Interesting Facts About 1 Samuel

MEANING: Samuel means "The name of God." His name is God, "Heard of God," or "Asked of God."

AUTHOR: Jewish Talmudic tradition says it was written by Samuel. He may have written a portion of the boo, but his death is recorded in 1 Samuel 25:1, making it clear that he did not write all of 1 & 2 Samuel.

TIME WRITTEN: Soon before his death in 1015 B.C.

POSITION IN THE BIBLE:
- 9th Book in the Bible
- 9th Book in the Old Testament
- 4th of 12 books of History (Joshua - Esther)
- 57 Books to follow it.

HOLY BIBLE

CHAPTERS: 31
VERSES: 810
WORDS: 25,061

1 SAMUEL

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT 1 SAMUEL:

- Samuel was born around 1105 B.C. and died in 1015 B.C.
- During Samuel's 90 years of life, he ministered in Israel between about 1067 B.C. and 1015 B.C.
- Since the books of Samuel end in the last days of David, they must have been compiled after 971 B.C.
- Samuel:
  - Was a man of prayer.
  - Began the school of the prophets.
  - Anointed Israel's first two kings (Saul & David)
- The books of 1 & 2 Samuel were originally one book in the Hebrew Bible. It was known as the "Book of Samuel."
- 1 & 2 Samuel, along with 1 & 2 Kings, form a continuous narrative devoted to recording the early years of the Hebrew monarchy.

- 1 Samuel describes the transition of leadership in Israel from the Judges to the kings. The transition involves three stages
  - From Eli to Samuel.
  - From Samuel to Saul.
  - From Saul to David.
- Three characters are prominent in 1 Samuel:
  - Samuel, the last Judge.
  - Saul, Israel's first king.
  - David, the king-elect, anointed but not yet recognized as Saul's successor.
- Hannah had prayed for a son and promised him to the Lord. 1:10-11
- Samuel was but a young child when God called him. 1-3
- Samuel becomes:
  - Israel's last judge.
  - Israel's first prophet.
- Samuel's work begins very late in the times of the judges when Eli is the judge-priest.
- Just as Eli's sons were evil, when Samuel was old, his sons proved to be unjust leaders, resulting in the people calling for a king to rule over them.