

"The Story"

"Standing Tall, Falling Hard"

Chapter 10



This chapter introduces us to the desire to have kings like the rest of the nations.

1st and 2nd Samuel were once one book. When the Old Testament was translated into Greek, they were divided into two books . This happened about 250 B.C.

These two books will cover the history of Israel from the birth of Samuel to the time when David's life is drawing to an end.



Once again we are introduced to a woman who was having difficulty in giving birth. This is not the first time we see how God shows His grace in these situations.

Hannah found favor with Elkanah by giving her a double portion when he went to sacrifice at the temple.

Her rival would provoke her in order to irritate her. After several years of this abuse, Hannah prayed to the Lord.

If God would give her a son, she would give him to the Lord, no razor would touch his head.



Eli notices her praying, but believes she is drunk.

When Samuel is born, she reminds Eli who she was and dedicates Samuel to the Lord for a life of service.

God also blesses Hannah and her husband with three more sons and two daughters.

Year after year she would return with her husband with a new robe for her son.



Chapter 1-6 take place at Shiloh where the Ark of the Covenant was kept.

We learn the two sons of Eli were corrupt, and eventually Samuel became corrupt.

Samuel learns from God through a dream the fate of Eli and his family for his sons had blasphemed the Lord, Eli had failed to restrain them.

Then we read about the capture of the Ark by the Philistines, who would regret their actions, eventually returning the Ark.



Just as God had said the two sons of Eli are killed in battle, then upon hearing the news of his sons, Eli fell off his chair and broke his neck and died. He led Israel for forty years.

Eli appears to be more distressed at the loss of the Ark, than he was with the death of his sons.

We learn that Samuel had two sons, who did not follow in the ways of Samuel.

The elders plead with Samuel for a king, since his sons were corrupt.



In Chapters 8-11 of 1st Samuel there is a discussion of kings.

Some passages refer to a prince or leader. These sections are seen as favorable.

Others used King, sometimes favorable and sometimes unfavorably.

GOD ALONE WAS KING!

God's kingship is lifted up throughout Scripture.



Saul is chosen as the first king for Israel.

Samuel anoints Saul privately as king, then at Mizpah Samuel publicly anoints him to be king over Israel.

Consider the demand made upon the men of Jabesh Gilead, to surrender meant that would have their right eye gouged out.

Saul learns of their plight and his anger burns to the point that he assembles an army of 300 men and another 30,000 from Judah.



Interesting account of how Israel finally gets a king.

However, as we end the chapter Saul falls out of favor for two reasons.

- 1. He offered sacrifice when Samuel did not arrive in time to do so prior to battle.
- 2. Saul, after defeating Agag and the Amalekites, did not kill the king nor some of the finest cattle and lambs.

Samuel informs Saul that he has not rules as Samuel or God desired and so he would anoint another to be king. Saul would not go easily.

