

YOUNG PEOPLE'S  
*Bible Teacher*

SUMMER QUARTER  
JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2022  
For Teachers of Adults Ages  
18 Through 25



Union  
Gospel  
Press

# Young People's Bible Teacher

SUMMER QUARTER

June, July, August 2022

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# Scripture Lesson Text

**I SAM. 3:1** And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; *there was no open vision.*

**2** And it came to pass at that time, when Eli was laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, *that he could not see;*

**3** And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down *to sleep;*

**4** That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, **Here am I.**

**5** And he ran unto Eli, and said, Here am I; for thou calledst me. And he said, I called not; lie down again. And he went and lay down.

**6** And the LORD called yet again, Samuel. And Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, **Here am I; for thou didst call me.** And he answered, I called not, my son; lie down again.

**7** Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.

**8** And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli, and said, **Here am I; for thou didst call me.** And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child.

**9** Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth. So

Samuel went and lay down in his place.

**19** And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

**20** And all Israel from Dan even to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was established *to be* a prophet of the LORD.

**7:3** And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, **If ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.**

**4** Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only.

**5** And Samuel said, **Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the LORD.**

**10** And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel.

**12** Then Samuel took a stone, and set *it* between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it **Eben-ezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us.**

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# Samuel's Call and Ministry

Lesson Text: I Samuel 3:1-9, 19-20; 7:3-5, 10, 12

Related Scriptures: I Samuel 1:1-28; Judges 2:16-23

TIMES: about 1093 B.C.; 1047 B.C.

PLACES: Shiloh; Ramah; Mizpeh;  
between Mizpeh and Shen

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**GOLDEN TEXT**—"The Lord came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth" (I Samuel 3:10).

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## *Lesson Exposition*

The period of the judges lasted about three hundred years. Each judge ruled over several tribes, but none united the entire nation. Now God was preparing His people to become a united kingdom. In order to prepare them, He gave them a judge who was also a priest and a prophet. His name was Samuel.

### **A PROPHET LISTENING TO GOD— I Sam. 3:1-9**

The character of the child Samuel shines through the first description of him. He "ministered unto the Lord before Eli" (I Sam. 3:1). He was obedient to the Lord by being obedient to Eli.

The importance of the events about to take place was underscored by the fact that revelation from God was rare; "there was no open vision" (Judg. 3:1). Not since the days of Joshua had God spoken regularly with one of the leaders of Israel. During the days of the judges, such revelation had been extremely rare. Israel did not have a prophet, only priests and military rulers.

Eli served the Lord as a priest in the tabernacle, but he was not re-

ceiving communication from God. Perhaps he would have listened if God had spoken to him, but he was now reaching the end of his ministry. God was preparing a new man to accomplish His purposes for the nation of Israel.

Samuel had been left in the tabernacle as a young boy by his mother, Hannah. He had been raised there and knew many truths about God and the service of God. He knew when to go to bed so that he could get to sleep before the lamp went out.

Samuel had not learned to listen to the voice of God, however. That was not really surprising, since the voice was so rare and even Eli had probably never heard it. At least Eli did not seem to understand what was happening the first time the voice came. He simply told the boy, "I called not" (I Sam. 3:5). Eli's response was the same the second time.

The reason Samuel at first did not respond to the voice of God was that he "did not yet know the Lord" (vs. 7). He knew how to serve Eli, and he probably knew much about the sacrificial system. He did not, however, know the God they were worshipping in