

## Old Testament Survey Lesson Twelve

### Introduction

Today—study remains inside the historical books

- History of God’s people and covenant relationship with God from conquering Canaan to post-exile and return to the land.
- Political and spiritual shift—judgeship to kingship
- Rebellion and idolatry of the period of the judges will bring an end to the Elide priesthood

### I. Ruth

#### Summary of Ruth

Ruth is a story of God’s redemptive grace and mercy in the midst of political and spiritual turmoil.

- The message of redemption is extended to EVERY nation.
- The protection of the Seed is found in the midst of this narrative (Ruth 4)

#### A. About Ruth

1. Context of the narrative: “In the days when the judges ruled Israel”
2. Authorship: Tradition—Samuel
3. Canonization of Ruth
  - a. Septuagint and Christian Canon—Between Judges and Samuel
  - b. Jewish Canon—Third section= writings
  - c. Between Judges and Samuel highlights the kingship of David

***In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes. Judges 21:25 NKJV***

***Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David. Ruth 4:22 NKJV***

- Only book whose last word is a name

1 Samuel 31:1-3

4. Moabite/Israelite disconnect
  - a. Moab’s origin: incestuous relationship between drunken father and firstborn daughter (Genesis 19:30-37)

*This material is copyrighted. Its use in the local church or in any other setting as a teaching tool or ministry presentation requires written permission from the author.*

- b. Moabites were excluded from assembling with Israel

***"An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter the assembly of the Lord; even to the tenth generation none of his descendants shall enter the assembly of the Lord forever, 4 because they did not meet you with bread and water on the road when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you. 5 Nevertheless the Lord your God would not listen to Balaam, but the Lord your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the Lord your God loves you. 6 You shall not seek their peace nor their prosperity all your days forever. Deuteronomy 23:3-6 NKJV***

— Numbers 25—Israel participates with women of Moab in sinful act

## B. Structure of Ruth

### 1. Geographical Structure

- a. Bethlehem—Moab—Bethlehem (Chapter 1)
- b. Field of Boaz (Chapter 2)
- c. Threshing floor with Boaz (Chapter 3)
- d. City gate of Bethlehem (Chapter 4)

### 2. Thematic Structure

- a. Famine, Barrenness, Isolation
- b. Plenty, Fruitfulness, Community

## C. Content of Ruth

### 1. Chapter One

- a. Famine in Bethlehem (House of Bread)
- b. Journey to Moab
- c. Death: Elimelech, Mahlon, Kilion
- d. Ruth and Orpah
- e. Ruth commits to stay with Naomi—Moabite returns to Bethlehem

***But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave you, Or to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God. 17 Where you die, I will die, And there will I be buried. The Lord do so to me, and more also, If anything but death parts you and me." 18 When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she stopped speaking to her. Ruth 1:16-18 NKJV***

### 2. Chapter Two

- a. Ruth gleans in the field of Boaz (falls to ground)

*This material is copyrighted. Its use in the local church or in any other setting as a teaching tool or ministry presentation requires written permission from the author.*

***'When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest. 10 And you shall not glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather every grape of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger: I am the Lord your God. Leviticus 19:9-10 NKJV***

- b. “As it happened” (2:3)—in the field of Boaz a relative of Elimelech

*“Hidden, yet providential, hand of God that directs the movement of the Moabite widow” (Hamilton)*

- c. Boaz encourages Ruth to remain
- d. Boaz is aware of Ruth’s faithfulness to Naomi
- e. Naomi references Boaz as “one of our nearest kin”

### 3. Chapter Three

- a. Naomi’s plan—send Ruth to Boaz
- b. Ruth and Boaz at the threshing floor
- c. Ruth returns to Naomi with the understanding that Boaz will take care of everything

### 4. Chapter Four

- a. Boaz at the city gate
- b. Closer redeemer refuses—may not want to sacrifice own inheritance by taking Ruth (Levirate Laws)
- c. Boaz marries Ruth
- d. Genealogy: David
- e. Obed picture of Christ: Special birth circumstances, blessing: restore life, elevation of mother, name: Obed=servant anticipates David—anointed servant of Yahweh and Isaianic servant

Why is she included in the genealogy of Jesus?

