

The Seer

The Life of the Prophet Samuel and its Relevance Today

Contents

Preface to the English Edition

Introduction

1. God, Hannah and Elkanah

The Value of the Old Testament

God's Providence

Hannah's Despondency

Elkanah's Reaction

2. Hannah's Prayer

Interpretative Comments on Hannah's Prayer

Noetic Prayer of the Heart

3. Samuel's Birth, Nursing and Dedication

Conception and Birth

Nursing Samuel

Samuel's Dedication

Conclusions

4. Hannah's Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Form of Hannah's Prayer

The Content of the Prayer

Interpretations of the Prayer

5. Samuel in the Temple

The Temple and its Importance

Worship and Children

Bringing Up Children in the Church

Ecclesiastical Life and the Home

6. God's Revelation to Samuel

God's Manifestation to Samuel

The Theology of Revelation

The Difference between Natural and Supranatural Revelation

The Difference between Revelation and Speculation

The Difference between Revelation and Vision

Confirmation of Revelational Experience

7. The Content of the Revelation

God's Message

The Sin of Eli's Sons

The Priest Eli's Error

Samuel's Attitude

8. The Words of the Prophets

Samuel's Appointment as Prophet

Genuine Prophets

Contemporary Prophetic Words

Accepting Prophets and Prophetic Words

9. Samuel's Mission

The Judges and their Task

Samuel as a Judge

a) Teaching and Advising the People

b) Curing the People

c) Judging the People

10. Samuel's Children

Why Children from Devout Families Rebel

How Parents Benefit

Conclusions

11. The Search for a King

The People's Ingratitude

The People's Apostasy

Samuel's Dispassion

God's Consent and Permission

12. God and History

Samuel and Saul Meet

God Directs History

God Enlightens Different People

The Search for Saints

The Man of God – the Seer

13. The Gift of Foresight and Clear Sight

Samuel and the People

The Gift of Foresight

The Holy Fathers on the Gift of Foresight

How Saul is Presented

14. Saul's Anointing as King

Oil and the Greeting

The Task of Rulers

Visible Confirmations

15. Energies of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

The Energy of the Holy Spirit in Saul

Saul's Discernment

16. The People Choose Saul

Samuel's Address

How Saul was Chosen

Saul's Enthronement

17. Samuel's Dispassion

Giving Account of His Work

Samuel Rebukes the People

The People's Repentance and Samuel's Prayer

18. Saul's Two Sins

The Sacrifice without Samuel

Refusal to Obey God

The Prophet Samuel's Attitude

Our Attitude to the Spiritual Father

19. God's Regret – Samuel's Prayer

God's Regret

The Cause of the Sin

Patristic Interpretations of Saul and His Fall

Samuel's Distress and His Vigil

20. Saul's Final Fall and Samuel's Grief

Saul's Regret and Lack of Repentance

Samuel's Grief

21. Samuel's Consolation and David's Appointment

Samuel is Consoled by God

David's Appointment

22. Death of the Prophet Samuel

Death in the Orthodox Tradition

Samuel's Virtues

23. The Prophet Samuel and the Church

Translator's Bibliography