

Samuel

Acts 13:20 And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until Samuel the prophet.

1. Samuel had a father (Elkanah) who faithfully worshiped the LORD
1 Samuel 1:3 And this man went up out of his city **yearly** to worship and to sacrifice unto the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, were there.
2. Samuel had a mother (Hannah) who prayed through bitterness and affliction (1 Sam 1:9-19; 1 Sam 2:1-10)
1 Sam 1:10-11 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept **sore**. (11) And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and **not forget** thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.
3. Samuel was raised by a poor leader (1 Sam 1:13-14, 1 Sam 2:12-17, 1 Sam 4:11-22)
1 Samuel 3:10-14 And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth. (11) And the LORD said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle. (12) In that day I will perform against **Eli** all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end. (13) For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the **iniquity** which **he** knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not. (14) And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever.
4. Samuel became a great Prophet and the last Judge in Israel
 - a. 1 Samuel 3:19-21 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was **with him**, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. (20) And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the LORD. (21) And the LORD **appeared** again in Shiloh: for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the **word** of the LORD.
 - b. 1 Samuel 7:3-4 And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do **return** unto the LORD with all your hearts, then **put away** the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines. (4) Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD **only**.
 - c. 1 Samuel 7:15-17 And Samuel **judged** Israel all the days of his life. (16) And he went from year to year in circuit to Bethel, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places. (17) And his return was to Ramah; for there was his house; and there he judged Israel; and there he **built** an altar unto the LORD.
5. God used Samuel to anoint the first two kings of Israel
 - a. Samuel was instrumental in Saul's appointing (1 Sam 9:15-17) and dismissal (1 Sam 15:22-24)
 - b. God led Samuel to the house of Jesse to appoint David (1 Sam 16:1-14)
1 Sam 16:12-14 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look to. And the LORD said, Arise, anoint him: for this is he. (13) Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and **anointed** him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah. (14) But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him.
6. Samuel was loved and respected of all the nation of Israel
1 Sam 25:1 And Samuel died; and all the Israelites were gathered together, and **lamented** him, and buried him in his house at Ramah. And David arose, and went down to the wilderness of Paran.