



5/4/2025

Biographies/Autobiographies

- Are, a story...of some famous person told
- To get a glimpse of their world, their family, their difficulties, their triumphs.
- Some will focus on certain parts of the person's life, only giving info on that.
- Other's focus a lot on childhood...
- Some only focus on some great accomplishment...
- All to give us a story – inspiration, fun in a person's life story, or in a life event...
- But, you will never, ever get a whole life history, just parts and pieces.
- We come to 1 & 2 Samuel:
 - And a book(s) of Historical Narratives.

I want you to understand some basic background facts found in Samuel:

- What I want to do today, is give you an overview.
- Point out some important themes to help you understand this book better.
- As we, in the next weeks, study it verse by verse.

1. AUTHORSHIP

1. While named for Samuel, he did not write them.
2. He might have written parts, but not all, as his death is recorded in chapter 25.
3. **1 Chronicles 29:29** - Nathan and Gad wrote books...
4. **1 Samuel 10:25** - Does tell us Samuel wrote a book.

2. HISTORICAL NARRATIVES:

1. They illustrate, indirectly, themes stated clearly elsewhere.
2. they can have 3 levels of interpretation:
 1. Universal – universal work of God in His creation, from creation till end times.
 2. National – God's redemptive work in Israel
 3. Individual – combination of the other 2...
3. While H.N. are the backbone for God's revelation they are **not** God's revelation for our time, but they place before us an interpretation of God's acts; and their implication for our lives.
4. So H.N. are not a complete history – but moves about in order to make a theological point.

3. 1 & 2 SAMUEL'S CONCEPT OF MESSIAH & KINGSHIP

1. Clearly the point of Samuel is that *Yahweh* is King.

🔊 OVER 🔊

2. The transition from a **Theocracy** to **Monarchy** was a difficult and agonizing process. And Leads us to 2 questions:
 - What will the "monarchy" be like?
 - Who will be a suitable King?

God would still be King:

- How does the human king relate to the divine king?
- I believe God's design:
 - Real King: deity, God
 - Human king: viceroy – ruling as the representative of Sovereign God.
 - The point of chapters 1-15.

3. The idea of anointed leadership in Samuel appears gradually and subtly.
4. Going from priest (judge), tabernacle, holy place, ark, to king.
5. So, King Saul comes along – failure
6. But David comes along, ideal king.
 - 2 Samuel 7: Davidic covenant. **

Another point...:

- The use of power in this kingdom.
 - Will the king manipulate and conspire?
 - Or will he submit to God's leadership; recognize limits to his power.
 - 1st one failed.
 - 2nd also abused, but quickly repented.

4. 1 & 2 SAMUEL'S PORTRAIT OF REPENTANCE

- See important theological concepts taught elsewhere in scripture are often illustrated in historical books.
- Turn to **2 Corinthians 7:9-11** 3 portraits:
- Israel at Mizpeh (**7:2-5**)
- Saul and Samuel (**15:13-23; 24-30**)
- David (**2 Samuel 12:7,13; Psalm 51**)

CONCLUSION:

- This morning, from Samuel you've seen the background, and 3 portraits of repentance.
- My question to you is this:
- Have you truly repented?
- Look at the models...
 - It's change
 - It's brokenness, no excuse, it's all *your* fault!
 - Have you come to that place where you can *truly* say you've repented?