*“All people, Jew and non-Jew alike, are welcomed in Messiah’s kingdom, a kingdom over which Jesus alone is King.” (Hamilton)*

\*Shapes our understanding of immigration in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

\*Universality of the gospel message

\*Mystery of the gospel story

## Final Notes:

1. In the midst of political and spiritual chaos, God is often—in His providence—working to establish His plan of redemption and restoration.
2. The process of spiritual maturity is just that—a process—that requires a complete surrender and obedience to God.
3. Even in our sinfulness, God raised up a Savior—His Son—to free us from the bondage of sin.
4. Even in the sin cycle of Judges, God protected His promise of a Seed, which has its roots in a Moabite woman.
5. Failure to remember the faithfulness and goodness of God and His wonderful deeds can create an ignorant and disobedient generation.

Samuel ushers in significant transition and changes

- 1) Israel's confederacy (Judges) to Monarchy (King)
- 2) Charismatic age (visions/dreams) to prophetic era
- 3) Hierarchical priests to lay prophetic leaders

***Therefore the Lord God of Israel says: 'I said indeed that your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever.' But now the Lord says: 'Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed. 31 Behold, the days are coming that I will cut off your arm and the arm of your father's house, so that there will not be an old man in your house. 32 And you will see an enemy in My dwelling place, despite all the good which God does for Israel. And there shall not be an old man in your house forever. 33 But any of your men whom I do not cut off from My altar shall consume your eyes and grieve your heart. And all the descendants of your house shall die in the flower of their age. 34 Now this shall be a sign to you that will come upon your two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas: in one day they shall die, both of them. 35 Then I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who shall do according to what is in My heart and in My mind. I will build him a sure house, and he shall walk before My anointed forever. 36 And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left in your house will come and bow down to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and say, "Please, put me in one of the priestly positions, that I may eat a piece of bread."'" 3:1 Now the boy Samuel ministered to the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no widespread revelation. 1 Samuel 2:30-3:1 NKJV***

Three key players—Samuel, Saul, and David

## II. About the Book of Samuel

### A. Authorship

#### 1. Babylonian Talmud—Samuel

*Now the acts of King David, first and last, indeed they are written in the book of Samuel the seer, in the book of Nathan the prophet, and in the book of Gad the seer. 1 Chronicles 29:29 NKJV*

#### 2. Internal evidence—Samuel's death mentioned twice

##### a. Final speech

*Now Samuel said to all Israel: "Indeed I have heeded your voice in all that you said to me, and have made a king over you. 2 And now here is the king, walking before you; and I am old and grayheaded, and look, my sons are with you. I have walked before you from my childhood to this day. 1 Samuel 12:1-2 NKJV*

##### b. Death notice

*Then Samuel died; and the Israelites gathered together and lamented for him, and buried him at his home in Ramah. And David arose and went down to the Wilderness of Paran. 1 Samuel 25:1 NKJV*

#### 3. Anonymous authorship

NOTE: Samuel's primary connection was not authorship. Instead it was his spiritual influence over several generations.

*Then the Lord said to me, "Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me, My mind would not be favorable toward this people. Cast them out of My sight, and let them go forth. Jeremiah 15:1 NKJV*

### B. Structure

#### 1. Division into two books—1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel

- a. Early in the Christian era
- b. Septuagint (GK translation of Hebrew Bible) considered Samuel and Kings as one unified composition—the Book of Kingdoms: Kingdoms Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta
- c. Latin Vulgate follows LXX

- “Kingdoms” to “Kings”
- Roman numerals vs. letter: I, II, III, IV, Kings
- Still followed by some Roman Catholic Bibles

*This material is copyrighted. Its use in the local church or in any other setting as a teaching tool or ministry presentation requires written permission from the author.*

d. Hebrew manuscript—1400's AD

- Divided Samuel into two books
- Adopted by Bomberg Bible 1517 and all Protestant Bibles

e. Hebrew Canon—Samuel (one book)

2. Outlines of Samuel

a. Combined book (5 parts)

- Israel's need for a king (1 Samuel 1-7)

***In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes. Judges 21:25 NKJV***

- The reign of Saul (1 Samuel 8-15)

***Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and said: "Is it not because the Lord has anointed you commander over His inheritance? 1 Samuel 10:1 NKJV***

