

The Early Prophets - One Book, One Theme - class # 23

David & Goliath - A new 'unit' begins in chapter 17

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

Next unit – will begin in chapter 17

Note new introduction & that now David is the protagonist

II. Review of the famous stories

Shaul appointed king – and is quite successful

Shaul's sin in the war with Amalek

Hashem tells Shmuel to anoint a new King

David is anointed – to the surprise of his brothers

David becomes Shaul's harp player and arm's bearer

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

Shaul becomes jealous of David's popularity

Big question when studying chapter 17 –

How could Shaul not recognize David !!!

III. Chapter 17

נָה וְכָרְאוֹת שָׂאוּל אֶת-דָּוִד, יֵצֵא לְקִרְאֵת הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, אָמַר אֶל-
אֲבִנֵּר שֶׁר הַצָּבָא, בֶּן-מִי-זֶה הַנְּעָר אֲבִנֵּר ;
וַיֹּאמֶר אֲבִנֵּר, חִי-נִפְשֶׁךָ הַמֶּלֶךְ אִם-יִדְעֵתִי.

55 And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said unto Abner, the captain of the host: 'Abner, whose son is this youth?' And Abner said: 'As thy soul liveth, O king, I cannot tell.'

נֹו וַיֹּאמֶר, הַמֶּלֶךְ: שְׂאֵל אֶתְּהָ, בֶּן-מִי-זֶה הָעֶלֶם. {ס}

56 And the king said: 'Inquire thou whose son the stripling is.' {S}

נֹז וּכְשׁוּב דָּוִד, מִהַכּוֹת אֶת-הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, וַיִּקַּח אֹתוֹ אֲבִנֵּר, וַיְבִאֵהוּ
לְפָנָיו שָׂאוּל; וַרְאֵשׁ הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, בְּיָדוֹ.

57 And as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took him, and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand.

נֹחַ וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו שָׂאוּל, בֶּן-מִי אַתָּה הַנְּעָר ;
וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, בֶּן-עֶבְדְּךָ יֵשׁוּ בֵּית הַלְּחֵמִי.

58 And Saul said to him: 'Whose son art thou, thou young man?' And David answered: 'I am the son of thy servant Jesse the Beth-lehemite.'

IV. Chapter 16 – let's pay attention to the apparent age of David

א וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל, עַד-מַתִּי אֶתָּה מִתְאַבֵּל אֶל-שָׂאוּל, וְאֲנִי מֵאַסְתִּיּוֹ, מִמֶּלֶךְ עַל-יִשְׂרָאֵל; מִלֵּא קִרְנֶךָ שֶׁמֶן, וְלֶךָ אֶשְׁלַחְךָ אֶל-יֹשֵׁי בֵּית-הַלְחָמִי--כִּי-רָאִיתִי בְּבָנָיו לִי, מֶלֶךְ.

1 And the LORD said unto Samuel: 'How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from being king over Israel? fill thy horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Beth-lehemite; for I have provided Me a king among his sons.'

ב וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֵיךְ אֵלֶיךָ, וְשָׁמַע שָׂאוּל וְהַרְגָנִי; וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה, עֲגֹלֶת בָּקָר תִּקַּח בְּיָדְךָ, וְאִמְרַתְּ, לְזִבְחֵ לַיהוָה בָּאתִי.

2 And Samuel said: 'How can I go? if Saul hear it, he will kill me.' And the LORD said: 'Take a heifer with thee, and say: I am come to sacrifice to the LORD.'

ג וְקִרְאתָ לְיֹשֵׁי, בְּזִבְחֵ; וְאָנֹכִי, אוֹדִיעֶךָ אֶת אֲשֶׁר-תַּעֲשֶׂה, וּמִשְׁחַתְּ לִי, אֶת אֲשֶׁר-אֹמַר אֵלֶיךָ.

3 And call Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will tell thee what thou shalt do; and thou shalt anoint unto Me him whom I name unto thee.'

