

Analysis of

FIRST SAMUEL

"FROM THEOCRACY TO MONARCHY"

The LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them."
(1 Samuel 8:7)

13 Samuel said to Saul, "You have acted foolishly; you have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, for now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. 14 But now your kingdom shall not endure. The LORD has sought out for Himself a man after His own heart, and the Lord has appointed him as ruler over His people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you."
(1 Samuel 13:13-14)

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(1 Samuel 13:13-14)

A1 ISRAEL'S REJECTION OF GOD AS KING 1 - 10

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- C1 The background behind Hannah's bitter barrenness 1:1-8
- C2 The intensity of Hannah's request 1:9-18
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D1 The evil of Eli's sons in regard to the offerings for Yahweh 2:12-17

E1 The evaluation of Eli's sons 2:12

F1 Worthless (lit. "sons of worthlessness")

F2 Not knowing Yahweh ²

E2 The greedy custom of Eli's sons ³ 2:13-14

F1 Sending a servant to get meat from a sacrifice while it was boiling 2:13

F2 Whatever the fork chanced to bring up from the pot was the priest's lot 2:14

F3 Demanding raw meat from the offerers 2:15

F4 Threatening to take meat by force before the fat was burned 2:16

E3 The greatness of their sin 2:17

¹ 2:12 - 4:1a title - prophecies: Samuel is recognized as a prophet (5030 *nabiy'*) in 1 Sam. 3:20. Abraham = first mention of prophet (Gen. 20:7); explanation of prophet = Aaron as Moses' spokesman - Ex. 7:1; the great prophet (Christ) = Deut. 18:18-19; tests for a prophet = Deut. 13:1-3 (orthodoxy), Deut. 18:20-22 (fulfillment of predicted signs).

² 2:12 title: not knowing Yahweh: If someone doesn't know the Lord, their lives tend to be worthless!

³ 2:13-14 title - greedy custom of Eli's sons: The priests' rightful due from a peace offering was the breast and the right thigh (Lev. 7:29-35).

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C1 The protection from Philistine intruders 5:1 - 6:18

D1 The triumph of Yahweh over Dagon 5:1-5

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F2 Their placing it in the house of Dagon 5:2

E2 The submission of Dagon 5:3

F1 The time: Early the next morning

F2 The discovery: Prostration -- Dagon had fallen on his face to the ground before the ark of Yahweh

E3 The humiliation of Dagon 5:4-5

F1 The time 5:4

F2 The discovery

G1 Prostration

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- D2 The triumph of Yahweh over the Philistines 5:6-12
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 - H2 Hitch up two cows never before yoked
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 - F3 The leaving of 200 exhausted troops at the brook Besor 30:9-10
 - F4 The reviving of an abandoned Egyptian who turns informant on the Amalekites 30:11-15
 - F5 David's slaughter of the Amalekites and recapture of the Ziklagites and property 30:16-20

⁴ 29:1-5 title - Philistine commanders' refusal: David, going into battle with the Philistine army against Israel, would undoubtedly have come to Israel's aid, turning against the Philistine troops.

⁵ 29:6-11 title - Achish's apologetic sending away of David: This act may have been God's way of ensuring Israel's defeat and Saul's death.

- F6 David's sharing of the spoil with the 200 who stayed by the baggage at Besor 30:21-25
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Analysis of 1 SAMUEL

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