

The Story Of The School Of The Prophets

The First Of The Schools

- **1 Samuel 19:18** - "So David fled, and escaped, and came to Samuel to Ramah... And he and Samuel went and dwelt in Naioth".
- *'Naioth'* - "A proper name applied to the common dwelling of the pupils who had gathered around Samuel" (Delitzsch). Cp. Arabic - *nawiyath* - the place of study.
- **1 Samuel 19:20** - "they saw the company of the prophets prophesying". Here then was the first occasion where a group of students had gathered.
- **1 Samuel 19:20** - "and Samuel standing as appointed over them". *ROTH* - "standing as head over them" i.e. presiding over the assembly.

The Structure Of The Schools

- **2 Kings 6:32** - "Elisha sat in his house, and the elders sat with him". The implication is that the schools had **an established organisational structure**.
- **2 Kings 6:1-2** - "Behold now, the place where we dwell with thee is too strait for us". The schools evidently had **buildings for communal accommodation**.
- **2 Kings 4:38** - "Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets". The schools operated on the basis of **the shared provision of food**.
- **2 Kings 4:23** - "Wherefore wilt thou go to him today? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath". The schools had **regular meetings scheduled both weekly and monthly**.

The Purpose Of The Schools

- **1 Samuel 10:5** - "a company of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery... harp". The schools had **activities including worship and praise**.
- **1 Samuel 19:20** - "and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying". The schools engaged in matters of **speaking forth the word of God**.
- **2 Chronicles 9:29** - "written in the book of Nathan... the prophecy... the visions". The schools were devoted to **the study and writing of scripture**.
- **1 Kings 20:35-43** - "of the sons of the prophets... he was of the prophets. The schools became **the voice and the spiritual conscience of the nation**.

The Location Of The Schools

- ▣ **2 Kings 2:3** - "And the sons of the prophets that were at **Bethel** came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou... the LORD will take away thy master".
- ▣ **2 Kings 2:5** - "And the sons of the prophets that were at **Jericho** came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou... the LORD will take away thy master".
- ▣ **2 Kings 4:25** - "So she went and came to the man of God to mount **Carmel**, And it came to pass... the man of God saw her afar off.
- ▣ **2 Kings 4:38** - "And Elisha came again to **Gilgal**: and there was a dearth in the land; and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him".

The Influence Of The Schools

- ▣ **1 Kings 18:4** - "When Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, Obadiah took an hundred... and hid them".
The schools existed during the time of **Ahab**.
- ▣ **Amos 7:14** - "Then answered Amos, and said... I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son".
The schools existed during the time of **Uzziah**.
- ▣ **2 Chronicles 34:22** - "Huldah the prophetess... she dwelt in Jerusalem in the college".
The schools existed in the time of **Josiah**.
- ▣ **Nehemiah 6:7** - "And thou hast also appointed prophets to preach of thee at Jerusalem".
The schools existed in the time of **Nehemiah**.

Samuel And The Prophetic Order

- ▣ **1 Samuel 3:20** - "And all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that **Samuel was established to be a prophet** of the LORD".
- ▣ **Acts 3:24** - "Yea, and **all the prophets from Samuel** and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days".
- ▣ **Acts 13:20** - "And after that he gave unto them judges about the space of four hundred and fifty years, until **Samuel the prophet**".
- ▣ **Hebrews 11:32** - "For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthah; of David also, and **Samuel, and of the prophets**".