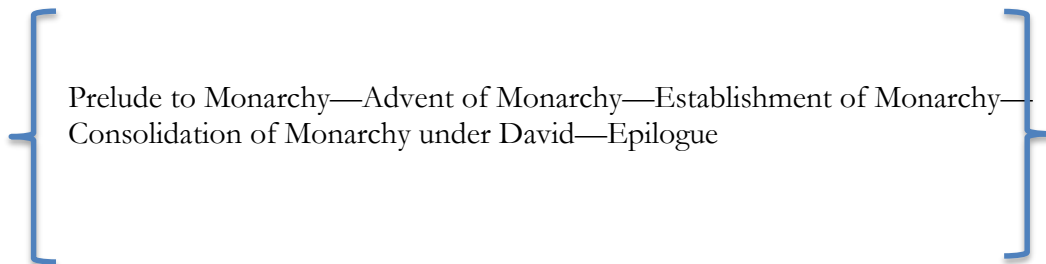
- The rise of David (1 Samuel 16-2 Samuel 4)

***Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah. 1 Samuel 16:13 NKJV***

- The reign of David (2 Samuel 5-20)

***Therefore all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord. And they anointed David king over Israel. 2 Samuel 5:3 NKJV***

- Epilogue related to David's reign (2 Samuel 21-24)



- b. Book of 1 Samuel
  - Period of transition (1-7)—Samuel
  - Call for a King (8-12)—Rise of Saul
  - Loss of King Saul (13-15)—Fall of Saul
  - Rise of David (16-31)—David on the run
- c. Division based on human pairs
  - Samuel and Eli: Prophet vs. Priest (1-7)
  - Samuel and Saul: Prophet vs. King (8-15)
  - Saul and David: King vs. Successor (16-31)

### III. About Samuel

#### A. Family heritage of Samuel

##### 1. Tribal Discrepancy

Is Samuel from the laity or clerical tribe?

***Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim Zophim, of the mountains of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. 1 Samuel 1:1 NKJV***

- Ephraim is one of the laic tribes

***Eliab his son, Jeroham his son, and Elkanah his son. 28 The sons of Samuel were Joel the firstborn, and Abijah the second. 1 Chronicles 6:27-28 NKJV***

- Samuel listed in Levite clan
  - a. Tribal heritage (Ephraim) indicates a lay person
  - b. Life purpose and function (Nazirite devoted to Sanctuary service) indicated by later genealogists as a Levite

##### 2. Ministry Role in Israel

###### a. Prophet

*So Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. 20 And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel had been established as a prophet of the Lord. 21 Then the Lord appeared again in Shiloh. For the Lord revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the Lord. 4 And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines, and encamped beside Ebenezer; and the Philistines encamped in Aphek. 1 Samuel 3:19-4:1 NKJV*

— Spoke God's messages to the people of Israel

b. Judge

*And Samuel said, "Gather all Israel to Mizpah, and I will pray to the Lord for you." 6 So they gathered together at Mizpah, drew water, and poured it out before the Lord. And they fasted that day, and said there, "We have sinned against the Lord." And Samuel judged the children of Israel at Mizpah. 1 Samuel 7:5-6 NKJV*

— Victory and peace against the Philistines

c. Priest

*You shall go down before me to Gilgal; and surely I will come down to you to offer burnt offerings and make sacrifices of peace offerings. Seven days you shall wait, till I come to you and show you what you should do." 1 Samuel 10:8 NKJV*

— Offer sacrifices and burnt offerings

d. Kingmaker

*Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and said: "Is it not because the Lord has anointed you commander over His inheritance?" 1 Samuel 10:1 NKJV*

*Then Samuel explained to the people the behavior of royalty, and wrote it in a book and laid it up before the Lord. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house. 1 Samuel 10:25 NKJV*

*So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the Lord in Gilgal. There they made sacrifices of peace offerings before the Lord, and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly. 1 Samuel 11:15 NKJV*

*Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah. 1 Samuel 16:13 NKJV*



## Context of Samuel's Rise and Leadership

— Israel spiritually bankrupt

*In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes. Judges 21:25 NKJV*

*So it was that the ark remained in Kirjath Jearim a long time; it was there twenty years. And all the house of Israel lamented after the Lord. 1 Samuel 7:2 NKJV*

*Now the sons of Eli were corrupt; they did not know the Lord. 1 Samuel 2:12 NKJV*

*Then she named the child Ichabod, saying, "The glory has departed from Israel!" because the ark of God had been captured and because of her father-in-law and her husband. 22 And she said, "The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured." 1 Samuel 4:21-22 NKJV*

— Politically Divided

*Why do you kick at My sacrifice and My offering which I have commanded in My dwelling place, and honor your sons more than Me, to make yourselves fat with the best of all the offerings of Israel My people?' 1 Samuel 2:29 NKJV*

*And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines, and encamped beside Ebenezer; and the Philistines encamped in Aphek. 1 Samuel 4:1 NKJV*

