LESSON 27

Name

The Book of 1 Samuel

*Directions*: Read the cited scripture passages and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

1. The book of 1 Samuel relates the beginnings in Israel of the . (see introduction)

2. The principal figures in this book leading up to the establishment of the monarchy are

, , and . (see introduction)

3. The story begins with the birth of Israel’s final judge who will inaugurate the monarchy in Israel. His name is . (1 Sm 1:20)

4. Hannah, in fulfillment of a vow she made to the Lord, brings Samuel to the tabernacle (Temple) where she leaves him in service of the high priest . (1 Sm 2:11)

5. Eli has two sons who were evil and abused their positions in the service of the Lord. They did not have respect for either: (1 Sm 2:12)

A. B.

6. In contrast to these two evil sons is the figure of Samuel who, as 1 Samuel 2:26 says, was

.

7. God later speaks to Samuel and reveals to him what he is going to do to Eli and his evil family. God tells

Samuel that he will condemn his family and that no sacrifice will ever

. (1 Sm 3:13)

8. Later, God’s judgment falls on Eli and his family:

A. In 1 Samuel 4:17, the evil sons, Hophni and Phineas are reported

.

B. Upon hearing the news about them and the ark’s capture, Eli

.

9. The ark was captured in battle but, because of the ill fortune it brings the captors (see 1 Sm 5:6), it is returned by the . (1 Sm 6:1)

10. In 1 Samuel 8:4, the elders of Israel make a request of Samuel. The request is for Israel to have a

.

11. Samuel warns the people of the dangers of having a king. What are some of the dangers mentioned in

1 Samuel 8:10-17?

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Lesson 27 continued

12. The reason the people want a king is completely contrary to what God intends for them:

. (1 Sm 8:19-20)

13. Samuel then begins his task of choosing a king for the Israelites. The selection of the man Samuel even- tually picks is described according to three different accounts:

A. In the first version in 1 Samuel 9, Samuel encounters Saul while Saul is searching for his father’s lost

and later anoints him king.

B. In the second version, in chapter 10, Saul is chosen king by .

C. Finally in the third version, Saul is chosen king because in 1 Samuel 11:11-15, the people are so impressed by his great military defeat of the .

14. Almost immediately, Saul disappoints Samuel who regrets having chosen Saul as king. Saul ultimately does three actions which seal his fate as a failure in his role as the first king:

A. Saul wrongly assumes the priestly role of Samuel by offering a . (1 Sm13:10-12) B. Saul disobeys the ban placed on the Amalekites by

. (1 Sm 15:8-9)

The ban was a barbaric ritual placed on enemies in which all living things were slaughtered, which in no way can be attributed to God’s will (see NAB footnote for 1 Sm 15:3).

C. Saul in a rage orders an entire Israelite city to be placed under the . (1 Sm 22:18-19)

(See explanation in section B. Here Saul places the order, not on enemies, but on his own people!)

15. Realizing the disaster Saul has become, Samuel begins to search for another to be king. God sends Samuel to the city of to the house of . (1 Sm 16:1)

16. It is from among the sons of Jesse that Samuel will anoint the next king. Jesse’s youngest son,

, is chosen to take Saul’s place.

17. As with the stories of how Saul became king, there are more than one version of how David came to the attention of Saul and all the people:

A. In one version, David comes to Saul because Saul, tormented by deep depression, is soothed by

David’s playing of the . (1 Sm 16:23)

B. In another version, David comes to Saul’s attention because David’s father sends David to bring his other sons . (1 Sm 17:17-19)

C. This second version leads to the famous story of David and his battle with the Philistine giant,

. (1 Sm 17)

18. David defeats the giant with his sling shot, winning the victory for the Israelites, and this young boy takes his first step to becoming king by being placed in charge of Saul’s . (1 Sm 18:5)

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