

The Early Prophets - One Book, One Theme - class # 24
The rivalry between David & Shaul - what do the people think!
Source sheet for TIM shiur by Menachem Leibtag/

I. A review of the units we have identified thus far

And how they relate to the prophetic theme of the entire book

Shmuel chapters 1->7 / Shmuel the Prophet & Judge

Establishing Shmuel as a 'trusted' Prophet - & his religious and educational reform

**Chapters 8-> 12 – God agrees to a Monarchy (despite Shmuel's reservations
The people's request a King/ & Shaul's two coronations**

Chapter 13 -> 14 Shaul's Kingdom

Despite Shaul's military victory, Hashem promises to dethrone him.

Chapters 15-16 - The war with Amalek / & Shaul's punishment

Chapters 17->31 – The rise of David & the fall of Shaul

A new unit, written by the Prophet Gad, David is the protagonist!

II. Review of the stories

David is anointed clandestinely by Shmuel,

New unit:

Intro – battlefield in Emek ha'Eylah - & Yishai's family

David defeats Goliath [but Shaul doesn't know him!]

David slowly rises into the high ranking in Shaul's gov't. and army

Shaul becomes jealous of David's popularity

Shaul decides to kill David [but wants EVERYONE to think it was an accident]

By Divine Providence, David is always saved & protected for Shaul's plots

Shaul shares his fear of David with his closest advisors

Shaul declares David as 'Public enemy #1'

III. Chapter 16 – The final story from Shmuel's perspective

יג וַיִּקַּח שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-קֶרֶן הַשֶּׁמֶן, וַיִּמָּשַׁח אֹתוֹ בְּקֶרֶב אֶחָיו, וַתִּצְלַח רוּחַ-יְהוָה אֶל-דָּוִד, מִהַיּוֹם הַהוּא וּמִעַלְהָ; וַיִּקַּם שְׁמוּאֵל, וַיֵּלֶךְ הָרְמָתָה.

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah.

יד וְרוּחַ יְהוָה סָרָה, מֵעַם שְׁאוּל; וּבִעֲתָתוֹ רוּחַ-רָעָה, מֵאֵת יְהוָה.

14 Now the spirit of the LORD had departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD terrified him.

טו וַיֹּאמְרוּ עֲבָדֵי-שְׁאוּל, אֵלָיו: הִנֵּה-נָא רוּחַ-אֱלֹהִים רָעָה, מְבַעֲתָדָךְ.

15 And Saul's servants said unto him: 'Behold now, an evil spirit from God terrifieth thee.

טז יֹאמֶר-נָא אֲדֹנָי, עֲבָדֶיךָ לִפְנֶיךָ--יִבְקָשׁוּ, אִישׁ יָדַע מְנַגֵּן בַּכִּנּוֹר; וְהָיָה, בְּהֵיוֹת עֲלֶיךָ רוּחַ-אֱלֹהִים רָעָה--וַיִּנְגֵן בְּיָדוֹ, וְטוֹב לָךְ.

16 Let our lord now command thy servants, that are before thee, to seek out a man who is a skilful player on the harp; and when the evil spirit from God cometh upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and be well.' {P}

IV. Chapter 18 - see where the harp player story can fit

א וַיְהִי, כְּכַלְתּוֹ לְדַבֵּר אֶל-שָׁאוּל, וַנִּפְּשׂ יְהוֹנָתָן, וַקְשָׁרָה בְּנֶפֶשׁ דָּוִד; וַיֵּאָהְבוּ (וַיֵּאָהֲבֵהוּ) יְהוֹנָתָן, כְּנֶפֶשׁוֹ.

1 And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

ב וַיִּקַּחְהוּ שָׁאוּל, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא; וְלֹא נָתַנוּ, לָשׁוּב בֵּית אָבִיו.

2 And Saul took him that day, and would let him go no more home to his father's house.

ג וַיַּכְרֹת יְהוֹנָתָן וְדָוִד, בְּרִית, בְּאֶהֱבָתוֹ אֹתוֹ, כְּנֶפֶשׁוֹ.

