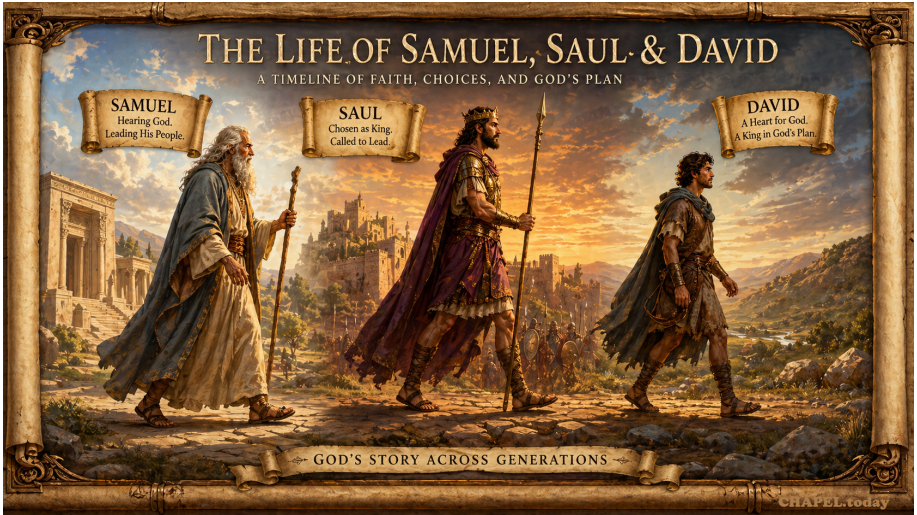


# GREAT short LESSONS

1<sup>st</sup> Samuel in Word and Pictures!



Join us as we walk through  
all 31 chapters in the book of 1 Samuel!

*by Chaplain Aaron*



*A month of notes from Chaplain Aaron :*

Thank you to my beloved family for your love for the Lord and for each other. It is so wonderful to know that you read God's Word, the Bible and share your understanding with each other. I hope that you will find this short explanation on each chapter to be a delight to your heart and an inspiration to your mind. May God bless you kindly.

# Chapter 1 – *The Prayer of a Sorrowful Woman*

## **Chapter Lesson:**

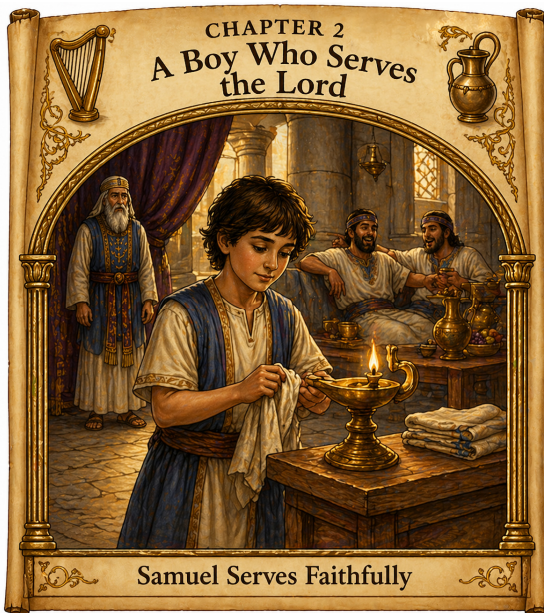
Hannah longed deeply for a son, and she recognized that such a gift could only come as a blessing from the Lord. Year after year, she went to the tabernacle, carrying both her hope and her sorrow. In her grief, she prayed earnestly before the Lord, pouring out her heart with great emotion. As she prayed, Eli the priest misunderstood her and thought she was drunk, but Hannah explained, “I am a woman of a sorrowful spirit” (verse 15). God heard her prayer and granted her request, giving her a son named Samuel. After raising him for several years, Hannah faithfully brought him back to the tabernacle and dedicated him to the Lord for a lifetime of service.



## ***This Applies to ME:***

We should bring our requests honestly before the Lord, trusting Him with our desires. Even when others misunderstand us, God knows our hearts and listens to our prayers. When God answers, we should thank Him and be willing to give back what He has given us.

## Chapter 2 – Faithful Samuel and Foolish Sons



### **Chapter Lesson:**

While young Samuel served in the tabernacle, helping with daily tasks, he was learning to know the Lord and grow in faith. At the same time, Eli the high priest had two sons who were very wicked and careless in their behavior. They served in the tabernacle, but their actions dishonored God and set a poor

example for the people. Their sinful lifestyle became widely known, yet it was not properly corrected. One day, a man of God came to Eli with a serious warning about what would happen if things did not change. The message was clear: God would raise up a faithful priest who would do according to His heart and His mind (verse 35).

### ***This Applies to ME:***

No matter our role—whether serving in small tasks or leading others—we are responsible to obey God’s Word. God expects faithfulness from each of us, not just from leaders. If we choose not to obey, the Lord will lovingly but firmly correct us.

## Chapter 3 – *The Call of Samuel*

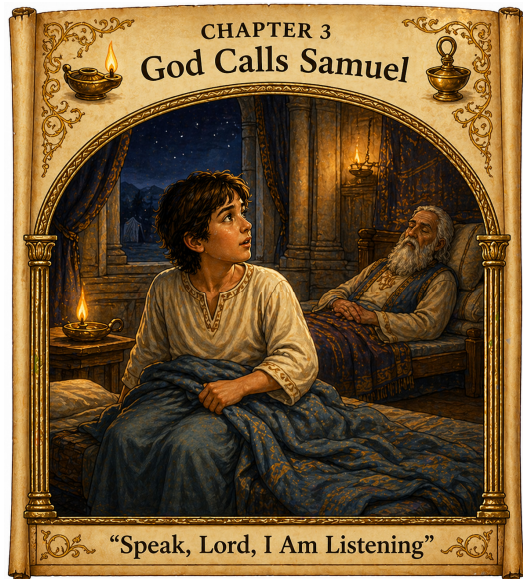
### **Chapter Lesson:**

Samuel was a willing helper in the tabernacle, always ready to serve and eager to learn about the Lord. One night, as he lay down to sleep, he heard a voice calling his name, “Samuel, Samuel,” and he thought it was Eli the priest. This happened more than once, until it became clear that it was not Eli, but the

