

Through the Bible Course

**December 15, 1946**

**1 Samuel**

The Reverend Dr. Girard Lowe

Key Word: Kingdom

Key Verse: 8:5

Purpose: To record in Israel's history the transition from rule of God as King to earthly kings. The last of the judges and the first of the kings.

I. History of Samuel as Restorer of Israel – chapters 1-7

1. Samuel's birth and early life – chapters 1-3
  - a. Hannah asks God for Samuel – 1:1-19
  - b. Samuel given of God – 1:20-23
  - c. Samuel dedicated to God – 1:24-28
  - d. Trained for service to God – chapter 2
  - e. Chosen as servant of Lord – chapter 3
    - i. Becomes first prophet as official in government – vs. 20
2. Decline of the priesthood and rise of the prophet – chapters 4-7
  - a. Ark captured – chapter 3
  - b. Ark becomes curse to Philistines – chapter 5
    - i. Blessing of presence of God depends upon obedience
  - c. Ark returned to Israel – chapters 6-7

II. Saul First King of Israel – chapters 8-15

1. Israel rejects God and demands a king – chapter 8
  - a. God wanted his people to be different, but they wanted to be just like others – 8:5,20
2. Saul chosen and anointed – chapters 9-10
  - a. Because of attractive qualities as natural man
3. Saul's victory over Philistines – chapter 11
4. Proclamation of kingdom – chapter 12
5. Saul's disobedience and rejection – chapters 13-15

III. Decline of Saul – Rise of David – chapters 16-31

1. Choice of David – chapter 16
  - a. Chosen because of what was in his heart – 16:7
2. David's victory over Goliath – chapter 17
3. Love covenant between Jonathan and David – chapter 18
4. Saul drives David away – 19-27
  - a. Jonathan protects David, but (vs. 42) refused to go into exile with him – chapter 20

- b. David gathers followers in exile – chapter 22
- c. David in exile – chapters 23-27
- 5. David among Israel's enemies, but (chapter 29) providentially prevented from fighting against Israel – chapters 27-29
- 6. Saul's death – chapter 30

Note: Once again we see the failure of human efforts. God rejects Saul and chooses David, a man after his own heart, to start again.