

**God's Masterwork, Volume Two**  
**The Story of God's People — A Survey of Joshua – Esther**  
1 Samuel: Nation in Transition  
*A SURVEY OF 1 SAMUEL*



## The Heart of the Matter

Transition times can be rather disconcerting. Those who have gone through the remodeling of a home can testify to that! Likewise, changes in leadership at one's place of employment or moves across the country or new policies and procedures set in motion bring the need to adapt. Being creatures of habit, we are disturbed by these changes. What is true for us individually is equally true on a national level. Presidential and governmental changes affect our feelings just as much as they alter the stock market. For centuries, God governed His people Israel. Throughout His theocratic rule, God used His anointed leaders to govern His people. We call the final group of these leaders the judges. The last judge—Samuel—transitioned the nation into a new way of governance. After Samuel, Israel was led by a king—King Saul, the people's choice. We will survey some of the changes that occurred during Israel's transition from theocracy to monarchy . . . from God's anointed servants to Israel's appointed king.



## Discovering the Way

### 1. Comparing Six Books

The books of Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles cover a period of nearly six hundred years in the life of God's people, a period that witnessed the nation's transition to being ruled by kings, the reigns of David and Solomon, the breaking apart of God's people, and the exile of both the northern and southern kingdoms.

### 2. Understanding 1 Samuel

While the book covers the transition from Samuel's judgeship to Saul's kingship, the pivotal moment in the book comes when Samuel anointed David as the future king of Israel.

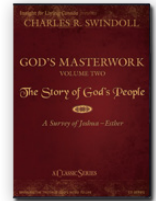


## Starting Your Journey

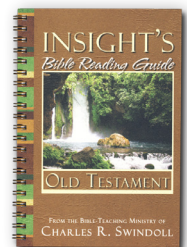
Two principles endure: no environmental handicap can cripple anyone whose life is touched by God. And second, no amount of high qualifications can preserve anyone who willfully rejects God.



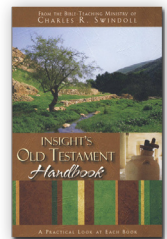
## Tools for Digging Deeper



God's Masterwork  
Volume Two  
The Story of God's People—A Survey  
of Joshua–Esther  
by Charles R. Swindoll



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# God's Masterwork, Volume Two

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### FIRST SAMUEL

<b>BEGINNING</b>	<b>Samuel The Last Judge</b>				<b>Saul The First King</b>		
Samuel's godliness	BIRTH	GROWTH AND CALL	MINISTRY	CHANGE	REJECTION BY GOD	REBELLION AGAINST GOD	
National hope					Impatient Rash Disobedient "Insane" Jealous Murderous		
Motivation							
Purity							
	<i>CHAPTER 1</i>	<i>CHAPTERS 2-3</i>	<i>CHAPTERS 4-7</i>	<i>CHAPTERS 8-12</i>	<i>CHAPTERS 13-16</i>	<i>CHAPTERS 17-31</i>	<b>ENDING</b>
						DAVID chosen, trained, tested, protected . . .	Saul's apostasy
<b>Attitude of the People</b>	Public trust				Public disillusionment		Depression
<b>Theme</b>	Though leaders and nations change, God's purposes always move forward.						
<b>Key Verses</b>	8:6-9; 13:14						
<b>Christ in 1 Samuel</b>	Typified in Samuel, who was a prophet, priest, and judge; also portrayed in the life of David . . . shepherd, king, and born in Bethlehem						
							Personal despair
							Suicide

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