ד וַיַּעַשׂ שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶת אֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר יְהוָה, וַיָּבֵא, בֵּית לָחֶם; וַיִּחַרְדּוּ זְקֵנֵי הָעִיר, לִקְרָאתוֹ, וַיֹּאמְרוּ, שָׁלֵם בּוֹאֶךָ.

4 And Samuel did that which the LORD spoke, and came to Beth-lehem. And the elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said: 'Comest thou peaceably?'

ה וַיֹּאמֶר שָׁלוֹם, לְזִבְחֵ לַיהוָה בָּאתִי, הִתְקַדְּשׁוּ, וּבָאתֶם אִתִּי בְּזִבְחֵ; וַיִּקְדָּשׁ אֶת-יֹשֵׁי וְאֶת-בָּנָיו, וַיִּקְרָא לָהֶם לְזִבְחֵ.

5 And he said: 'Peaceably; I am come to sacrifice unto the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice.

ו וַיְהִי כַּבּוֹאֵם, וַיֵּרָא אֶת-אֱלִיָּאב; וַיֹּאמֶר, אֵדָּךְ נִגַּד יְהוָה מִשִּׁיחוֹ. {ס}

6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he beheld Eliab, and said: 'Surely the LORD'S anointed is before Him.' {S}

ז וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-שְׁמוּאֵל, אֶל-תִּבְטֵ אֶל-מְרֹאָהוּ וְאֶל-גְּבוּהַ קוֹמָתוֹ--כִּי מֵאַסְתִּיהוּ: כִּי לֹא, אֲשֶׁר יֵרָאֶה הָאָדָם--כִּי הָאָדָם יֵרָאֶה לְעֵינָיִם, וַיְהוָה יֵרָאֶה לְלֵבָב.

7 But the LORD said unto Samuel: 'Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have rejected him; for it is not as man seeth: for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.'

ח וַיִּקְרָא יֹשֵׁי אֶל-אַבִּינָדָב, וַיַּעֲבְרֵהוּ לִפְנֵי שְׁמוּאֵל; וַיֹּאמֶר, גַּם-בְּזֶה לֹא-בָחַר יְהוָה.

8 Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said: 'Neither hath the LORD chosen this.'

ט וַיַּעֲבֵר יֹשֵׁי, שִׁמְהָ; וַיֹּאמֶר, גַּם-בְּזֶה לֹא-בָחַר יְהוָה.

9 Then Jesse made Shammah to pass by. And he said: 'Neither hath the LORD chosen this.'

י וַיַּעֲבֵר יֹשֵׁי שִׁבְעַת בָּנָיו, לִפְנֵי שְׁמוּאֵל; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יֹשֵׁי, לֹא-בָחַר יְהוָה בְּאַלֶּהָ.

10 And Jesse made seven of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse: 'The LORD hath not chosen these.'

יא וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יֹשֵׁי, הֲתַמּוּ הַנְּעָרִים, וַיֹּאמֶר עוֹד שָׂאֵר הַקֶּטָן, וְהִנֵּה רֹעֵה בְצֹאן; וַיֹּאמֶר שְׁמוּאֵל אֶל-יֹשֵׁי שְׁלַחַה וַקְּחֵנּוּ, כִּי לֹא-נֹסֵב עַד-בֹּאוֹ פֹּה.

11 And Samuel said unto Jesse: 'Are here all thy children?' And he said: 'There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he keepeth the sheep.' And Samuel said unto Jesse: 'Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down till he come hither.'

יב וַיִּשְׁלַח וַיְבִיֵּאֵהוּ וְהוּא אֲדָמוֹנִי, עֵם-יָפֵה עֵינָיִם וְטוֹב רֵאִי; {פ} וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה קוֹם מִשְׁחָהוּ, כִּי-זֶה הוּא.

12 And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of beautiful eyes, and goodly to look upon. {P} And the LORD said: 'Arise, anoint him; for this is he.'

יג וַיִּקַּח שְׁמוּאֵל אֶת-קֶרֶן הַשֶּׁמֶן, וַיִּמְשַׁח אֹתוֹ בְּקָרֶב אָחָיו, וַתִּצְלַח רוּחַ-יְהוָה אֶל-דָּוִד, מֵהַיּוֹם הַהוּא וּמְעַלְהָ; וַיִּקַּם שְׁמוּאֵל, וַיֵּלֶךְ הַרְמָתָה.