## **IV. Content of First Samuel**

### A. Samuel and Eli (1-7)

— Prophet vs. Priest

1. Elkanah and Hannah
  - a. Hannah's bareness
  - b. Rivalry with Peninnah
  - c. Questioning of Elkanah—"Am I not good enough?"
  - d. Misunderstanding of Eli
2. Hannah's prayer for a son
  - a. Asked for a son
  - b. Promised to return as a gift

3. Birth of Samuel
4. Dedicated to temple service
5. Hannah's song of Thanksgiving
6. Contrast between Samuel and Eli's son

***Therefore the sin of the young men was very great before the Lord, for men abhorred the offering of the Lord. 18 But Samuel ministered before the Lord, even as a child, wearing a linen ephod. 1 Samuel 2:17-18 NKJV***

NOTE: Samuel is growing in grace while the sons of Eli are growing in sin

NOTE: Corruption and failure even plagued the priesthood—those representing God to the people

7. Samuel's call (3)
  - a. Call comes while he is serving the Lord in the Sanctuary
  - b. Never heard the audible voice of the Lord

APPLICATION: Hearing and discerning the voice of God is not simple and may require the guidance of a faithful follower of God.

NOTE: Reflects to some degree my call into the ministry

8. Samuel's spiritual leadership

***So Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. 20 And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel had been established as a prophet of the Lord. 21 Then the Lord appeared again in Shiloh. For the Lord revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the Lord. 4 And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines, and encamped beside Ebenezer; and the Philistines encamped in Aphek. 1 Samuel 3:19-4:1 NKJV***

9. Philistines capture the ark
  - a. Ark stolen by Philistines
  - b. Hophni, Phineas, and Eli die
  - c. Movement of ark among the Philistine camp (Dagon, tumors)
  - d. Ark returned to Kirath-Jearim—20 years

10. Spiritual renewal of Israelite camp

***Then Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, "If you return to the Lord with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths from among you, and prepare your hearts for the Lord, and serve Him only; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines." 4 So the children of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtoreths, and served the Lord only. 1 Samuel 7:3-4 NKJV***

B. Samuel and Saul (8-15)

— Prophet vs. King

1. Israel asks for a King (8)

- a. Kingship has been in the minds of Israel since back in the days of Gideon

***Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, "Rule over us, both you and your son, and your grandson also; for you have delivered us from the hand of Midian." Judges 8:22 NKJV***

- b. Kingship was even noted in the Pentateuch

***Also God said to him: "I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body. Genesis 35:11 NKJV***

***"When you come to the land which the Lord your God is giving you, and possess it and dwell in it, and say, 'I will set a king over me like all the nations that are around me,' 15 you shall surely set a king over you whom the Lord your God chooses; one from among your brethren you shall set as king over you; you may not set a foreigner over you, who is not your brother. 16 But he shall not multiply horses for himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt to multiply horses, for the Lord has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.' 17 Neither shall he multiply wives for himself, lest his heart turn away; nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold for himself. 18 "Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book, from the one before the priests, the Levites. 19 And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, 20 that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel. Deuteronomy 17:14-20 NKJV***

- c. Motivation: Samuel's age and delinquent judge sons
- d. Desire to be like other nations

NOTE: Israel's problem was not structural/external it was internal and spiritual!

2. Saul anointed first king of Israel (9-10)
  - a. Searching for father's donkeys
  - b. Servant aware of Samuel's assistance
  - c. Benjamite (near demise (Judges 19-21)
  - d. Samuel anoints Saul as ruler

***Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and said: "Is it not because the Lord has anointed you commander over His inheritance? 1 Samuel 10:1 NKJV***

- e. Pronounced King among the people at Mizpah

***And Samuel said to all the people, "Do you see him whom the Lord has chosen, that there is no one like him among all the people?" So all the people shouted and said, "Long live the king!" 1 Samuel 10:24 NKJV***

3. Saul's military victory (11)

***So it was, on the next day, that Saul put the people in three companies; and they came into the midst of the camp in the morning watch, and killed Ammonites until the heat of the day. And it happened that those who survived were scattered, so that no two of them were left together. 1 Samuel 10:11 NKJV***

4. Military victory and spiritual failure (13)
  - a. Did not wait for Samuel
  - b. Offerings on own (army dwindling)

NOTE: Abraham and Hagar

- c. New King in mind

***But now your kingdom shall not continue. The Lord has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you." 1 Samuel 13:14 NKJV***