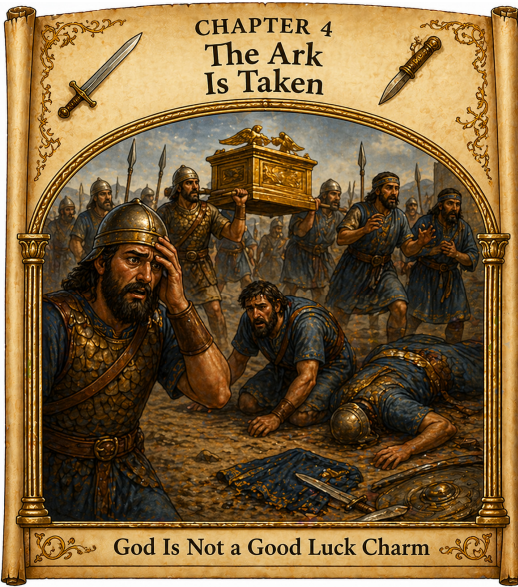
Lord calling to him. When Samuel finally understood, he answered, “Speak, for Thy servant heareth” (verse 10). The Lord then gave Samuel an important message, explaining that there is a difference between right and wrong and that correction was needed. The next day, Samuel faithfully shared the message with Eli, who recognized that the Lord had spoken to the young boy.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

There are times when God calls us to share His truth with others, even when it is difficult. Speaking God’s Word is not being unkind—it is helping others see what is right and safe. When we ignore God’s truth, problems follow, but when we listen and obey, we walk in His wisdom.



## Chapter 4 – Raiders Who Captured the Ark



### **Chapter Lesson:**

For many years, the Israelites had been doing wrong by worshiping idols and ignoring God's commands. When a great battle came, they decided to bring the ark of God from the tabernacle into the fight, thinking it would guarantee victory. They treated the ark like a good-luck object instead of honoring the

God it represented. At first, there was excitement in the camp, but it did not last. The Israelites were defeated, and the ark of God was captured and taken by their enemies. The loss was so great that it was said, "The glory is departed from Israel, for the ark of God is taken" (verse 22).

### ***This Applies to ME:***

Owning a Bible does not make us successful—obeying it does. God's truth must live in our hearts, not just sit in our hands. When we follow His Word, it becomes a daily, living guide for our lives.

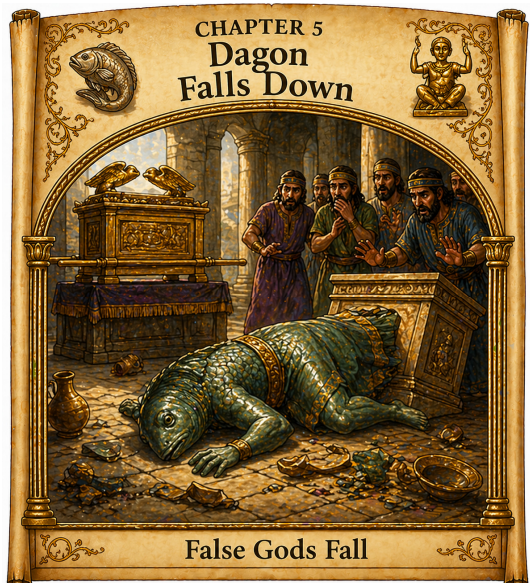
## Chapter 5 – *Dagon Is No Match for the Living God*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

After capturing the ark of God, the Philistines brought it into their land and placed it in the temple of their god, Dagon. This idol, shaped like part man and part fish, stood as their symbol of power. But when they returned the next morning, Dagon had fallen flat on his face before the ark of the Lord (verse 3). They set him back up, yet the following day he had fallen again, and this time his hands were broken off. The message was clear: Dagon was only a lifeless statue, while the God of Israel is living and powerful. Realizing they were no match for the true God, the Philistines decided to send the ark away from them.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

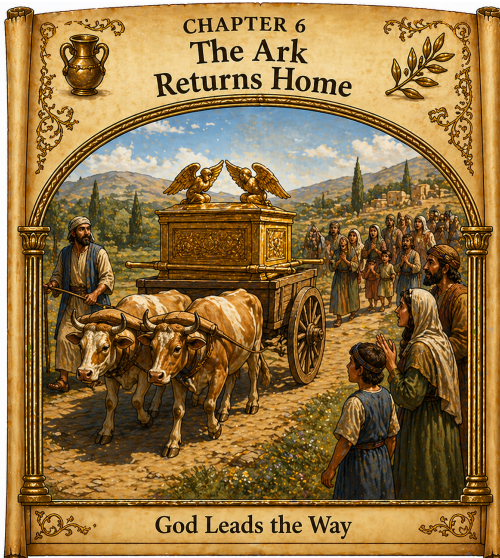
When we walk with the Lord, His power becomes evident to others around us. Even those who do not believe can recognize that God is real and at work. A life that follows God will stand strong, while anything false will eventually fall.



## Chapter 6 – *The Philistines Send the Ark Back Home*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

The Philistines were eager to send the ark of God away, but they were unsure how to do it properly. They decided to test what was happening by placing the ark on a new cart pulled by two milk cows that had never been trained. To make the test even more unusual, they separated the cows from their calves and sent them down a road away from home. Normally, those cows would have returned to their young, but instead they walked straight toward Israel. This convinced the Philistines that what had happened was not luck, but the hand of the Lord. The ark returned safely and was received by the Levites in Israel.



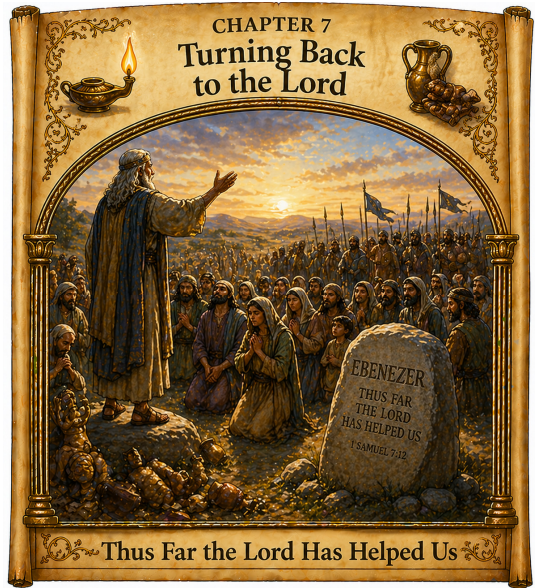
### ***This Applies to ME:***

The world often does not understand the things of God and may respond in uncertain or awkward ways. As followers of Christ, we are called to patiently explain His truth and point others to Him. God can use even unusual situations to show His power and lead people toward the truth.