3 Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul.

ד וַיִּתְּפֹשֵׁט יְהוֹנָתָן, אֶת-הַמַּעֲיֵל אֲשֶׁר עָלָיו, וַיִּתְּנֶהוּ, לְדָוִד; וּמַדְיּוֹ, וְעַד-חַרְבּוֹ וְעַד-קִשְׁתּוֹ וְעַד-חֲגָרוֹ.

4 And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his apparel, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle.

ה וַיֵּצֵא דָוִד בְּכָל אֲשֶׁר יִשְׁלַחְנוּ שָׁאוּל, יִשְׁכִּיל, וַיִּשְׁמָהוּ שָׁאוּל, עַל אַנְשֵׁי הַמַּלְחָמָה;

5 And David went out; whithersoever Saul sent him, he had good success; and Saul set him over the men of war; and it was good in the sight of all the people, and also in the sight of Saul's servants. {P}

וַיִּיטֵב, בְּעֵינֵי כָל-הָעָם, וְגַם, בְּעֵינֵי עַבְדֵי שָׁאוּל. {פ}

ו וַיְהִי כַּבּוֹאָם, בְּשׁוּב דָּוִד מִהַכּוֹת אֶת-הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, וַתֵּצְאָנָה הַנְּשִׂים מִכָּל-עָרֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לְשׁוֹר (לְשִׁיר) וְהַמְּחֹלוֹת, לְקִרְאֵת שָׁאוּל הַמֶּלֶךְ--בְּתַפִּים בְּשִׂמְחָה, וּבְשָׁלְשִׁים.

6 And it came to pass as they came, when David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women came out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet king Saul, with timbrels, with joy, and with three-stringed instruments.

ז וַתַּעֲנִינָה הַנְּשִׂים הַמְּשַׁחֲקוֹת, וַתֹּאמְרוּ: הֲכֹה שָׁאוּל בְּאַלְפּוֹ, וְדָוִד בְּרַבְבַּתָּיו.

7 And the women sang one to another in their play, and said: Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.

ח וַיַּחַר לְשָׁאוּל מְאֹד, וַיִּרַע בְּעֵינָיו הַדָּבָר הַזֶּה, וַיֹּאמֶר נָתַנוּ לְדָוִד רַבּוֹת, וְלִי נָתַנוּ הָאֲלָפִים; וְעוֹד לוֹ, אֵד הַמְּלוּכָה.

8 And Saul was very wroth, and this saying displeased him; and he said: 'They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but thousands; and all he lacketh is the kingdom!'

ט וַיְהִי שָׁאוּל, עוֹן (עוֹיִן) אֶת-דָּוִד, מִהַיּוֹם הַהוּא, וְהִלָּאָה. {ס}

9 And Saul eyed David from that day and forward. {S}

י וַיְהִי מִמָּחָרָת, וַתֵּצֵלַח רוּחַ אֱלֹהִים רָעָה אֶל-שָׁאוּל וַיִּתְנַבֵּא בְּתוֹךְ-הַבַּיִת, וְדָוִד מִנְּגֵן בְּיָדוֹ, כְּיוֹם בָּיּוֹם; וְהַחֲנִית, בְּיַד-שָׁאוּל.

10 And it came to pass on the morrow, that an evil spirit from God came mightily upon Saul, and he raved in the midst of the house; and David played with his hand, as he did day by day; and Saul had his spear in his hand.

יא וַיִּטֵּל שָׁאוּל, אֶת-הַחֲנִית, וַיֹּאמֶר, אֲכָה בְּדָוִד וּבַקִּיר; וַיִּסֵּב דָּוִד מִפְּנֵיו, פַּעַמַּיִם.

11 And Saul cast the spear; for he said: 'I will smite David even to the wall.' And David stepped aside out of his presence twice.

