

# 1–2 SAMUEL

**The God Who Protects,  
Blesses, and Assesses**

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# 1–2 SAMUEL at a Glance

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# Former Anticipations of Kingship?

# Samuel's Growth and the Hope for a King-Priest (1 Sam 1–7)

- ◆ The messianic king anticipated in Judges 21:25 will rise out of God using the weak to shame the strong and the humble to overpower the proud (1 Sam 2:10, 30).
- ◆ The messianic king will also be a messianic priest (2:35).
- ◆ Samuel's life as priest and judge anticipates the messianic priest-king.



Those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be lightly esteemed (1 Sam 2:30).

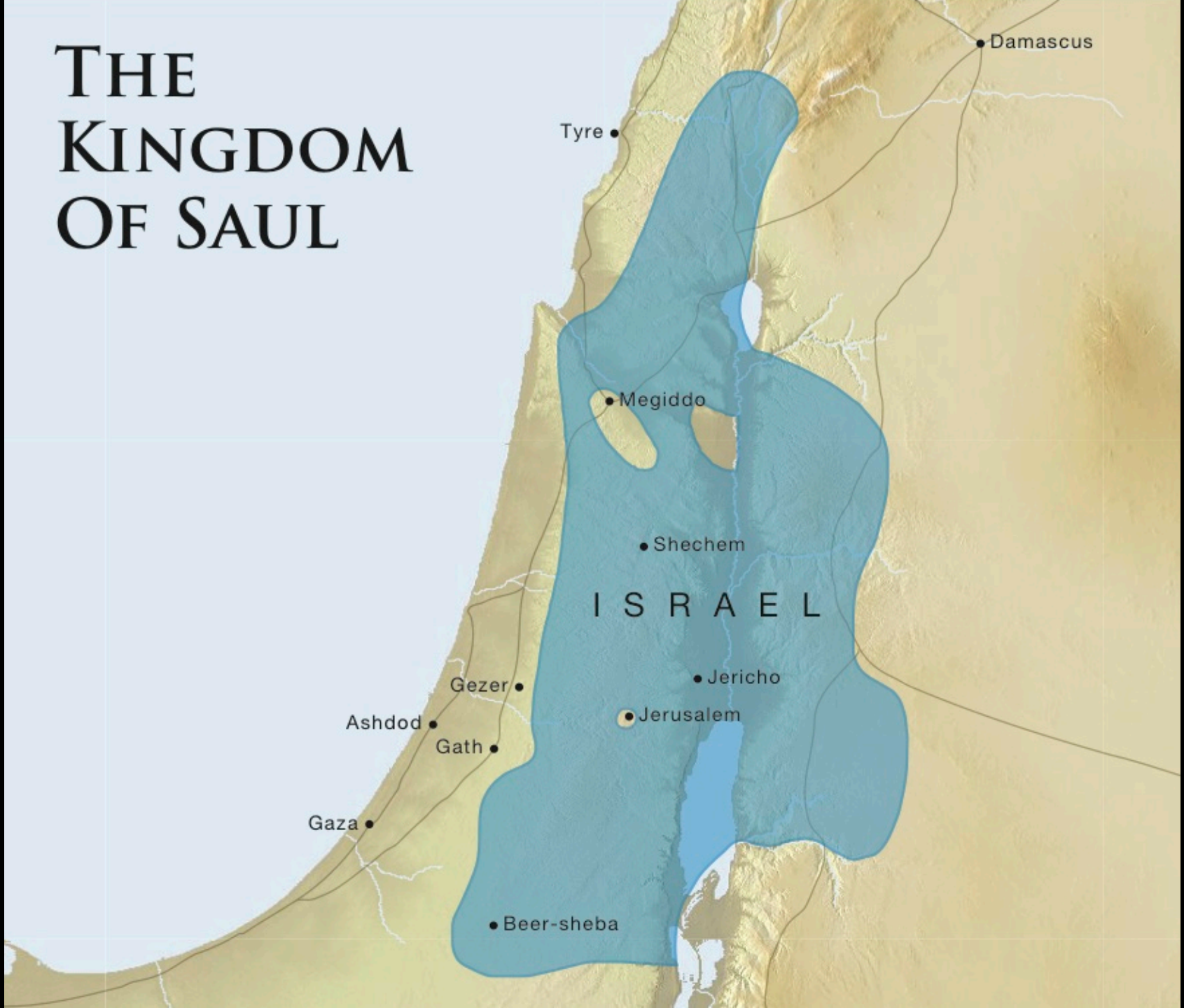




# Saul's Failure and Rejection and the Hope for a King-Priest (1 Sam 8–14)

- ◆ In wanting a king like the nations to judge them, Israel was ultimately rejecting Yahweh as king (1 Sam 8:7)—rejecting their true protector (10:19) and provider (12:17–19).
- ◆ The success of the king in Israel was fully contingent on his character and disposition before God (12:14–15).

# THE KINGDOM OF SAUL



- ◆ **In Saul's first battle, he defeats Nahash, the serpent king (ch. 11). But directly after this we read how he disobeys by engaging in priestly duties (ch. 13). God, therefore, rejects him and promises to raise up another in his place who will be more faithful (13:14).**
- ◆ **Saul the Benjamite was not the ultimate serpent-slayer, nor was he the messianic priest-king, for God had promised he would come through the line of Judah.**



# David's Rise and Fall and the Hope for a King-Priest (1 Sam 15–2 Sam 21)

## ◆ David's Rise (1 Sam 15–2 Sam 8)

- ❖ Saul disobeys again, God rejects him, and then replaces him with someone in the line of Judah whose heart is for the Lord (chs. 15–16, esp. 15:28; 16:7).
- ❖ In his first battle, David defeats the serpent-like Goliath for the fame of Yahweh's name (ch. 17, esp. 17:45–47).
- ❖ The Lord increasingly honors David, while dishonoring Saul.