## Chapter 7 – Turning Back to the Lord

### **Chapter Lesson:**

After the ark returned, Israel lived many years without fully turning their hearts back to God. Samuel called the people to put away their idols and serve the Lord with all their hearts. The people listened, removed their false gods, and gathered together at Mizpah to seek the Lord. As they fasted

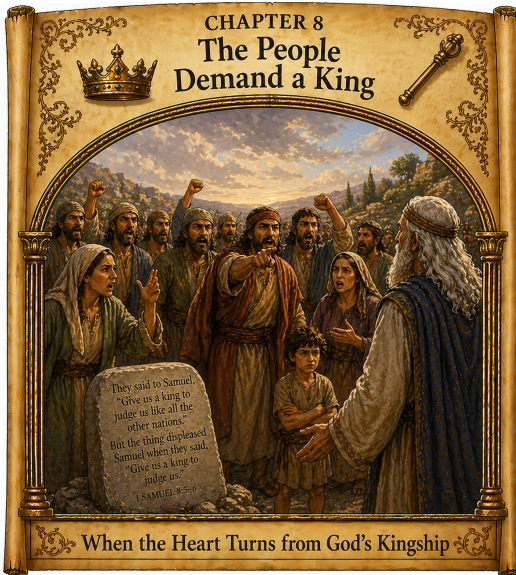


and confessed their sins, Samuel prayed for them. When the Philistines came to attack, Israel trusted God instead of relying on their own strength. The Lord answered with a mighty victory, and Samuel set up a stone called Ebenezer, saying, “Thus far the Lord has helped us.”

### ***This Applies to ME:***

When we turn away from sin and return to God, He is ready to help us. True repentance means removing what is wrong and choosing to follow the Lord fully. We should remember and thank God for the ways He has helped us in the past.

## Chapter 8 – *The People Demand a King*



### **Chapter Lesson:**

The people of Israel refused to listen to Samuel, even after he gave them wise counsel about following the Lord instead of demanding a king. They were clearly warned about the problems a king would bring, including hardship and loss of freedom. Still, they insisted on having things their own way,

wanting to be like the other nations around them. Scripture emphasizes this choice by saying, "the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel" (verse 19). Their decision showed a desire to follow their own path rather than trust God's leadership.

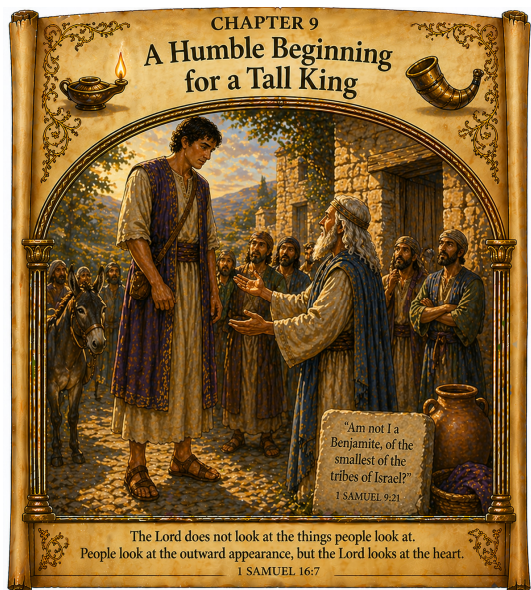
### ***This Applies to ME:***

Sometimes God allows us to have what we demand, even after He shows us what is right. He does not force us to obey, but gives us the freedom to choose. We must be careful, because our choices can lead to consequences when we ignore God's wisdom.

## Chapter 9 – A Humble Beginning for a Tall King

### **Chapter Lesson:**

Saul was a man who stood out because of his tall stature and good appearance, making him noticeable among the people. Yet despite these outward qualities, he showed a humble attitude when he was chosen to be king. When Samuel spoke to him about God's plan, Saul responded with surprise, saying his family was the least in the tribe of Benjamin (verse 21). He did not see himself as important or deserving of such a role. This showed that Saul understood, at least in the beginning, that he was chosen not because he was great, but because God had chosen him. His story begins with humility, recognizing that God is the one who lifts people up.



### ***This Applies to ME:***

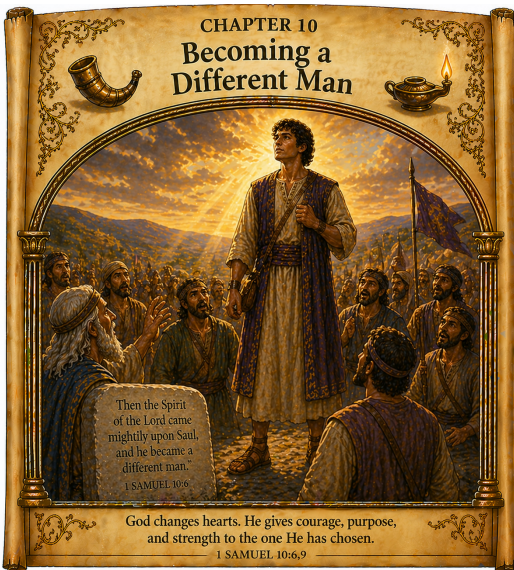
God sometimes chooses us for tasks that seem bigger than what we feel ready for. We may not have the greatest talents, but God has a purpose for each of us. When He calls, we can humbly trust Him and watch what He will do through our lives.

## Chapter 10 – *Becoming a Different Man*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

When God chose Saul for a great task, He also began preparing him from the inside. Saul had already shown himself to be an obedient son, willing to help with his family’s responsibilities. But leading a nation would require more than outward ability—it

would require a changed heart. Samuel explained that when the Spirit of the Lord came upon him, he would become a different man (verse 6). Just as promised, God gave Saul another heart (verse 9), equipping him for the role ahead. This moment marked the beginning of a new direction in Saul’s life, shaped by God’s power and purpose.



### ***This Applies to ME:***

When God calls us, He also changes us to prepare us for what lies ahead. Through salvation, God gives us a new heart and places His Spirit within us. As we walk with Him, He continues to shape us into who He wants us to be.

