

Cast of Characters in 1 Samuel Chapters 13 - 21

Character	Meaning	Description	Reference
Samuel	"God is exalted"	Last judge of Israel. First "king maker." A holy and obedient prophet.	1:20
Saul	"asked for"	First king of Israel. Tall and handsome.	9:2
Jonathan	"Yahweh Gave"	Eldest son of King Saul; friend and ally of David; great soldier	13:2
Ahijah	"My brother is Yahweh"	Priest descendent of Eli who was to fetch the Ark for Saul (NIV) or who supplied the Ephod*	14:3
Agag	"Fiery One"	King of Amalek; spared by Saul but killed by Samuel	15:8, 33
Jesse	"manly"	Father of David grandson of Boaz & Ruth; included in NT genealogies	16:1
David	"Favorite" or "Beloved"	Maybe the most important of the kings. Ancestor of Jesus; "author" of Psalms; king of Israel and Judah; great warrior; mentioned 54 times in the New Testament	16:12-13
Goliath	?	Giant Philistine champion**	17:23
Eliab	"God is Father"	First born of Jesse passed over by God; angry with David over the Goliath episode	16:6; 17:28
Merab	"to become many"	Older daughter of Saul first pledged to David but given to another	18:17
Michal	"who is like God"	Younger daughter of Saul; becomes David's wife	18:27
Ahimelech	"my brother is king"	High priest of Nob who gave David reserved bread	21:2
Doeg	"full of fear"	Saul's spy; murders 85 priests; see Ps 52	21:8
Achish	?	Philistine king of Gath	21:11

*In some versions, Saul first calls for the Ark. In others, he calls only for the Ephod.

** Some translations say Goliath was 9 feet tall