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 שָׂאוּל; וּבַעֲתָתוֹ 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-שָׂאוּל, אֵלָיו: הִנֵּה-נָא רוּחַ-אֱלֹהִים רָעָה, מְבַעֲתָךְ.

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

טז יאמר-נא אֲדַנְנוּ, עֲבָדֶיךָ לִפְנֵיךָ--יִבְקֶשׁוּ, אִישׁ יָדַע מְנַגֵּן
בַּכִּנּוֹר; וְהָיָה, בְּהַיּוֹת עָלֶיךָ רוּחַ-אֱלֹהִים רָעָה--וְנָגַן בְּיָדוֹ,
וְטוֹב לָךְ. {פ}

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 it shall be, when the evil spirit from God cometh upon thee, that he shall play with his hand, and thou shalt be well. {P}

יז וַיֹּאמֶר שָׂאוּל, אֶל-עֲבָדָיו: **רְאוּ-נָא לִי, אִישׁ מִיִּטִּיב לְנַגֵּן,**
וְהִבִּיאֹתֶם, אֵלָי.

17 And Saul said unto his servants: 'Provide me now a man that can play well, and bring him to me.'

יח וַיַּעַן אֶחָד מֵהַנְּעָרִים וַיֹּאמֶר,
**הִנֵּה רָאִיתִי בֶן לְיִשַׁי בֵּית הַלְּחָמִי, יָדַע נָגֵן - וְגִבּוֹר חַיִל -
וְאִישׁ מַלְחָמָה - וְנָבוֹן דְּבָר, וְאִישׁ תֹּאֵר; וַיְהִי, עִמּוֹ.**

18 Then answered one of the young men, and said: 'Behold, I have seen a son of Jesse the Beth-lehemite, that is skilful in playing, and a mighty man of valour, and a man of war, and prudent in affairs, and a comely person, and the LORD is with him.'

יט וַיִּשְׁלַח שָׂאוּל מַלְאָכִים, **אֶל-יִשַׁי;** וַיֹּאמֶר,
שְׁלַחָה אֵלָי אֶת-דָּוִד בְּנֶךָ אֲשֶׁר בְּצֹאן.

19 Wherefore Saul sent messengers unto Jesse, and said: 'Send me David thy son, who is with the sheep.'

כ וַיִּקַּח יִשַׁי חֲמֹר לָחֶם, וְנֹאֵד יֵן, וְגִדֵי עֲזִים, אֶחָד; וַיִּשְׁלַח
בְּיַד-דָּוִד בְּנוֹ, אֶל-שָׂאוּל.

20 And Jesse took an ass laden with bread, and a bottle of wine, and a kid, and sent them by David his son unto Saul.

כא וַיָּבֵא דָוִד אֶל-שָׂאוּל, וַיַּעֲמֵד לְפָנָיו;
וַיֶּאֱהָבֵהוּ מְאֹד, וַיְהִי-לוֹ נִשְׂא כְלִים.

21 And David came to Saul, and stood before him; and he loved him greatly; and he became his armour-bearer.

כב וַיִּשְׁלַח שָׂאוּל, אֶל-יִשַׁי לֵאמֹר:
יַעֲמַד-נָא דָוִד לְפָנַי, כִּי-מִצָּא חַן בְּעֵינָי.

22 And Saul sent to Jesse, saying: 'Let David, I pray thee, stand before me; for he hath found favour in my sight.'

כג וְהָיָה, בְּהַיּוֹת רוּחַ-אֱלֹהִים אֶל-שָׂאוּל, וְלָקַח דָּוִד אֶת-
הַכִּנּוֹר, וְנָגַן בְּיָדוֹ; וַרוּחַ לְשָׂאוּל וְטוֹב לוֹ, וְסָרָה מֵעָלָיו רוּחַ
הָרָעָה. {פ}

23 And it came to pass, when the [evil] spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took the harp, and played with his hand; so Saul found relief, and it was well with him, and the evil spirit departed from him.