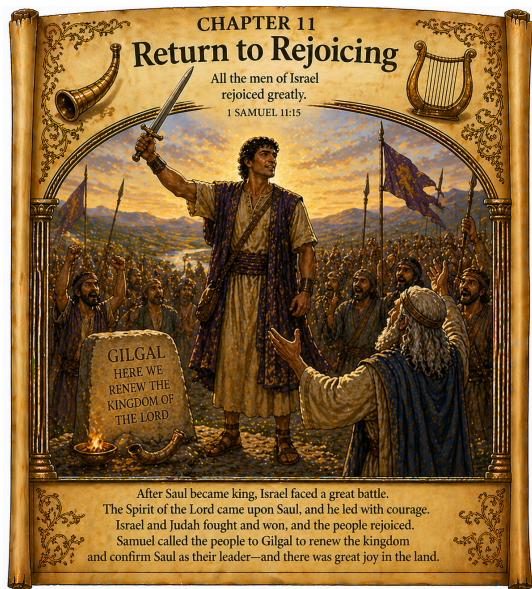
## Chapter 11 – *Return to Rejoicing*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

After Saul became king, Israel soon faced a serious battle that tested their unity and courage. When Saul heard of the danger, the Spirit of God came upon him, and he responded with bold leadership. He gathered the people together, and Israel and Judah fought with strength and victory. This success showed the nation that God was with their new king. Samuel then called the people to Gilgal to renew the kingdom and confirm Saul as their leader. The result was a time of great joy, and “all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly” (verse 15).

### ***This Applies to ME:***

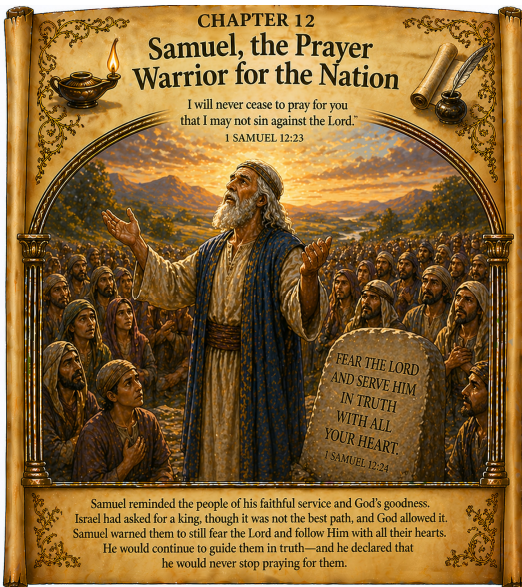
When we follow God’s leading, He can use us to bring peace and direction to others. A life guided by the Lord can turn fear into confidence and confusion into clarity. As we walk with Him, both we and those around us can rejoice in His work.



# Chapter 12 – Samuel, the Prayer Warrior for the Nation

## Chapter Lesson:

Samuel had grown old and gathered the people to remind them of his life and testimony among them. He had served faithfully, leading with honesty and pointing the nation toward the Lord. Even though Israel had chosen to have a king, which was not the best path for them, God allowed it. Samuel warned them to still fear the Lord and follow Him with all their hearts. He made it clear that he would continue to guide them in truth. Most importantly, Samuel declared that he would never stop praying for them, saying that it would be a sin to cease praying for Israel (verse 23).



## ***This Applies to ME:***

God places faithful teachers and leaders in our lives who not only instruct us but also pray for us. Their prayers are a powerful part of how God guides and protects us. We should be thankful for them and learn to pray for others as they have prayed for us.

## Chapter 13 – *Saul Gives In to Weakness*

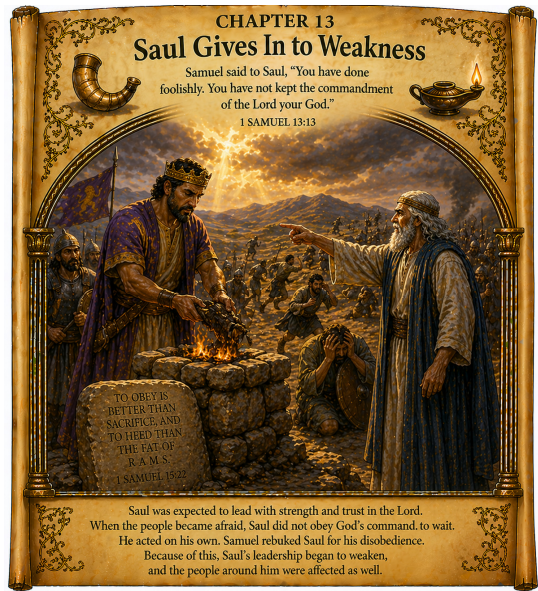
### **Chapter Lesson:**

As king, Saul was expected to lead with strength and trust in the Lord, especially in times of trouble. When the enemy approached, the people around him became afraid, hiding, trembling, and even leaving the battle. Samuel had instructed Saul to wait, but as the pressure grew, Saul chose not to obey.

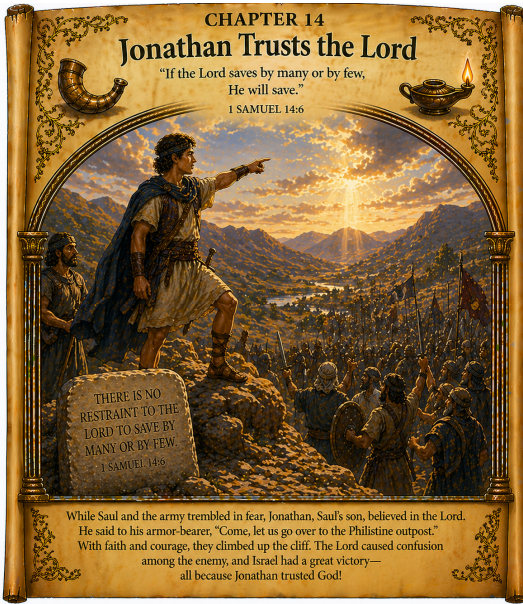
Instead, he acted on his own and stepped outside of what God had commanded. When Samuel arrived, he rebuked Saul for his disobedience and explained that he had not done the right thing. Because of this, Saul's leadership began to weaken, and the people around him were affected as well.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

When we stop following the Lord fully, fear and uncertainty begin to take over. Our choices not only affect us, but also influence those around us. It is always best to obey God right away and trust Him, so that His strength is seen instead of our weakness.



## Chapter 14 – *Jonathan Trusts the Lord*



### **Chapter Lesson:**

While many in Israel were afraid to face the enemy, Jonathan, the son of King Saul, chose to trust the Lord. With only his armor-bearer beside him, he set out to face a much larger force. Jonathan said, “Come, let us go... it may be that the Lord will work for us; for there is no restraint to the Lord to save by many or by few.” His

helper agreed and encouraged him, showing unity and faith. The two of them stepped forward boldly, and God gave them a great victory. Their success spread courage through Israel and struck fear into the enemy, turning the tide of the battle.