5. Saul and Jonathan (14)
  - a. Jonathan acts against the Philistines independent of Saul
  - b. Saul calls for a fast
  - c. Jonathan—unaware of the fast, eats honey
  - d. His being unaware of the oath and the intervention of the people kept him alive

*This material is copyrighted. Its use in the local church or in any other setting as a teaching tool or ministry presentation requires written permission from the author.*

6. Saul's continued disobedience

a. Instruction: completely destroy

***Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and nursing child, ox and sheep, camel and donkey." 1 Samuel 15:3 NKJV***

b. Saul's disobedience

***But Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep, the oxen, the fatlings, the lambs, and all that was good, and were unwilling to utterly destroy them. But everything despised and worthless, that they utterly destroyed. 1 Samuel 15:3 NKJV***

c. Lord rejects Saul

***Now the word of the Lord came to Samuel, saying, 11 "I greatly regret that I have set up Saul as king, for he has turned back from following Me, and has not performed My commandments." And it grieved Samuel, and he cried out to the Lord all night. 1 Samuel 15:10-11 NKJV***

d. Saul's plea

***And Samuel went no more to see Saul until the day of his death. Nevertheless Samuel mourned for Saul, and the Lord regretted that He had made Saul king over Israel. 1 Samuel 15:35 NKJV***

C. Saul and David (16-31)

— King vs. Successor

1. David anointed King (16)

***Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah. 1 Samuel 16:13 NKJV***

2. David serves in Saul's court

3. David and Goliath (17)

PURPOSE: World will know there is a God (1 Samuel 17:46)

#### 4. Saul's jealousy

***So the women sang as they danced, and said: "Saul has slain his thousands, And David his ten thousands." 8 Then Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?" 9 So Saul eyed David from that day forward. 1 Samuel 18:7-9 NKJV***

#### 5. Saul vs. David

##### a. Kill attempt #1—Servants and Jonathan commanded to assassinate David.

- Jonathan saves David (hide in field)
- Michael saves David (escape window)

##### b. David and Jonathan's plan

##### c. David on the run

- Nob—Ahimelech, the Priest (sword of Goliath)
- Gath—King Achish (pretend to be insane)
- Cave of Adullam
- Forest of Hereth-Judah
- Keilah-attacked Philistine
- Strongholds of wilderness and hill country of Ziph
- Wilderness of Maon
- Strongholds of En-gedi
- Cave-David spares Saul's life
- Nabal-refuses to share provisions, wife Abigail secretly goes to David with provisions
- Nabal dies, David married Abigail
- David spares Saul's life again

***But David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him; for who can stretch out his hand against the Lord's anointed, and be guiltless?" 10 David said furthermore, "As the Lord lives, the Lord shall strike him, or his day shall come to die, or he shall go out to battle and perish. 11 The Lord forbid that I should stretch out my hand against the Lord's anointed. But please, take now the spear and the jug of water that are by his head, and let us go." 1 Samuel 26:9-11 NKJV***

- David joined Philistines to hide from Saul (27)

#### 6. Saul's conclusion

##### a. Turns to medium at Endor (disguised)—Gilboa to Endor—desires contact with dead (Samuel)-(28)

*This material is copyrighted. Its use in the local church or in any other setting as a teaching tool or ministry presentation requires written permission from the author.*

- b. Saul's dynasty over

***Moreover the Lord will also deliver Israel with you into the hand of the Philistines. And tomorrow you and your sons will be with me. The Lord will also deliver the army of Israel into the hand of the Philistines." 1 Samuel 28:19 NKJV***

- c. Philistines let David off the hook of fighting against Israel (29)

NOTE:--David returning to Ziklag discovered it had been razed and people abducted—strengthened himself in the Lord

\*Godly response can produce Godly results

NOTE: Saul consulted a medium

- d. David slaughters Amalekites
- e. Saul losing battle in the north at Mt. Gilboa against the Philistines
- f. Saul wants armor bearer to kill him—he refuses like David
- g. Saul falls on his own sword (31:4)

NOTE: David's minor battle receives more attention

## **V. Saul in 1 Chronicles**

- A. Only one chapter to Saul—Chapter 10 (Saul's death)
- B. Reason for Saul's death

***So Saul died for his unfaithfulness which he had committed against the Lord, because he did not keep the word of the Lord, and also because he consulted a medium for guidance. 1 Chronicles 10:13 NKJV***

## **TRANSITION**

With Saul's death, the route is paved for David to take the throne.