IV. Chapter 17 - see where the story can fit within chapter 16

יב וְדָוִד בֶּן-אִישׁ אֶפְרָתִי הַזֶּה, מִבֵּית לָחֶם
יְהוּדָה, וְשֵׁמוֹ יִשַׁי, וְלוֹ שְׁמֹנֶה בָנִים;
וְהָאִישׁ בִּימֵי שָׂאוּל, זָקֵן בָּא בְּאֲנָשִׁים.

12 Now David was the son of that Ephrathite of Beth-lehem in Judah, whose name was Jesse; and he had eight sons; and the man was an old man in the days of Saul, stricken in years among men.

יג וַיֵּלְכוּ שְׁלֹשֶׁת בָּנֵי-יִשַׁי, הַגְּדֹלִים--**הֵלְכוּ אַחֲרָי-
שָׂאוּל,** לְמַלְחָמָה; וְשֵׁם שְׁלֹשֶׁת בָּנָיו, אֲשֶׁר הֵלְכוּ
בְּמַלְחָמָה--אֶלְיָאָב הַבְּכוֹר וּמִשְׁנֵהוּ אַבִּינָדָב, וְהַשְּׁלִישִׁי שָׁמָה.

13 And the three eldest sons of Jesse had gone after Saul to the battle; and the names of his three sons that went to the battle were Eliab the first-born, and next unto him Abinadab, and the third Shammah.

יד וְדָוִד, הוּא הַקָּטָן;
וְשְׁלֹשָׁה, הַגְּדֹלִים, הֵלְכוּ, אַחֲרָי שָׂאוּל. {ס}

14 And David was the youngest; and the three eldest followed Saul.-- {S}

טו וְדָוִד הֵלֵךְ וְשָׁב, מֵעַל שָׂאוּל,
לְרַעוֹת אֶת-צֹאן אָבִיו, בַּיַּת-לָחֶם.

15 Now David went to and fro from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Beth-lehem.--

טז וַיִּגַּשׁ הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי, הַשֹּׁכֵם וְהָעָרֵב;
וַיִּתְיַצֵּב, אַרְבָּעִים יוֹם. {פ}

16 And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days. {P}

יז וַיֹּאמֶר יֵשׁוּעַ לְדָוִד בְּנוֹ, קַח-נָא לְאַחֶיךָ אֵיפַת הַקְּלִיא הַזֶּה, וְעֲשֵׂרָה לֶחֶם, הַזֶּה; וְהָרַץ הַמַּחֲנֶה, לְאַחֶיךָ.

17 And Jesse said unto David his son: 'Take now for thy brethren an ephah of this parched corn, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to thy brethren.

יח וְאֵת עֲשָׂרַת חֲרָצֵי הַחֶלֶב, הָאֵלֶּה, תָּבִיא, לְשֵׁר-הָאֶלֶף; וְאֶת-אַחֶיךָ תִּפְקֹד לְשָׁלוֹם, וְאֶת-עֲרֹבְתָם תִּקַּח.

18 And bring these ten cheeses unto the captain of their thousand, and to thy brethren shalt thou bring greetings, and take their pledge;

יט וְשָׂאוּל וְהָמָה וְכָל-אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּעֵמֶק הָאֵלֶּה; בְּלַחְמִים, עִם-פְּלִשְׁתִּים. {ס}

19 now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, are in the vale of Elah, fighting with the Philistines.' {S}

כ וַיִּשְׁכֵּם דָּוִד בַּבֹּקֶר, וַיִּטֹּשׂ אֶת-הַצֹּאֵן עַל-שֹׂמֵר, וַיֵּשֶׂא וַיֵּלֶךְ, כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוְּהוּ יֵשׁוּעַ; וַיָּבֵא, הַמַּעְגָּלָה, וְהַחֲחִיל הַיֵּצֵא אֶל-הַמַּעְרָכָה, וְהִרְעִי בַּמִּלְחָמָה.

20 And David rose up early in the morning, and left the sheep with a keeper, and took, and went, as Jesse had commanded him; and he came to the barricade, as the host which was going forth to the fight shouted for the battle.

