

Finding the Truth: Understanding the Bible

Lesson 3

Studying the Bible:
Samuel

September 29, 2015

Overall Theme: 1 Samuel

God Exalts the weak and humbles the proud.

- Hannah, humbled by her circumstances, is blessed by God.
- Eli, the high priest, is humbled by God for failing to discipline his sons.
- Saul, Israel's first King, begins as a humble servant exalted by God but is brought low when his humility turns to pride.
- David, a humble Shepherd boy, is exalted to kingship but humbled in his family life for failing to remain faithful to God.

The Samuel Narratives: Chapter 1-8

Historical Setting: transition from ruler by Judges to ruler by King (ca.1100 BC – 970 BC)

Scene 1: 1 Samuel 1:1- 2:11 Birth of Samuel

Scene 2: 2:12-2:26 Comparison of Samuel with Eli's sons

Scene 3: 2:27-36 Prophecy against the House of Eli

Scene 4: 3:1-21 The calling of Samuel

Scene 5: 4:1-7:2 Defeat by the Philistines and capture of the Ark of the Covenant

Scene 6: 7:3-17 Samuel's success as Israel's judge

Scene 7: 8:1-21 Israel's rejection of Samuel and request for a King

Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 1-8

Key Verse: 1 Samuel 2:7 *The LORD sends poverty and wealth; he humbles and he exalts.*

Notes

Time Gaps:

2:11-12, 26-27

3:18-20

7:2-3,12-13

8:1