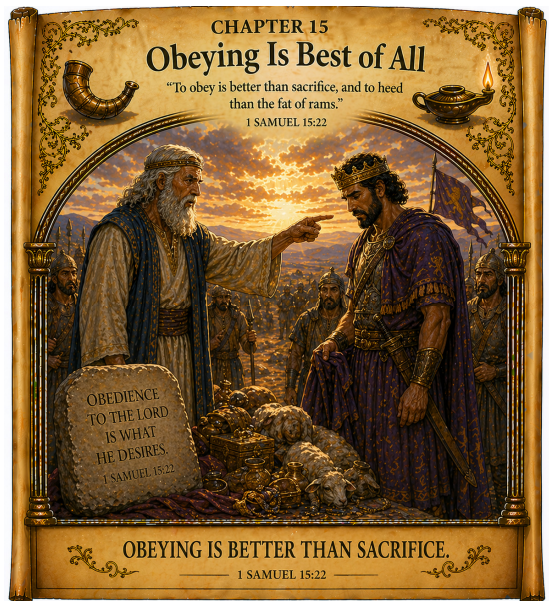
### ***This Applies to ME:***

When we trust the Lord, we can make right choices even if others are afraid. God is not limited by numbers—He works through those who believe Him. Like Jonathan, we can move forward with courage, knowing God is able to act through us.

## Chapter 15 – *Obeying Is Best of All*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

King Saul was given clear instructions from the Lord, but he did not fully obey them. He completed some parts of what he was told, but other parts he ignored or changed. These choices caused serious problems for Saul, his family, and the nation of Israel. When the prophet Samuel came to him, he told Saul that he had disobeyed God. Samuel made it very clear by saying, “To obey is better than sacrifice” (verse 22). He also warned that rebellion is a very serious sin, showing that choosing our own way instead of God’s way leads us away from Him.



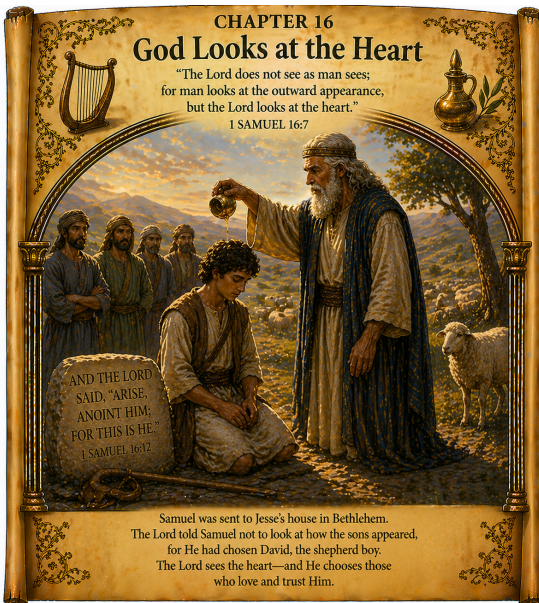
### ***This Applies to ME:***

God gives us the ability to choose between right and wrong. When we know what God wants us to do, we should choose to obey Him right away. Obedience honors God and keeps us on the right path.

## Chapter 16 – *God Looks at the Heart*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

God had rejected King Saul and chose someone new to lead Israel. He told Samuel to go to the house of Jesse and anoint one of his sons as the next king. As Samuel met each son, starting with the



oldest, he thought surely one of them must be the chosen one. But God told him, “Man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart” (verse 7). None of the older sons were chosen, and finally young David was called in from the fields. God had chosen David because of his heart, and Samuel anointed him to be the future king.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

God sees what is inside our hearts, not just how we look on the outside. Even when others do not notice our faithfulness, God does. Like David, we should choose to follow the Lord with a heart that loves Him.

## Chapter 17 – *David Trusts the LORD*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

David was sent by his father to bring food to his brothers, who were serving in the army. At the battlefield, he saw the Philistines on one side and Israel on the other, with a giant warrior named Goliath challenging God’s people every day. Goliath was very tall and powerful, and everyone else was afraid of him. David offered to help and told King Saul how God had already helped him defeat a lion and a bear while protecting his sheep. When David faced Goliath, he said, “You come to me with a sword and a spear... but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts” (verse 45).

Trusting in God, David defeated the giant and showed that the Lord is greater than any enemy.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

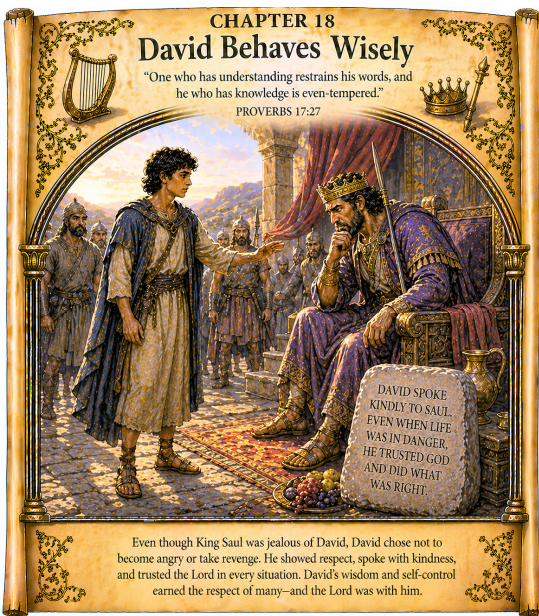
Sometimes we face problems that seem very big and scary. When we trust God, we do not have to rely on our own strength. God helps us face our “giants” when we stand in His name.



# Chapter 18 – *David Behaves Wisely*

## **Chapter Lesson:**

After David defeated Goliath, King Saul welcomed him into the army and the royal court. David quickly became known for his actions and his attitude. The Bible repeats an important truth: “David behaved himself wisely in all his ways” (verse 14). People could clearly see that the Lord was with him. David did not act in a selfish or careless way, but showed wisdom in how he spoke and lived. Because of this, he earned respect and trust from those around him.



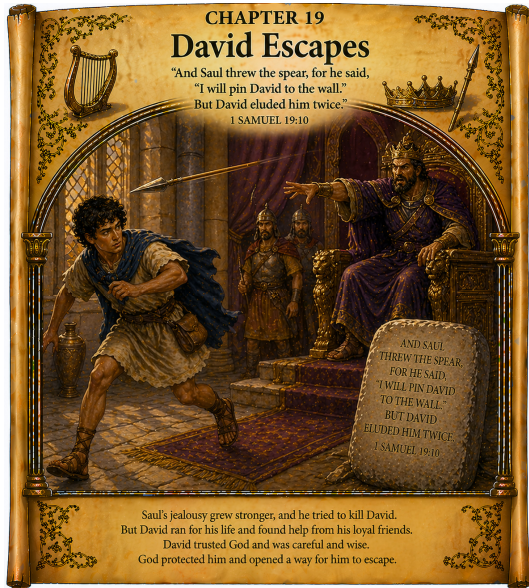
## ***This Applies to ME:***

God gives us abilities and opportunities to serve others. These are not chances to show off, but to honor Him with wise choices. When we behave wisely, the Lord can use us and bless our lives.

