

❖ The last and greatest judge was the prophet Samuel. Samuel's mother, Hannah, had promised that if God gave her a son, she would give him to God. When Samuel was old enough, Hannah took him to the Temple at Shiloh and gave him to a priest named Eli. One night, Eli recognized that God was talking to Samuel. He told Samuel to say "Here I am, Lord." Samuel listened to Eli and responded to God's call.

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❖ Samuel's first task from God was to tell his mentor, Eli, that God was displeased with him. When Eli heard, he knew that Samuel spoke for the Lord. Eli's sons brought the Ark of the Covenant to the battle, where it was captured. This act resulted in the deaths of Eli and his sons.

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❖ When Samuel became too old to rule the people, they asked for a king. At first, Samuel objected to having a king, because kings in other countries were treated like gods. But God granted the people's request.

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❖ The first king that Samuel anointed was Saul. Before Saul became king, the tribes of Israel were spread out, and each was ruled by its own leader. As king, Saul united the tribes as one nation and led them against many other nations. He kept them safe from their enemies.

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❖ When Saul began to ignore the Lord's messages, the Lord chose David to be the second king of Israel. Saul did not know that David would replace him.

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❖ To anoint is to pour or rub on oil when performing a ritual. People, places, and objects are anointed to show that they have been marked by God. That is why we are anointed when we are baptized and confirmed.

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❖ When a person receives the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, he or she is given the grace to be healed spiritually and sometimes physically. Only a priest or bishop can administer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. It can be done anywhere, depending on the person's situation.

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❖ Deacons, priests, and bishops are ordained in the Sacrament of Holy Orders. This sacrament can only be performed by a bishop who is acting in the name of the Church. The bishop lays his hands on the person being anointed—just as Moses laid his hands on Joshua.

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