

THE CLOSE OF THE ERA OF THE JUDGES

1 Samuel 1 - 7

Conditions in Israel were so terrible during the era of the judges that by the end of this three hundred year period, even the priesthood was affected. Read the following to find out what the priests were doing, and what God did as a result:

A. The Condition of the Priesthood: 1 Samuel 1:1-2:26

1. Who had been ordained of God to be the priests of Israel? Exodus 28:1, 43

2. Who was the priest at this time? 1 Samuel 1:9b

3. Who would become the next priests? (*THINK!*)

4. What kind of men were Eli's sons? 1 Samuel 2:12, 17, 22

5. Did Eli know what his sons were doing? 1 Samuel 2:22-24

6. What did Eli do about his sons' actions? 1 Samuel 3:13b

B. God's Prediction to the Priests: Read 1 Samuel 2:27-36

1. What did God say would happen to Eli's household? 1 Samuel 2:33b, 34

2. What would God then do? 1 Samuel 2:35

C. God's Choice of a Leader: Read 1 Samuel 3

1. After a long silence (1 Samuel 3:1b), to whom did the Lord reveal Himself?
1 Samuel 3:4, 21

2. How had Samuel come to serve the Lord? 1 Samuel 1:11, 19, 20, 24-28

3. As time passed, what did people know about Samuel? 1 Samuel 3:19, 20

D. God's Prediction Fulfilled: 1 Samuel 4

1. Against whom did the people of Israel fight? 1 Samuel 4:1

2. Upon what did they depend for victory? 1 Samuel 4:3, 4

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3. What were three results of this battle? 1 Samuel 4:10b, 11

4. What happened when this news was brought back to the Tabernacle at Shiloh?

a. 1 Samuel 4:15-18

b. 1 Samuel 4:19, 20

E. The Work of Samuel: 1 Samuel 5-7

1. How long was the ark of God out of its proper place? 1 Samuel 6:1, 7:2

2. What did Samuel promise the people of Israel? 1 Samuel 7:3

3. When they did this, what did Samuel do for them? 1 Samuel 7:5, 8, 9

4. What happened in their next battle with the Philistines? 1 Samuel 7:10-14

5. What did Samuel do after this? 1 Samuel 7:15

6. 1 Corinthians 4:2 tells what Samuel had that God requires of all His servants. What is this?

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. Why could Samuel accomplish under God what Eli and his sons could not?

2. What will happen to me if I do my work for the Lord in the same manner that Eli and his sons did theirs?
