ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

31

HISTORY

TYPE



The Book of 1 Samuel records Israel's history from the birth of the prophet Samuel up through David's trials before he became king. It ends with the death of King Saul, which opens the door for David to ascend to the throne. The biography of Samuel, story of David and Goliath, and the biography of King Saul are included.









1150 BC-1000 BC

Samuel, Nathan, Gad, and an unknown scribe who served as compiler

THE BIRTH AND
LIFE OF SAMUEL
THROUGH THE
FINAL JUDGE

2 SAUL BECOMES KING

KING SAUL
CONTINUES TO
REIGN AND DAVID
FLEES

4

THE DEATH OF KING SAUL

1 SAMUEL 1—8

Hannah prays for a child and is blessed with Samuel. She dedicates him to the Lord and Samuel is brought up by priests. He is called by the Lord and ministers to Israel. Israel asks for a king instead of judges. Samuel warns of the nature of kings and the Lord consents to give Israel a king.

1 SAMUEL 9—16

Saul is anointed king.
Saul is blessed as king but eventually loses power as he forgets to follow the commandments of the Lord. Because of Saul's wickedness, David is anointed to become the next king, years before he actually assumes power.

1 SAMUEL 17—27

David slays Goliath and is honored by the people. Saul becomes very jealous and tries to kill David. David then flees for a period of seven years, and although he has the opportunity to kill Saul twice, he refuses. The prophet Samuel dies.

1 SAMUEL 28—31

Saul contacts the witch of Endor, who serves as a medium to contact the dead Samuel. She foretells of Saul's death and the defeat of Israel by the Philistines. Saul dies in battle as predicted, along with his two sons.

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

10

24

HISTORY



Initially, 1 and 2 Samuel were combined, so 2 Samuel is a continuation of 1 Samuel. It begins with David's seven years as king and finishes with the end of his life, having served as king from age 30 to 70.







DAVID NEARS KINGSHIP

DAVID REIGNS FROM JERUSALEM

3

TROUBLE IN THE HOUSE

4

EVEN MORE BLOODSHED

2

END OF DAVID'S LIFE AND A FINAL TALE

2 SAMUEL 1-5

David is crowned king of Judah, but Saul's son still rules the rest of Israel. The houses of David and Saul battle for 6-7 years as Saul's house weakens and David's house receives strength.

2 SAMUEL 6-10

David takes Jerusalem from the Jebusites and the Ark of the Covenant is brought to Jerusalem. David dances before the Lord, offers a solemn prayer, and shows kindness to Jonathan's son.

2 SAMUEL 11-19

David's kingship is filled with family difficulties. He commits adultery with Bathsheba, and his daughter Tamar is raped by his son Amnon, who is then killed by Absalom. Absalom later betrays David and is killed.

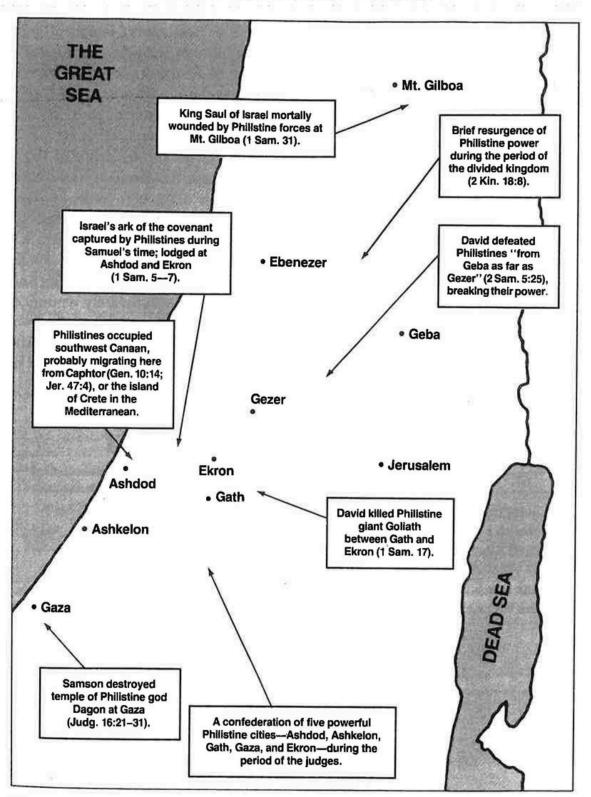
2 SAMUEL 20-21

David has conflicts with other nations. He stops the rebellion of Sheba and delivers seven of Saul's sons to the Gibeonites, who die as payment for their father's sins.

