



# The Kings of Israel

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## Lesson #2

# In our last study:

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We began our study looking at the establishment of the Israelite nation.

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We also discussed the God made with Abraham and later with the Israelites.

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Finally, we saw how God sat judges over the nation and how the people still rejected God.

# In this first study:

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We will look at the establishment of the Israelite nation. (continued...)

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The Israelites cry for a King

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A Warning from God

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Saul is selected to be the first King of Israel.

# God makes His covenant with the Israelites

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Joshua 23:2 – 3

# Joshua 23:2 – 3 (ESV)

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*2 Joshua summoned all Israel, its elders and heads, its judges and officers, and said to them, “I am now old and well advanced in years. 3 And you have seen all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations for your sake, for it is the LORD your God who has fought for you.*

# Joshua 23:5 (ESV)

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*5 The LORD your God will push them back before you and drive them out of your sight. And you shall possess their land, just as the LORD your God promised you.*

## Joshua 23:6 – 8 (ESV)

*6 Therefore, be very strong to keep and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, turning aside from it neither to the right hand nor to the left, 7 that you may not mix with these nations remaining among you or make mention of the names of their gods or swear by them or serve them or bow down to them, 8 but you shall cling to the LORD your God just as you have done to this day.*

# Joshua 23:9 (ESV)

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*9 For the LORD has driven out before you great and strong nations. And as for you, no man has been able to stand before you to this day.*



## Joshua 23:11 – 13 (ESV)

*11 Be very careful, therefore, to love the LORD your God. 12 For if you turn back and cling to the remnant of these nations remaining among you and make marriages with them, so that you associate with them and they with you, 13 know for certain that the LORD your God will no longer drive out these nations before you, but they shall be a snare and a trap for you, a whip on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good ground that the LORD your God has given you.*

# Joshua 24:14 – 15 (ESV)

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*14 “Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. 15 And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”*

## Joshua 24:16 – 18 (ESV)

*16 Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods, 17 for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our fathers up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight and preserved us in all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed. 18 And the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”*

# Joshua 24:19 – 20 (ESV)

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*19 But Joshua said to the people, “You are not able to serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. 20 If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good.”*

## Joshua 24:21 – 22 (ESV)

*21 And the people said to Joshua, “No, but we will serve the LORD.” 22 Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.”*

# Joshua 24:31 (ESV)

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*31 Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua and had known all the work that the LORD did for Israel.*

# Judges 2:10 (ESV)

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*10 And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel.*

God raises judges to be  
over His people

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**Judges 2:16 – 17**



# Judges 2:16 – 17 (ESV)

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*16 Then the LORD raised up judges, who saved them out of the hand of those who plundered them. 17 Yet they did not listen to their judges, for they whored after other gods and bowed down to them. They soon turned aside from the way in which their fathers had walked, who had obeyed the commandments of the LORD, and they did not do so.*

## Judges 2:18 – 19 (ESV)

*18 Whenever the LORD raised up judges for them, the LORD was with the judge, and he saved them from the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge. For the LORD was moved to pity by their groaning because of those who afflicted and oppressed them. 19 But whenever the judge died, they turned back and were more corrupt than their fathers, going after other gods, serving them and bowing down to them. They did not drop any of their practices or their stubborn ways.*

# Judges 17:6 (ESV)

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*6 In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.*

The Israelites cry for a  
king.

