathan and Michal (**19:1–20:42**)
 - c) David's Flight from Saul's Pursuit (**21:1–28:2**)
 - i) Saul's killing of the priests at Nob (**21:1–22:23**)
 - ii) Saul's life spared twice by David (**23:1–26:25**)
 - iii) David's despair and Philistine refuge (**27:1–28:2**)
 - d) The Death of Saul (**28:3–31:13**)
 - i) David's dismissal by the Philistines (**29:1–11**)
 - ii) David's destruction of the Amalekites (**30:1–31**)
 - iii) Saul's final day (**31:1–13**)



1 SAMUEL AT A GLANCE					
Focus	Samuel		Saul		
Reference	1:1 ————— 4:1 ————— 8:1		13:1 ————— 15:10 ————— 31:13		
Division	First Transition Of Leadership: Eli-Samuel	Judgeship Of Samuel	Second Transition Of Leadership: Samuel-Saul	Reign Of Saul	Third Transition Of Leadership: Saul-David
Topic	Decline Of Judges		Rise Of Kings		
	Eli	Samuel	Saul	David	
Location	Canaan				
Time	c. 94 Years				

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