## Chapter 19 – *David Escapes Danger*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

Even though David did what was right and honored God, not everyone was happy about his life. King Saul became very jealous of David and allowed his anger to grow. David often played music in the palace calm Saul, but one day Saul became so angry that he threw a javelin at him. David was able to move quickly and escape, just as the spear struck the wall behind him (verse 10). Saul's jealousy had turned into dangerous actions. Even in this, God helped protect David and gave him wisdom to get away safely.

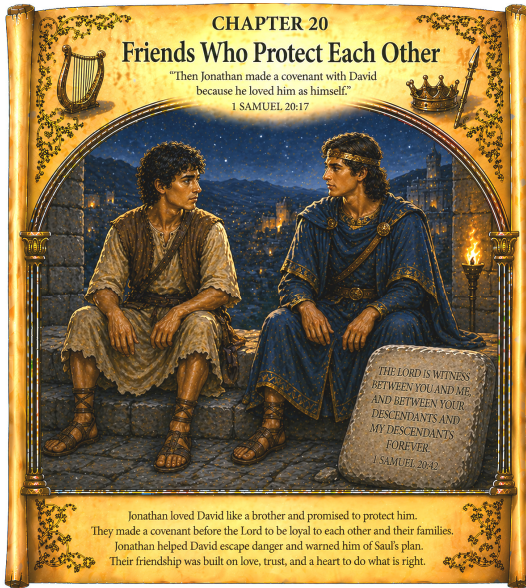


to

### ***This Applies to ME:***

Not everyone will be happy when we choose to follow God. Some people may act in angry or hurtful ways. We can trust God to guide us, protect us, and help us make wise choices to stay safe.

## Chapter 20 – *Friends Who Protect Each Other*



### **Chapter Lesson:**

God gave David a true friend in Jonathan, who loved him and cared deeply for his safety. Jonathan knew that his father, King Saul, was becoming dangerous toward David. Because of this, Jonathan promised to find out the truth and warn David if he was in danger. He assured David that he would be honest and faithful,

just as he said in verse 9. The two friends made a plan to communicate safely so David would know what to do. As they parted, Jonathan said, "Go in peace, for the Lord be between me and thee" (verse 42), showing that God was at the center of their friendship.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

True friends care about each other's safety and help one another follow the Lord. They warn each other about danger instead of encouraging wrong choices. A strong friendship keeps God in the middle and looks out for what is right.

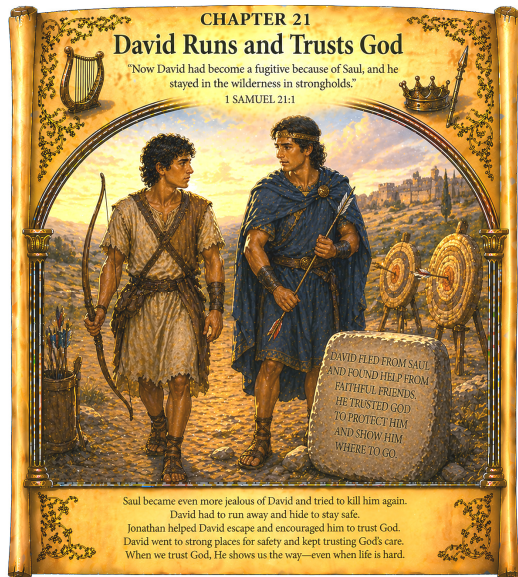
## Chapter 21 – *David Runs and Trusts God*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

David's life changed quickly as he went from shepherd to warrior to a man on the run. King Saul was so jealous that he wanted to harm David, forcing him to leave his home and seek safety elsewhere. David traveled to the land of Gath, hoping to stay out of Saul's reach. However, the people there recognized him as the one who had defeated Goliath. Fearing for his life, David acted strangely so they would not see him as a threat. The king of Gath dismissed him, and David was able to escape safely.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

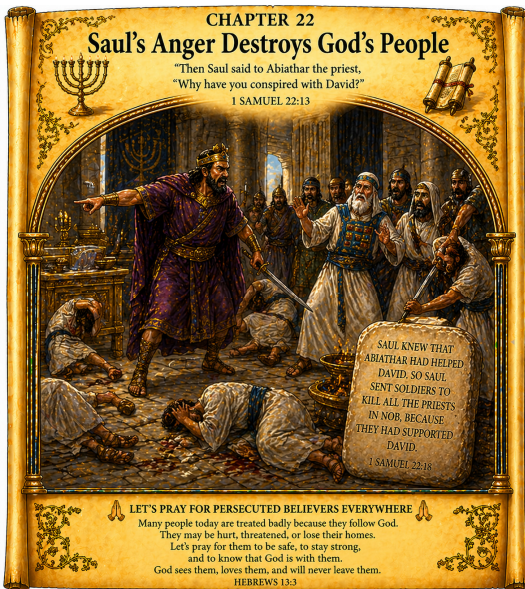
The Bible shows us real choices people made, even when they were not the best ones. God still cares for us and watches over us, even when we feel afraid or unsure. When we are in trouble, we should trust the Lord and look to Him for help.



## Chapter 22 – Anger That Hurts Others

### Chapter Lesson:

King Saul became very angry when he learned that the priests had helped David by giving him food. His jealousy caused him to think wrongly, and he made unfair accusations. Instead of listening to truth, Saul chose to act in anger. He gave a terrible command that brought harm to many people who had done nothing wrong. One priest escaped and came to David with the bad news. David cared for him and promised to keep him safe, while also feeling sorrow for what had happened.



