

Sons and “young men” in the stories introducing David (1 Samuel 16-17)

[all Hebrew words listed in root form, not the specific grammatical form used]

RECALL: Her husband Elkanah said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?"

[1 Samuel 1.8]

16.1	YHWH to Samuel: "I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite , for I have provided for myself a king among his sons [ben] ."
16.5	Samuel "sanctified Jesse and his sons [ben] and invited them to the sacrifice."
16.10	Jesse made seven of his sons [ben] pass before Samuel...
16.11	Samuel said to Jesse , "Are all your sons [na`ar] here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep."
16.18	One of the young men [na`ar] answered, "I have seen a son [ben] of Jesse the Bethlehemite..."
16.19	So Saul sent messengers to Jesse , and said, "Send me your son [ben] David who is with the sheep."
16.20	Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a kid, and sent them by his son [ben] David to Saul .
17.12	Now David was the son [ben] of an Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah, named Jesse , who had eight sons [ben] .
17.13	The three eldest sons [ben] of Jesse had followed Saul to the battle; the names of his three sons [ben] who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.
17.17	Jesse said to his son [ben] David, "Take for your brothers..."
17.33	Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are just a boy [na`ar] ..."
17.42	When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was only a youth [na`ar] ...
17.53	The Israelites [ben] , i.e., " sons of Israel") came back from chasing the Philistines...
17.55	When Saul saw David go out against the Philistine, he said to Abner, the commander of the army, "Abner, whose son [ben] is this young man [na`ar] ?"
17.56	The king said, "Inquire whose son [ben] the stripling [`elem] ; only 20.22 elsewhere in MT] is."
17.58	Saul said to him, "Whose son [ben] are you, young man [na`ar] ?" And David answered, "I am the son [ben] of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite ."