### MONARCHY IN ISRAEL

# I & II SAMUEL (INTRODUCTION)

#### I. Title (SAMUEL)

- **The book is named after Samuel, the first major character of the book.**
- **Only first 15 chapters of book of I Samuel speaks of Samuel.**
- **❖** Till 15<sup>th</sup> century A.D. in its *Hebrew* original the book of Samuel was one book comprising I & II Samuel.
- \*At the time of Greek translation in the 2-3 century B.C. Samuel was divided into 2 parts and was named *I & II Samuel*, instead of *Samuel* as one book.
- **❖** Going in line with the Greek translation the *Vulgate* also called it *I* & *II Samuel*.

#### II. AUTHORSHIP (SAMUEL)

- 1) The author is anonymous.
- 2) Talmud (Baba Bertha 14b) proposed Samuel as the author of the book of Samuel - The mention of the death of Samuel in 1 Sam 25:1 leads us to question the authorship of Samuel - Samuel had apparently recorded about the Kingship of Israel (1 Sam 10:25) – It is mentioned in the First book of Chronicles that the acts of King David from first to last are written in the records of seer Samuel (I Chr 29:29).
- 3) The names of Nathan, Seraiah, Ahimaaz, or Abiathar also proposed as the authors of the book of Samuel.

#### III. DATE OF COMPOSITION (SAMUEL)

- 1) Portions of the book must have been written already between ca. 1050-930 B.C. The reference about the "kingdom of Judah" in 1 Sam 27:6 points to us that its completion is not possible before the division of the kingdom in 922 B.C.
- 2) Since the book does not mention about the fall of Samaria in 722 B.C. it is suggested that the book must have been completed before 722 B.C.
- 3) The final edition is Deuteronomistic. In this case the book was compiled after exile.

### IV. The Major themes of the Book of Samuel

- 1. Begins with Decentralization of Power and
- Administration of Judges to Establishment of Monarchy.
- 2. Tells the story of the last of the Judges (Samuel) to the greatest of the kings of Israel (David).
- 3. Tells how Monarchy was established in Israel.

### IV. The Major themes of the Book of Samuel

- 4. Speaks about three major figures involved in the beginning of Monarchy in Israel (Samuel-Saul-David). Samuel (I Sam 1-7); Samuel and Saul (I Sam 8-15); Saul, David and Samuel (I Sam 16-31); David (II Sam 1-24).
- 5. Explains the persistent war of Israel against Philistines in the beginning of the monarchy. David is reputed as the conqueror of the war against the Philistines and the Ammonites.

## V. The Division of the Book of Samuel I Samuel (I090 – 1010 B.C.)

- I. Birth and Rule of Samuel (1 Sam 1-7)
  - 1. Samuel's birth (I Sam 1:1-2:11)
  - 2. The evil acts of the sons of Eli (I Sam 2:21-36)
  - 3. Samuel's call (I Sam Ch. 3)
  - 4. Ark of the Covenant and the war against the Philistines (I Sam Ch. 4-7)

## V. The Division of the Book of Samuel I Samuel (I090 – 1010 B.C.)

- II. Saul's Reign & his Rejection by God (I Sam Ch. 8-15)
  - 1. Saul's Chosen as King of Israel (I Sam Ch. 8-10)
  - 2. Victory Over Ammonites (I Sam Ch. 11)
  - 3. Farewell address of Samuel (I Sam Ch. 12)
  - 4. Saul's war with the Philistines (I Sam Ch. 13-14)
  - 5. Story of Saul's failures as King of Israel (I Sam Ch. 15)

## V. The Division of the Book of Samuel I Samuel (I090 – 1010 B.C.)

### III. Rise of David to Power (I Sam Ch.16-31)

- 1. Samuel Anointing David (I Sam 16:1-13)
- 2. David in the Court of Saul (I Sam 16:14-23)
- 3. David's Victory over Goliath (I Sam Ch. 17)
- 4. Saul's Jealousy over David (I Sam 18:1-19:17)
- 5. David's life as a Political Fugitive (I Sam 19:18-24:22; 26:1-27:12)
- 6. Death of Samuel (I Sam Ch. 25)
- 7. Saul's Death (I Sam Ch. 28-31)

## V. The Division of the Book of Samuel II Samuel (I010 – 970 B.C.

- I. David as king of Israel (II Sam Ch. 1-10)
  - 1. David becomes King over Judah (II Sam Ch.1-4)
  - 2. Establishing his Rule over Israel (II Sam Ch. 5-7)
  - 3. David's War (II Sam Ch. 8-10)

### V. The Division of the Book of Samuel II Samuel (I010 – 970 B.C.)

- II. David's Sin and its Consequences (II Sam Ch. 11-20)
  - 1. David's sin (II Sam Ch. 9-12)
  - 2. Consequences of his sin (II Sam Ch. 13-20)
    - -Absalom's revolt (II Sam 13:1-15:16)
    - -David's flight from Jerusalem (II Sam 15:17-17:29)
    - -Death of Absalom (II Sam 18:1-19:7)
    - -Return to Jerusalem (II Sam 19:8-43)
    - -Revolt of Sheba (II Sam 20:1-22)

### V. The Division of the Book of Samuel II Samuel (I010 – 970 B.C.)

- III. End of David's Reign (II Sam 21-24)
  - 1. David's war against Gibeonites (II Sam 21:1-14)
  - 2. David's Songs of Praise (II Sam Ch.22)
  - 3. David's Last Words (II Sam 23:1-7)
  - 4. David's Heroes (II Sam 21:15-22 & 23:8-39)
  - 5. Census taken by David (II Sam Ch.24)