יב וַיִּירָא שָׁאוּל, מִלִּפְנֵי דָוִד: כִּי-הָיָה יְהוָה עִמּוֹ, וַיִּמָּעַם שָׁאוּל סָר.

12 And Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with him, and was departed from Saul.

יג וַיִּסְרֶהוּ שָׂאוּל מֵעִמּוֹ, וַיִּשְׁמְהוּ לוֹ שֵׁר-אַלְפִי; וַיֵּצֵא
וַיָּבֵא, לִפְנֵי הָעָם. {ס}

13 Therefore Saul removed him from him, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. {S}

יד וַיְהִי דָוִד לְכָל-דְּרָכָו, מִשְׁפִּיל; וַיְהוֶה, עִמּוֹ.

14 And David had great success in all his ways; and the LORD was with him.

טו וַיִּרְא שָׂאוּל, אֲשֶׁר-הוּא מִשְׁפִּיל מְאֹד; וַיִּגַּר, מִפָּנָיו.

15 And when Saul saw that he had great success, he stood in awe of him.

טז וְכָל-יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיְהוּדָה, אָהַב אֶת-דָּוִד:
כִּי-הוּא יוֹצֵא וּבָא, לִפְנֵיהֶם. {פ}

16 But all Israel and Judah loved David; for he went out and came in before them. {P}

יז וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל אֶל-דָּוִד, הִנֵּה בְּתִי הַגְּדוֹלָה מְרַב אֶתָּה
אֶתְּנֶנּוּ לְךָ לְאִשָּׁה--אֵדָה הִיא-לִי לְבֵן-חֵיל, וְהִלַּחֵם
מִלְחָמוֹת יְהוָה; וְשָׂאוּל אָמַר, אֵל-תְּהִי יָדֵי בּוֹ, וְתִהְיֶה-
בוֹ, יָד-פְּלִשְׁתִּים. {ס}

17 And Saul said to David: 'Behold my elder daughter Merab, her will I give thee to wife; only be thou valiant for me, and fight the LORD'S battles.' For Saul said: 'Let not my hand be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines be upon him.' {S}

יח וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד אֶל-שָׂאוּל, מִי אֲנֹכִי וּמִי חַיִּי, מִשְׁפַּחַת
אָבִי, בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל--כִּי-אֶהְיֶה חֹתֵן, לְמֶלֶךְ.

18 And David said unto Saul: 'Who am I, and what is my life, or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?'

יט וַיְהִי, בָּעֵת תַּת אֶת-מְרַב בַּת-שָׂאוּל--לְדָוִד; וְהָיָה
נִתָּנָה לְעַדְרִיאֵל הַמְּחֹלַתִּי, לְאִשָּׁה.

19 But it came to pass at the time when Merab Saul's daughter should have been given to David, that she was given unto Adriel the Meholathite to wife.

כ וַתִּאָּהֵב מִיכָל בַּת-שָׂאוּל, אֶת-דָּוִד; וַיִּגְדּוּ לְשָׂאוּל,
וַיִּשֶׁר הַדָּבָר בְּעֵינָיו.

20 And Michal Saul's daughter loved David; and they told Saul, and the thing pleased him.

כא וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל אֶתְנַנֶּה לוֹ, וְתִהְיֶה-לוֹ לְמוֹקֵשׁ, וְתִהְיֶה-
בוֹ, יָד-פְּלִשְׁתִּים; וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל אֶל-דָּוִד, בְּשִׁפְתַיִם
תִּתְחַתֵּן בִּי הַיּוֹם.

21 And Saul said: 'I will give him her, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him.' Wherefore Saul said to David: 'Thou shalt this day be my son-in-law through the one of the twain.'

כב וַיִּצַו שָׂאוּל אֶת-עֲבָדָיו, דַּבְּרוּ אֶל-דָּוִד בְּלֵט לְאָמַר,
הִנֵּה חֲפֵץ בְּךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ, וְכָל-עֲבָדָיו אֶהְבִּיד; וְעַתָּה, הִתְחַתֵּן
בַּמֶּלֶךְ.