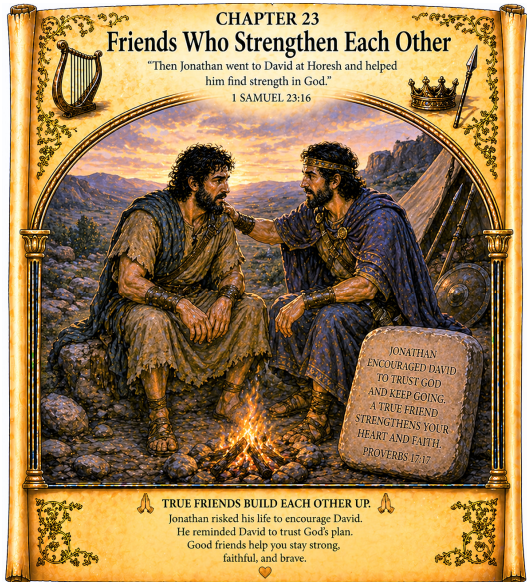
### ***This Applies to ME:***

Anger, when not controlled, can lead to hurtful and wrong actions. Around the world, some people suffer because they choose to follow God, and we should pray for them. We can also choose to be kind, protect others when we can, and trust God even in hard times.

## Chapter 23 – *Friends Who Strengthen Each Other*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

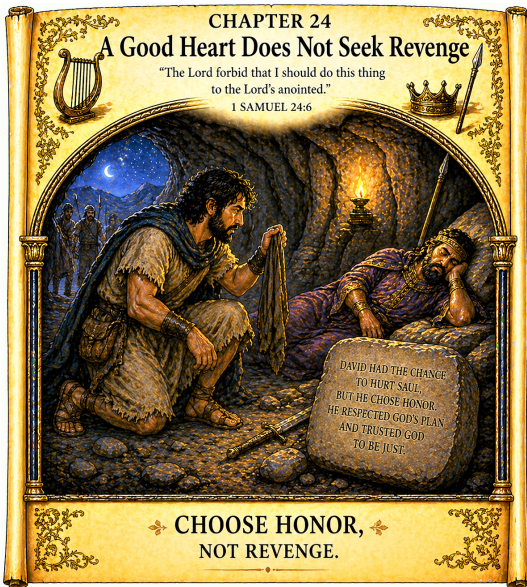
Even while David was on the run, he continued to help the people of Israel by protecting them from their enemies. During this time, he stayed in different including a town called Keilah. King Saul was still searching for David, making life very dangerous. One day, Jonathan found a way to come and visit his friend. When they met, it brought great encouragement to both of them. The Bible says that Jonathan “strengthened his hand in God” (verse 16), helping David stay strong in his faith.



### ***This Applies to ME:***

Good friends help each other stay close to God. They encourage one another to pray, read the Bible, and do what is right. Friendships that keep Christ at the center are strong and lasting.

# Chapter 24 – A Good Heart Does Not Seek Revenge



## Chapter Lesson:

King Saul continued chasing David, and David had to hide in the wilderness to stay safe. One day, Saul entered a cave to rest, not knowing that David and his men were already inside. David's men whispered that this was the perfect chance to stop Saul. But David chose not to harm him, saying, "The Lord forbid that I

should do this thing to the Lord's anointed" (verse 6). Instead, David showed respect and restraint, trusting God to handle the situation. Later, Saul realized that David had acted with honor and admitted that David would one day be king.

## This Applies to ME:

We do not need to get even when someone treats us wrongly. God sees everything and will take care of what is right. Our job is to forgive, stay wise, and trust the Lord with the outcome.

## Chapter 25 – A Good Name with the Neighbors

### **Chapter Lesson:**

David and his men were living as outcasts, but they chose to follow God and behave wisely. Even though they were strong, they did not take advantage of others. The people around them noticed their kindness and honesty. In fact, others said, “They were very good unto us... neither missed we anything” (verse 15). This showed that David’s leadership helped his men do what was right. Their good actions gave them a strong and honorable reputation.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

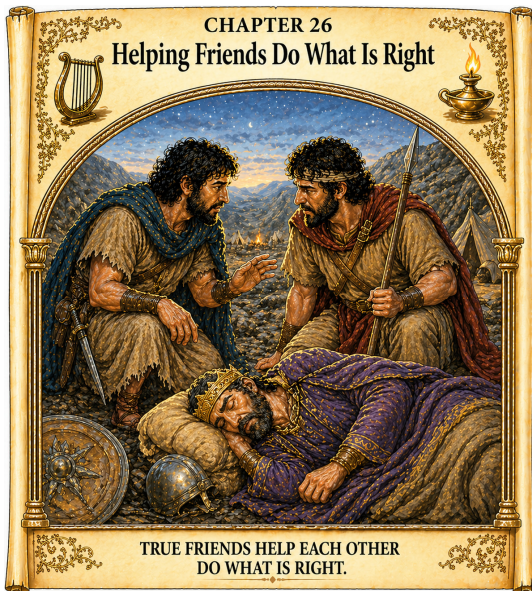
When we follow the Lord, our actions can influence others in a good way. People will notice when we choose to do what is right. A good reputation comes from living for God and treating others with kindness.



## Chapter 26 – *Helping Friends Do What Is Right*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

King Saul continued chasing David, refusing to give up. Once again, David had a chance to harm Saul when he found him sleeping with his spear beside him. David’s friend offered to take care of Saul right then and end the problem. But David stopped him and said, “Who can stretch forth his hand against the Lord’s anointed and be guiltless?” (verse 9). David chose to do what was right and trusted God instead of taking revenge. He kept a safe distance and believed that God would handle the situation in His own way.



### ***This Applies to ME:***

Sometimes friends may suggest actions that are not right, even if they mean well. We can gently guide them toward doing what pleases God. Trusting the Lord means choosing peace and letting Him take care of problems.

## Chapter 27 – A Place to Live in Peace

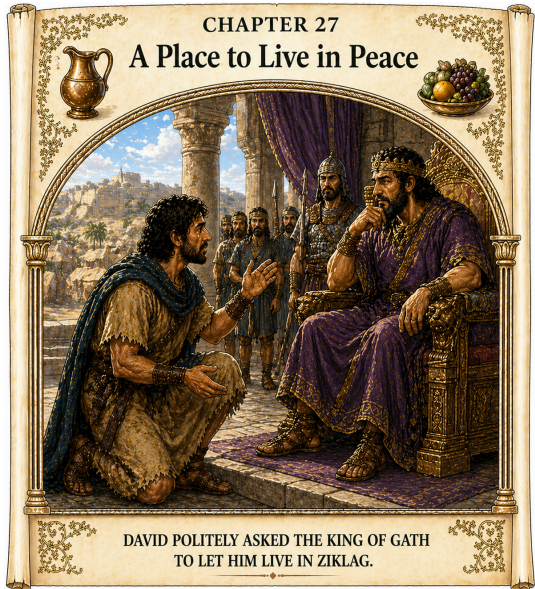
### **Chapter Lesson:**

David and his group, including many families, were living in the land of the Philistines to stay safe from King Saul. Instead of crowding into a busy city, David wisely thought it would be better to live in a quieter place. He respectfully went to the king of that land and asked for permission to settle in

the countryside (verse 5). The king agreed and gave them a place called Ziklag. This allowed David and his people to live together more peacefully. Through it all, David showed careful thinking and respect for authority.