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1 Samuel 8:6

# 1 Samuel 8:1 – 3 (ESV)

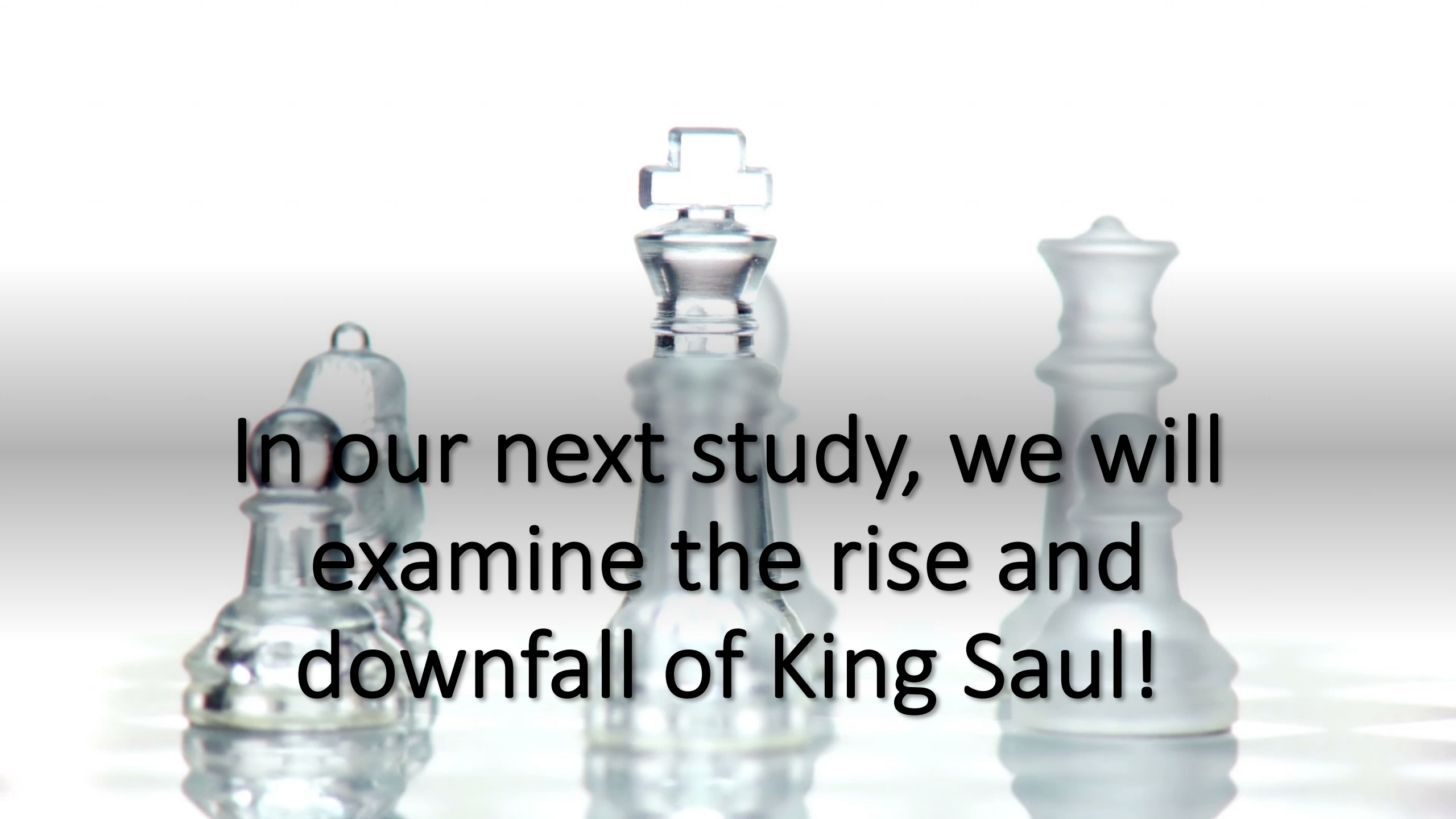
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*1 When Samuel became old, he made his sons judges over Israel. 2 The name of his firstborn son was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba. 3 Yet his sons did not walk in his ways but turned aside after gain. They took bribes and perverted justice.*

# 1 Samuel 8:4 – 5 (ESV)

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*4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah 5 and said to him, “Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.”*

The image features three glass chess pieces on a light-colored, reflective surface. In the center is a king piece with a cross-shaped top. To its left is a queen piece with a crown-like top. To its right is a rook piece with a tiered top. The pieces are arranged in a slightly curved line, and the background is a soft, out-of-focus light gray.

In our next study, we will  
examine the rise and  
downfall of King Saul!