1 Introduction 8

2 Research Method 13

2.1 A Parable Explaining the Research Method and the Methodological Process 13

2.2 The Methodology 15

2.2.1 The Theory Behind the Methodology 15

2.2.2 The Method in Practice 20

2.3 The Study's Structure and Process 22

3 General Background 24

3.1 Historical Context: Ancient Israel and Ancient Greece at the Time of the Sources’ Original Composition, and the Historical Background of their Writing 26

3.1.1 The Iliad 26

3.1.2 The Historical Background of the Text of the Iliad 29

3.1.3 The Book of Samuel 30

3.1.4 The Philistines 32

3.1.5 The Historical Background of the Text of the Book of Samuel 34

3.2 The Literary Background: A Survey of the Field of the Source Literature and Its Interpretation 39

3.2.1 The Iliad 40

3.2.2 The Book of Samuel 42

3.2.3 Parallels in the Literary Backgrounds of the Works 46

3.2.4 Insights and Hypotheses relating to the Existing Scholarship based on the Literary Background 52

3.3 A Summary of the Historical and Literary Parallels 53

3.4 Social and Anthropological Background: Tools and Methods In Anthropological Research; Studies dealing with Ancient Israelite and Greek Societies 55

3.4.1 The Social Construction of Reality 56

3.4.2 Free Choice and Free Will 59

3.4.3 Moral Responsibility: The Culture of Shame and the Culture of Guilt 63

3.4.4 Consciousness, Values, and Social Behavior 67

3.4.4.1 The Structure of the Homeric Personality 67

3.4.4.2 Morality and Justice 74

3.4.4.3 Homeric Human Consciousness 77

3.4.5 Structural Changes in Society and their Impact on Changes in Thinking and Patterns of Behavior 80

3.4.6 Social and Cultural Connections Between Ancient Israel and Ancient Greece 89

3.4.7 Legal Background: A Survey of the Legal Background as a Supplement to the Description of the Development of Social Institutions in the Period of the Source Literature 90

4 Analysis of the Source texts 97

4.1 Categories of Divine Influence on Man, Decision Making Processes, and Socio-Political Action 98

4.1.1 Categories Derived from the Ways Divine Influence on Man is Expressed 98

4.1.2 Categories Derived from the Ways Processes of Deliberation and Decision-Making are Expressed 102

4.1.3 Categories Derived from the Socio-Political Fields in which Divine Influence and Decision-Making Processes Appear 105

4.2 Discussion of Selected Categories and Synthesis 106

4.2.1 List of Categories, their Occurrences and Frequency in the Source Literature 106

4.2.2 Discussion of the Categories’ Frequency in the Source Literature 108

4.2.2.1 Discussion of Categories related to the Ways Divine Influence on Man is Expressed 108

4.2.2.2 Discussion of Categories related to the Ways Processes of Deliberation and Decision-Making are Expressed 117

4.2.2.3 Discussion of Categories related to the Socio-Political Fields in which Divine Influence and Decision-Making Processes Appear 126

4.3 Comprehensive Examples from the Sources 144

4.3.1 A Twist in the Plot: Pandros Shoots Menelaus with an Arrow 144

4.3.1.1 Stages in the Plot Twist 145

4.3.1.2 Categorization of Events 149

4.3.1.3 Summary and Definition of Behavioral Patterns 151

4.3.2 The Rise and Fall of King Saul: From Scattered Tribes to a Kingdom 153

4.3.2.1 Stages in the Narrative of Saul 153

4.3.2.2 Categorization of Events 157

4.3.2.3 Summary and Definition of Behavioral Patterns in the King Saul Narratives 159

4.4 Upheaval in the Hero's Personality 160

4.4.1 Transformation of Achilles' Self-Conception over the Course of the Iliad 160

4.4.2 Leadership Transformation: David and Bathsheva, From Charisma to Corruption 163

4.4.2.1 Stages in the Process 164

4.4.2.2 Categorization of Events 167

4.4.2.3 Summary of Social Behavioral Patterns and Transformations in King David's Behavior 169

4.4.3 Summary and Comparison of Changes in King David and Achilles' Consciousness 170

4.5 Summary of the Discussion Concerning Frequency of the Categories in the Source 171

4.5.1 Summary of the Discussion on the Appearance of Categories related to the Ways Divine Influence on Man is Expressed 171

4.5.2 Summary of the Discussion on the Appearance of Categories related to Ways Processes of Deliberation and Decision-Making are Expressed 174

4.5.3 Summary of the Discussion on the Appearance of Categories related to the Socio-Political Fields in which Divine Influence and Decision-Making Processes Appear 179

5 Conclusion and Substantiation of the Research Thesis 191

5.1 The Social Component in the Decision Making Process 192

5.1.1 The First Level - Individual: The Personal Decision Making Process 192

5.1.2 The Second Level - Tribal: The Decision-Making Process of the Tribal Leader 193

5.1.3 The Third Level - Monarchic: The Decision-Making Process in the King's Court 195

5.2 Behavior of the Gods 204

5.3 Summary and Insights 205

5.4 Social Psychology in Ancient Cultures 209

5.5 Epilogue 210

6 Bibliography 212

6.1 Source Literature 213

6.2 Research Literature on Homer 213

6.3 Research Literature on the Bible 215

6.4 Research Literature on Biblical Exegesis 217

6.5 Research Literature Comparing Homeric Works and Biblical Texts and Examining Intercultural Relations 217

6.6 Research Literature in Sociology, Anthropology, and Hermeneutics 218

6.7 Research Literature on Ancient Law 220

7 Appendix A: Locating and Classifying the Motifs in the Iliad 220

7.1 Books 1-6 221

7.2 Books 7-12 232

7.3 Books 13-18 250

7.4 Books 19-24 264

8 Appendix B: Locating and Classifying the Motifs in the Book of Samuel 274

8.1 I Samuel 275

8.2 II Samuel 296