

Chiastic Structure of 1 Samuel 15:10-31:13

A: 15:10-16:14: **THE “DEATH” OF SAUL THE KING**; YHWH regrets making Saul, Samuel “cuts off” Saul’s royal robe; YHWH’s spirit leaves Saul

B: 16:15-18:30: David’s career begins: royal musician/therapist; **DAVID “REJECTS” (DEFEATS) PHILISTINES** (Goliath); Jonathan’s love, Michal’s love (becomes his wife), David’s battle success

C: 19-20: **DAVID WITH SAMUEL AT RAMAH; SAUL AMONG THE PROPHETS WITH SAMUEL**; Jonathan conspires and covenants with David; the question between Saul and a woman, “why have you deceived me?” (19:17)

D: 21:10-23:13: Encounter at Ahimelech’s: David gathers a fighting “family”; **DAVID FLEES TO KING ACHISH OF GATH**; Saul orders slaughter of priests; David exerts royal authority

E: 23:14-24:22: **DAVID HIDES AT ZIPH**; covert “theft” from Saul “YHWH’s messiah”

F: 25: **“PARABLE” OF NABAL** (the “fool”) and Abigail (the “clever” or “prudent”); see Proverbs 13:16: “The clever do all things intelligently, but the fool displays folly.”

E¹: 26: **DAVID AT ZIPH**; covert “theft” from Saul “YHWH’s messiah”; (Saul a “fool”)

D¹: 27: **DAVID AMONG PHILISTINES AS VASSAL TO KING ACHISH**

C¹: 28: **SAUL CALLS UP SPIRIT OF SAMUEL, BURIED AT RAMAH**; YHWH doesn’t answer Saul by prophets; the question between Saul and a woman, “why have you deceived me?” (28:12)

B¹: 29-30: **PHILISTINES REJECT DAVID**; David rescues his two wives

A¹: 31:1-13: **PHYSICAL DEATH OF SAUL AND JONATHAN**

By Wes Howard-Brook