2 SAMUEL 22-24

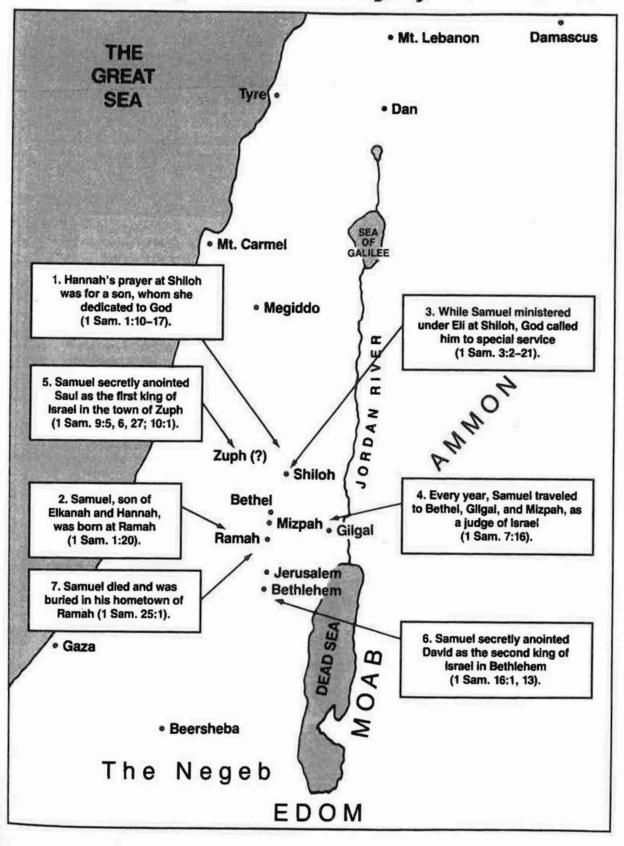
David writes a famous psalm and records many military heroes and their deeds. He then sins, showing a lack of faith, by taking a census of his military, and repents.

The Philistine Threat

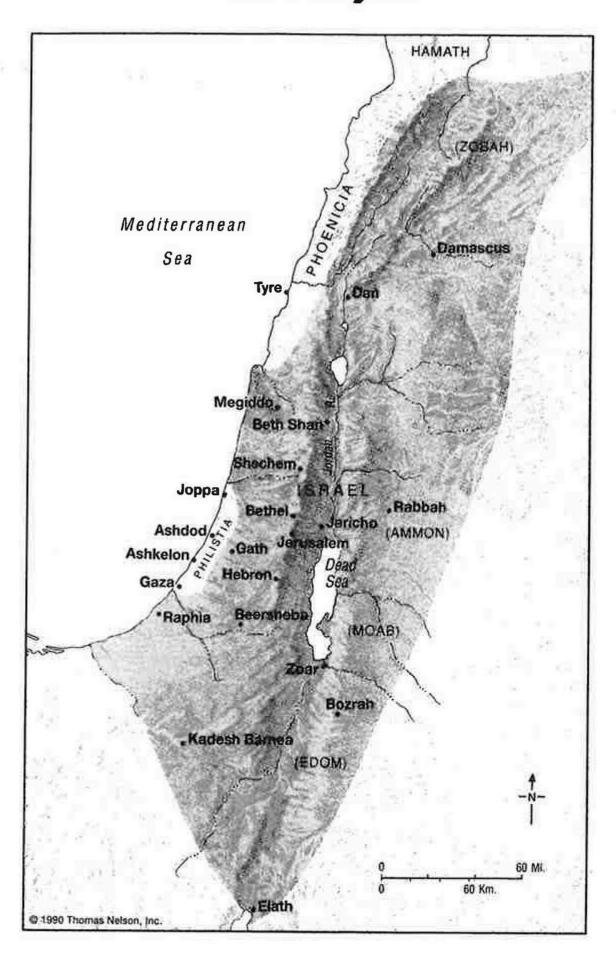


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The Life and Ministry of Samuel



David's Kingdom



The City of David

