

Early Historical Books Lecture Notes

- a. 1 and 2 Samuel were one book
 - b. Translators of the Septuagint divided it
 - c. Jerome's Vulgate also divided it
 - d. Modern versions followed it as well
1. Comes from one of key figures in book
 2. Books give the history of the monarchs of Israel in the early period of the monarchy.

C. Theme

1. Picks up the history of Israel where Judges left off
2. Samuel follows Samson - last judge / first prophet
3. Traces the transition of leadership in the nation
 - a. From judges to kings
 - b. From a theocracy to a monarchy
4. People would not allow Yahweh to rule their lives
5. Every man did that which was right in his own eyes
6. People were more willing to follow an earthly king

D. Key Words

1. Transition
2. Anoint
3. Rejected

VI.2 SAMUEL - DAVID'S REIGN ~ EXPANSION OF THE NATION

A. Theme

1. 2 Samuel continues the narrative Israel's kingdom
 - a. Begins with Saul's death
 - b. Continues with reign of David
 - c. Distinctively about David's forty-year reign
2. Kingdom
 - a. Established under Saul gave stabilization to Israel
 - b. Expanded by David brought growth or expansion

B. Purpose

1. Traces his reign through his triumphs and tragedies
 - a. Sin of adultery
 - b. Murder
 - c. Consequences on his family and the nation
2. Summarized "How sin turns triumphs into troubles"

C. Key Word

- a. David (over 250 times)

Early Historical Books Lecture Notes

I. INTRODUCTION

These books detail the earliest days of Israel in Caanan through the chaotic period of the judges and the establishment of the kingdom to Israel's deportation to Babylon..

- A. Joshua – Judges (Ruth) – Theocracy
- B. 1 & 2 Samuel – United Monarchy
- C. 1 & 2 Kings – Divided Monarchy
- D. 1 & 2 Chronicles – Divided Monarchy

II. JOSHUA - POSSESSION AND CONQUEST

A. Title

1. Book's name comes from the chief character – Joshua
 - a. Son of Nun
 - b. Moses' servant
 - c. Original name was Hoshea - means "salvation"
 - d. Moses changed his name to Yehoshua - means "Yahweh is salvation"
2. One of the world's greatest military strategist of history
3. Wisdom / military achievements came from the Lord

B. Themes and Purpose

1. Possessing
2. Conquering
3. Dividing of the promised land

C. Shows God's faithfulness to His promises - Events recorded in Joshua are selective

D. Key Words

1. Possession
2. Conquest
3. Victory
4. Dividing the land

III. JUDGES - SEVEN CYCLES OF JUDGMENT

A. Author

1. Authorship is actually uncertain
2. Traditionally Samuel wrote the book
3. Samuel may have assembled some of the accounts

Next week – Session IV: Historical Books Divided Kingdom



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4. Prophets like Nathan and Gad may edited the material
- B. Title of the Book - Hebrew title is Shophetim meaning . . .
1. Judges
 2. Rulers
 3. Deliverers
 4. Saviors

Judges Contrasted with Joshua	
Joshua	Judges
Thrill of victory	Agony of defeat
Freedom	Oppression
Advancement	Retrogression

- C. Reason for the Book
1. Bridges the gap from Joshua to Samuel
 2. Explains reason for a monarchy in Israel
 3. Every man doing that which was right in his own eyes
 4. Nation needed the leadership of a righteous king

Fourfold Cycle in Judges	
Decline	People Forget God
Oppression	God Allows Enemy to Arise
Supplication	People Cry Out to God
Deliverance	God Delivers the People

- D. Key Words
1. Cycles
 2. Evil (14 times)
 3. Judge / judged / judgment (22 times)

IV. RUTH - ADDENDUM TO JUDGES

- A. Title
1. Book gets its name from its main character - Ruth
 - a. Young Moabite woman
 - b. Great-grandmother of David
 - c. In the genealogical line of the Savior

2. Only one other Bible book named after a woman Esther

Ruth Contrasted with Judges	
Ruth is the story of . . .	Judges the rule was . . .
Loyalty	Anarchy
Purity	Selfishness
Love	Depravity

- B. Theme and Purpose
1. Story of a Israelite couple – Elimelech and Naomi
 - a. Moved to Moab during time of famine
 - b. Elimelech died
 - c. Naomi decided to move back to Israel
 - d. Ruth insisted on returning with her
 2. On return to Israel
 - a. They turned to Boaz for help
 - b. Eventually Ruth married Boaz
- C. Kinsman Redeemer
1. In OT if a person or an estate were sold into bondage
 - a. Could be redeemed by the Kinsman-Redeemer
 - b. Goel - “close relative”
 2. Perfect illustration of redemptive work of Christ
 3. Kinsman Redeemer (Goel) must be . . .
 - a. Blood relative (a kinsman)
 - b. Able to pay the price of redemption
 - c. Willing to redeem or pay the price
 - d. Free himself
- D. Key Words
1. Kinsman
 2. Redeemer
 3. Kinsman Redeemer

V.1 SAMUEL - TRANSITION FROM JUDGES TO KINGSHIP

- A. Author
1. Author is uncertain
 2. Jewish tradition says Samuel
 3. Prophet could only have written part of 1 Samuel
 4. His death is recorded in chapter 25
 5. 1 Samuel 10:25 attests that Samuel wrote a book
- B. Title
1. Hebrew Bible