22 And Saul commanded his servants: 'Speak with David secretly, and say: 'Behold, the king hath delight in thee, and all his servants love thee; now therefore be the king's son-in-law.'

כג וַיְדַבְּרוּ עֲבָדֵי שָׂאוּל, בְּאָזְנֵי דָוִד, אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים,
הָאֵלֶּה; וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, הִנְקִלָה בְּעֵינֵיכֶם הִתְחַתֵּן בַּמֶּלֶךְ,
וְאֲנֹכִי, אִישׁ-רָשׁ וְנִקְלָה.

23 And Saul's servants spoke those words in the ears of David. And David said: 'Seemeth it to you a light thing to be the king's son-in-law, seeing that I am a poor man, and lightly esteemed?'

כד וַיִּגְדּוּ עֲבָדֵי שָׂאוּל, לוֹ--לְאָמַר: כְּדַבְּרֵים הָאֵלֶּה,
דִּבֶּר דָּוִד.

24 And the servants of Saul told him, saying: 'On this manner spoke David.'

כה וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל כֹּה-תֹאמְרוּ לְדָוִד, אִין-חֲפֵץ לְמֶלֶךְ
בְּמֹהַר, כִּי בְמֵאָה עֲרֹלוֹת פְּלִשְׁתִּים, לְהִנָּקֵם בְּאִיבֵי
הַמֶּלֶךְ; וְשָׂאוּל חָשַׁב, לְהַפִּיל אֶת-דָּוִד בְּיַד-פְּלִשְׁתִּים.

25 And Saul said: 'Thus shall ye say to David: The king desireth not any dowry, but a hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies.' For Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines.

כו וַיִּגְדּוּ עֲבָדָיו לְדָוִד, אֶת-הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, וַיִּשֶׁר הַדָּבָר

26 And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king's son-in-law. And the days were

בְּעֵינֵי דָוִד, לְהִתְחַתֵּן בְּמִלְךָ; וְלֹא מָלְאוּ, הַיָּמִים.

not expired;

כֹּז וַיִּקָּם דָּוִד וַיֵּלֶךְ הוּא וְאֲנָשָׁיו, וַיִּךְ בַּפְּלִשְׁתִּים
מֵאתַיִם אִישׁ, וַיָּבֵא דָוִד אֶת-עֶרְלֹתֵיהֶם, וַיִּמְלְאוּם
לְמִלְךָ לְהִתְחַתֵּן בְּמִלְךָ; וַיִּתֵּן-לוֹ שָׂאוּל אֶת-מִיכַל בִּתּוֹ,
לְאִשָּׁה. {ס}

27 and David arose and went, he and his men, and slew of the Philistines two hundred men; and David brought their foreskins, and they gave them in full number to the king, that he might be the king's son-in-law. And Saul gave him Michal his daughter to wife. {S}

כח וַיֵּרָא שָׂאוּל וַיֵּדַע, כִּי יְהוָה עִם-דָּוִד; וּמִיכַל בִּת-
שָׂאוּל, אֲהַבְתָּהּ.

28 And Saul saw and knew that the LORD was with David; and Michal Saul's daughter loved him.

כט וַיִּאֶסֶף שָׂאוּל, לִירֹא מִפְּנֵי דָוִד--עוֹד; וַיְהִי שָׂאוּל
אֹיֵב אֶת-דָּוִד, כָּל-הַיָּמִים. {פ}

29 And Saul was yet the more afraid of David; and Saul was David's enemy continually. {P}

ל וַיֵּצְאוּ, שָׂרֵי פְלִשְׁתִּים; וַיְהִי מִדֵּי צֵאתָם, שָׁכַל דָּוִד
מִכָּל עֲבָדֵי שָׂאוּל, וַיִּיקָר שְׁמוֹ, מְאֹד. {ס}

30 Then the princes of the Philistines went forth; and it came to pass, as often as they went forth, that David prospered more than all the servants of Saul; so that his name was much set by. {S}