כא וַתַּעֲרֹךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל וּפְלִשְׁתִּים, מִעֲרָכָה לְקִרְאֵת מִעֲרָכָה.

21 And Israel and the Philistines put the battle in array, army against army.

כב וַיִּטֹּשׂ דָּוִד אֶת-הַכֵּלִים מֵעָלָיו, עַל-יַד שׂוֹמֵר הַכֵּלִים, וַיָּרַץ, הַמַּעְרָכָה; וַיָּבֵא, וַיִּשְׂאֵל לְאַחִיו לְשָׁלוֹם.

22 And David left his baggage in the hand of the keeper of the baggage, and ran to the army, and came and greeted his brethren.

כג וְהוּא מְדַבֵּר עִמָּם, וְהִנֵּה אִישׁ הַיְּבָנִים עוֹלֶה גְלִית הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי שְׁמוֹ מְגַת מַמְעֵרוֹת (מִמַּעְרָכוֹת) פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וַיְדַבֵּר, בְּדַבְרֵים הָאֵלֶּה; וַיִּשְׁמַע, דָּוִד.

23 And as he talked with them, behold, there came up the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke according to the same words; and David heard them.

כד וְכָל אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּרֹאוֹתָם אֶת-הָאִישׁ; וַיִּנְסוּ, מִפָּנָיו, וַיִּירָאוּ, מְאֹד.

24 And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid.

כה וַיֹּאמֶר אִישׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל, הֲרֵאִיתֶם הָאִישׁ הַעֹלֶה הַזֶּה--כִּי לְחַרֵּף אֶת-יִשְׂרָאֵל, עָלָה; וְהִזִּה הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר-יִכְנֹנוּ יַעֲשֶׂרְנוּ הַמֶּלֶךְ עֶשֶׂר גְּדוֹל, וְאֶת-בֵּיתוֹ יִתֵּן-לוֹ, וְאֶת בֵּית אָבִיו, יַעֲשֶׂה חֲפְשֵׁי בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל. {פ}

25 And the men of Israel said: 'Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to taunt Israel is he come up; and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.' {P}

כו וַיֹּאמֶר דָּוִד, אֶל-הָאֲנָשִׁים הָעֹמְדִים עִמּוֹ לֵאמֹר, מַה-יַּעֲשֶׂה לְאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר יִכֶּה אֶת-הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי הַזֶּה, וְהִסִּיר חֲרָפָה מֵעַל יִשְׂרָאֵל: כִּי מִי, הַפְּלִשְׁתִּי הָעֹרֵל הַזֶּה, כִּי חֲרָף, מִעֲרֹכוֹת אֱלֹהִים חַיִּים.

26 And David spoke to the men that stood by him, saying: 'What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the taunt from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should have taunted the armies of the living God?'

כז וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ הָעָם, בְּדַבְרֵי הַזֶּה לֵאמֹר: כֹּה יַעֲשֶׂה, לְאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר יִכְנֹנוּ.

27 And the people answered him after this manner, saying: 'So shall it be done to the man that killeth him.'

כח וַיִּשְׁמַע אֱלִיאָב אַחִיו הַגְּדוֹל, בְּדַבְרוֹ אֶל-הָאֲנָשִׁים; וַיַּחַר-אַף אֱלִיאָב בְּדָוִד וַיֹּאמֶר לְמַה-זֶּה יֵרֵדְתָּ, וְעַל-מִי נִטְשָׁתָּ מֵעַט הַצֹּאֵן הַהֵנָּה בַּמִּדְבָּר--אֲנִי יָדַעְתִּי אֶת-זִדְנְךָ וְאֵת רַע לִבְבְּךָ, כִּי לְמַעַן רְאוֹת הַמִּלְחָמָה יֵרֵדְתָּ.

28 And Eliab his eldest brother heard when he spoke unto the men; and Eliab's anger was kindled against David, and he said: 'Why art thou come down? and with whom hast thou left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know thy presumptuousness, and the naughtiness of thy heart; for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle.'

