

SYLLABUS FOR FIRST SAMUEL BIBLE STUDY

4/5 Read Chapters 1-6

We will concentrate on

- Hannah and her prayer (1:10-13)
- Hannah and her song (2:1-10)
- Priesthood (2:27-36)
- Roles of Samuel
- Ark of the covenant

Any similarities of the Song of Hannah to other biblical texts?

4/12 Read Chapters 7-15

We will concentrate on

- O.T. formula: Israel cries out \longrightarrow Yahweh answers
- Samuel as Judge and Priest
- "Give us a king"
- Anointing in the Hebrew bible
- "Holy war" ideology

How does Samuel serve as a transition between the era of the judges and that of Israel's kings?

4/19 Read Chapters 16-22

We will concentrate on:

- Appearance vs. heart
- Jonathan's relationship with David
- Saul's problem with oaths
- "Is Saul among the prophets?"
- David befriends the marginalized

Does following the letter of the law work well for Saul?

4/26 Read Chapters 23-31

We will concentrate on:

- different oral (and written) traditions
- Saul's and Jonathan's concern for their descendants
- the role of women: Hannah, Michal and Abigail
- David's deceptions

What was Saul's primary fault?

Bibliography:

Brueggemann, W.; Interpretation, *First and Second Samuel*

Magennis, F.; New Collegeville Bible Commentary, *First and Second Samuel*

Peterson, E.; Westminster Bible Companion, *First and Second Samuel*

Klein, Ralph W.; *Word Biblical Commentary: 1 Samuel*, 2nd edition