### **This Applies to ME:**

Following the Lord includes respecting the people in authority around us. Asking permission and doing things the right way honors God. When we act wisely and respectfully, it helps bring peace to our lives and others.



## Chapter 28 - *Choosing God's Way, Not Wrong Ways*



### **Chapter Lesson:**

King Saul knew that God had clearly said to stay away from witchcraft and anything like it. Earlier in his life, he had even made rules in Israel to stop those wrong practices. But later, when Saul became afraid and confused, he chose not to seek the Lord. Instead, he went

to someone who practiced things God had forbidden. Even that person knew it was wrong, but Saul still made the choice to go against God's Word. The message Saul received only confirmed that he had made a wrong decision. Though he knew it was wrong, his heart did not change.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

God teaches us to stay away from things that lead us away from Him. When we feel afraid or unsure, we should go to God, not to wrong influences. Loving God helps us choose what is right and avoid what is harmful.

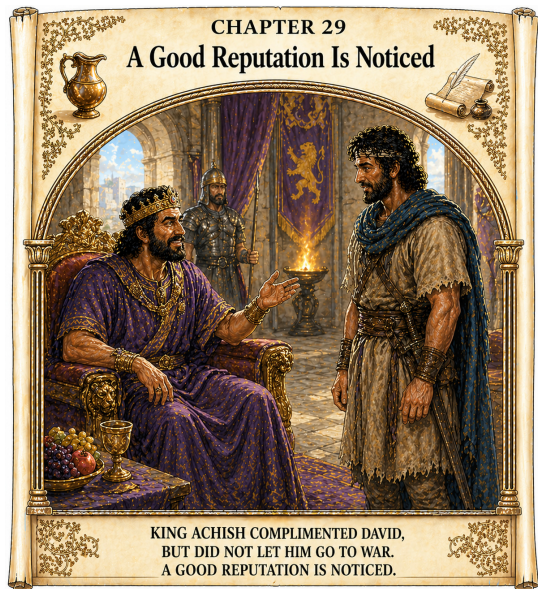
## Chapter 29 – A Good Reputation Is Noticed

### **Chapter Lesson:**

David had been living among the Philistines, and over time he showed himself to be trustworthy and wise. King Achish saw how David behaved and respected him greatly. In fact, the king gave David a very strong compliment, saying he was “good... as an angel of God” (verse 9). Even though others were unsure about David, the king recognized his good character. David continued to act wisely and kept the king informed, showing respect for the authority over him. Because of this, David built a strong reputation, even among those who were not part of Israel.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

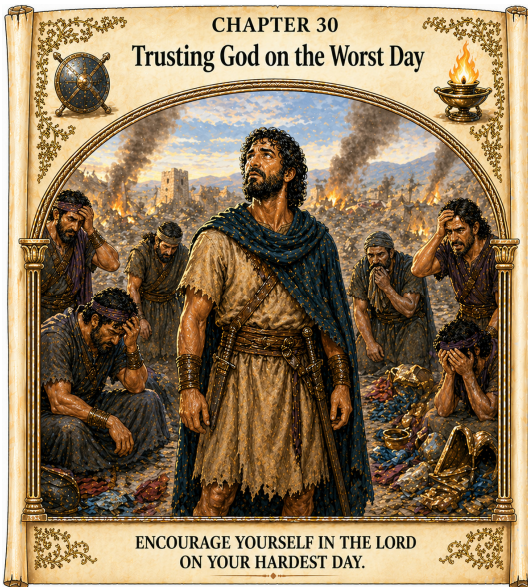
When we follow God, others will notice the way we live. A good reputation comes from doing what is right again and again. Our teachers, leaders, and others around us can see when we choose to honor God.



## Chapter 30 – *Trusting God on the Worst Day*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

While David and his men were away, their homes were attacked by the Amalekites. Everything was taken, and their families were carried away as captives. When the men returned, they found their city burned and were filled with grief and fear. Some of them were so upset that they began to blame David. David was also deeply troubled, but instead of giving up, he turned to the Lord. The Bible says, “David encouraged himself in the Lord his God” (verse 6), and from that moment, everything began to change as they sought God’s direction and recovered all that had been taken.



### ***This Applies to ME:***

Sometimes hard things happen suddenly, and we feel sad or confused. In those moments, we can turn to God and find strength in Him. When we trust the Lord, He helps us through even the hardest days.

## Chapter 31 – *The Bible Records History*

### **Chapter Lesson:**

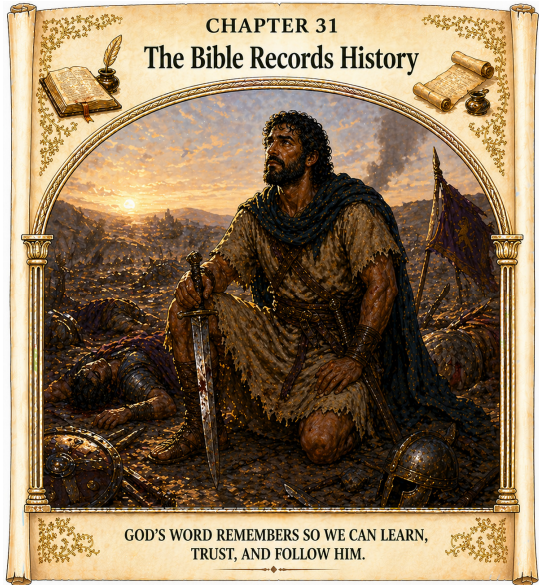
The Bible tells us true history, even when the events are very sad. King Saul had chosen to disobey God for a long time, and this led to a great loss in battle. His life came to an end, and it affected his family and the nation of Israel.

This chapter shows what can happen when someone turns away from God again and again. Just like

other history books, the Bible records what really happened so we can learn from it.

### ***This Applies to ME:***

Our lives are like a story being written each day. The choices we make matter and will be remembered by others. When we follow God, our story becomes part of His good story.



God bless you for studying the book of 1 Samuel. There were so many adventures in each and every chapter. If you read the entire chapter, you will understand even more. May the Lord encourage you as you walk and work and pray each and every day.



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Please contact me if you have any questions, pray with you or if we can be a blessing to you.

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