

INTRODUCTION TO 1 & 2 Samuel

WHERE IS IT IN THE BIBLE?

- 7. JUDGES
- 8. RUTH
- 9. **1 SAMUEL**
- 10. **2 SAMUEL**
- 11. 1 KINGS
- 12. 2 KINGS

KEY THEMES

- **God uses people to fulfill His plans.** David is chosen by God to replace Saul as king, even though he was the youngest son of Jesse. God uses David in His plan of salvation not because of who he was, but because he found favor in God’s sight.
- **God’s sovereignty over all.** Hannah’s prayer in 1 Samuel 2 points us toward God’s knowledge over all things and reminds us that God does not work according to the wisdom of this world.
- **God rejects the prideful.** Through the actions of the Philistines and Israelites, all the way to the kingship of Saul, we see God reject pride and desire the nations, and His people, to humbly submit to His authority.
- **God is gracious towards sinful people.** David’s sin in 2 Samuel does not go unnoticed by the Lord, or those around him, but when he is confronted by the prophet Nathan, he repents, and the Lord forgives him (although that does not erase the consequences for his actions).

BOOK BASICS



DATE
960-722 B.C.



TYPE
Narrative



AUTHOR
Unknown

The author of 1 and 2 Samuel is unknown. Some believe that Samuel could be the author, but his death is recorded in 1 Samuel, he couldn’t have written most of these books.

OCCASION

The Israelites had entered the Promised Land and were given instructions to obey the covenant commands that the Lord had given them. However, throughout Judges it is clear that the Israelites failed to do this, and the book ends with no king for Israel and “everyone doing whatever seemed right to him” (Judges 21:25). 1 and 2 Samuel pick up during these dark times and begin to give an answer to the need for wise leadership within Israel.

MESSAGE

In 1 and 2 Samuel, God brings about His purposes through the lives of people while also drawing the reader back toward His kingship over all things and His promise to send a Messiah that would bring blessing to all nations

BASIC STRUCTURE

1 SAMUEL: 31 CHAPTERS | 2 SAMUEL: 24 CHAPTERS