“You come to me with sword and with a spear and with a javelin, but I come to you in the name of Yahweh of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied” (1 Sam 17:45).





- ❖ The Lord increasingly honors David, while dishonoring Saul.
- ❖ David acts like a priest in setting up the central sanctuary in Jerusalem (2 Sam 6).
- ❖ God gives David a messianic covenant the promises the hoped-for king-priest will come through his line and reign forever (ch. 7, esp. 7:12–16).
- ❖ God gave David sustained victories and he reigned with justice (8:14–15).

## ◆ David's Fall (2 Sam 9–21)

- ❖ In David's last successful battle, he defeats the son of Nahash (2 Sam 10).
- ❖ Immediately, however, we learn that David is not the serpent-slayer, for chs. 11–20 identify his downfall—his sin with Bathsheba and all the chaos that produced in the latter part of his reign (see esp. 2 Sam 11:3–5, 24–25, 26–27; 12:9–13).



# David's Life and Hope Point to the Messianic King-Priest (2 Sam 22–24)

- ◆ David as *priest*, making atonement that ended a famine (21:1–14)
  - ❖ David as *king*, defeating the Philistines (21:15–22)
    - ❖ A messianic psalm about the coming *priest-king* (ch. 22)
    - ❖ David's last words of messianic hope about a coming *priest-king* (23:1–7)
  - ❖ David as *king*, overseeing his mighty-men (23:8–39)
- ◆ David as *priest*, making atonement that ended a plague (ch. 24)

# Jesus Is the King-Priest

- ◆ **Three reasons why the narrative highlights David's sins:**
  - ❖ Message of warning
  - ❖ Message of challenge
  - ❖ Message of hope
- ◆ **Jesus is the son of David (Matt 1:1).**

- ◆ **Jesus is great priest-king who builds God's temple-palace and reigns forever from it (Ps 89:35–37[36–38]; 110:1–2, 4; Zech 6:12–13; Heb 5:5–6; 10:20–21; Rev 22:16).**
- ◆ **Jesus Is the Serpent-Slayer Who Inaugurates the New Creation (John 19:17–19; 2 Cor 5:17; Rev 12:9–11).**

# Summary of 1–2 Samuel

**The promised son of David will exceed Samuel, Saul, and David by being a God-honoring priest-king who, by defeating the serpent, will reestablish God's reign from his newly built temple and rule over Israel forever in the new creation.**