

## The Leader We Need 1 Samuel: 1:1-2

### INTRODUCTION

Please turn in your Bible to 1 Samuel 1:1-2. We begin this morning to study **1 Samuel**. In 1 Corinthians 10:11 Paul says "*These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us...*" With these words, Paul indicates that we have much to learn from the Old Testament.

1 Samuel is a book of history. But not any old history, it is truly part of His Story. It is the history of the people of God from about 1050 - 970 BC. **We are not told who wrote the book. What is almost certain is that the author was more of a compiler than a true author.** Long after the events the author gathered the various recorded events and laid them out in the book we have here today. At first 1 & 2 Samuel were one book. It seems that it was split into two books about 200 years before the time of Jesus when the book was translated into Greek. Greek takes up a lot more room than Hebrew and two scrolls were needed, hence two books.

1 Samuel is not a fictional tale, but a true historical narrative. These people lived on our earth, and these events happened in our world. In this book we will read the real-life stories of Hannah and Elkanah, Peninnah and Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, Samuel and Saul, David, and others. Each of them a human being and each of them therefore must deal with God.

So, **ultimately these are stories about God.** These are stories about a world in which God acts, judges, and saves. As God interacts with these various characters we see His character.

**Big picture take on leadership in 1 Samuel: A Tale of Three Leaders.** 1 Samuel gives us a portrait of three leaders, each who teaches us something profound about the kind of leader we should follow, tend to choose and ultimately need.

I. \_\_\_\_\_: we need leaders who are \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_! we're drawn to \_\_\_\_\_ leaders,  
not \_\_\_\_\_ ones

III. \_\_\_\_\_: we ultimately need a leader who will  
\_\_\_\_\_ us

**David is the king who went to battle on behalf of his people and delivered them.**

This is what we need to **realize...we're not David in the story. We're the people who need to be rescued. We need someone to go to battle for us. We need a deliverer. That's the point of the story.** David acts as a substitute for his people. He offers his life and goes in weakness and wins a great victory for his people.

Two thousand plus years ago, a better king entered Jerusalem with the purpose of offering His life. God sent the ultimate David, Jesus Christ. **He didn't save us just in spite of His weakness but through His weakness.** He didn't just save us from physical death like David did but from eternal death.

**The Lord Jesus didn't save us like David did at the \_\_\_\_\_ of his life, but at the \_\_\_\_\_ of His life.**

## CONCLUSION

What can we take with us this morning? As we launch a new study of 1 Samuel, we remember that although the book's narrative took place thousands of years ago, it is included in the Bible for our instruction and encouragement. Beginning with barren, brokenhearted Hannah, this story introduces us to ordinary people with real aspirations, fears, and failures who are helpless and hopeless unless God does something.

- **1 Samuel will show us the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's story**
- **1 Samuel will \_\_\_\_\_ us of the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin**
- **1 Samuel will \_\_\_\_\_ us who is really \_\_\_\_\_**

If the flaw of Saul is his failure to obey, the flaw of the people of Israel is their failure to submit.

**By the time we are done in this book, my prayer is we learn to see that, in Jesus, we have a King who submitted to the unjust will of the people to save them by submitting to the perfect will of God.** If Christ is our King, we get what we want and what we need. He is the true King: the storyteller and the story, the servant and the master, the obedient son, and the conquering warrior.

**In 1 Samuel, let's behold the King of Kings.**