

Sunday Night Message

April 7, 2019

A Tale of Two Families

Topics - The Birth of Samuel; 1 Samuel Introduction

Series – *1 Samuel*

Text – 1 Samuel 2; Text Verses 1 Samuel 1:27 - 28

Introduction

In this story, we see a contrast made between two families: the family of Elkanah, and the family of Eli.

I Hannah's Prayer of Praise (vs. 1 – 11)

Contrast this prayer with 1 Samuel 1:10.

This prayer is reminiscent of Mary's Magnificat praise in Luke 1:46 – 55.

v. 1 – "horn" – symbol of strength (Psalm 18:2; 89:17)

"my mouth is enlarged" – boldness of speech. Hannah had something to brag on the Lord about.

v. 2 – "rock" – strength and stability (in Moses' song of praise - Deuteronomy 32:4, 15, 18, 30 – 31, 37)

v. 5 – "hath born seven" – number of completion or fulfillment. Hannah actually only had six children.

Seven contrasts are found in these 4 verses: 1) mighty and weak; 2) full and hungry; 3) barren and fertile; 4) dead and alive; 5) sick and well; 6) poor and rich; and 7) humbled and exalted.¹

II Eli's Problem with Permissiveness (vs. 12 – 17; 22 – 25)

Hebrews 12:5 – 11

The reference here is to Proverbs 3:11 – 12. Also, Job said:

"Behold, happy is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty:" (Job 5:17)

"He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes."
(Proverbs 13:24)

"Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying." (Proverbs 19:18)

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."
(Proverbs 22:6)

¹ John MacArthur Jr., ed., *The MacArthur Study Bible*, electronic ed. (Nashville, TN: Word Pub., 1997), 379.

III God's Provision of Progeny (vs. 18 – 21; 26)

God blessed Elkanah and Hannah with five more children.

Hannah was still able to see her son.

God blessed him mightily.

"And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." (Luke 2:52)

God keeps blessing His children who stay surrendered to him. Life continues to get better.

"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." (2 Peter 3:18)

IV The Prophecy (vs. 27 – 36)

Conclusion

God was going to remove Eli's sons from being priests. God blamed Eli, because He said then Eli honoured his sons more than God.

Eli participated in his sons sins by not punishing them. He was their authority as high priest.

"Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure." (1 Timothy 5:22)

God always has a plan B using somebody else, if you don't want to be part of His plan B. Eli's children didn't want to follow God, so God raised up Samuel. Saul didn't want to follow God, so God raised up David. Elijah became weary in well doing, so God raised up Elisha.

In the immediate future, the replacement for priesthood of Eli, would be from a descendant of Zadok, but ultimately, the only truly faithful priest will be "after the order of Melchisedec"

According to Wiersbe:

Eli descended from Aaron through Ithamar, Aaron's fourth son, but God would abandon that line and turn to the sons of Eleazar, Aaron's third son and successor in the high priesthood. Under David, both Zadok and Abiathar served as high priests (2 Sam. 8:17), but when Solomon became king, he removed Eli's great-great grandson Abiathar from the high priesthood because he had cooperated with David's son Adonijah in his attempt to seize the throne. Solomon appointed Zadok to serve as high priest, and he was of the house of Eleazar. (See 1 Kings 2:26–27, 35.) In the list of Jewish high priests in 1 Chronicles 6:3–15, the names from Eli to Abiathar are missing. By confirming Zadok as high priest, Solomon fulfilled the prophecy given by the man of God nearly a century and a half before. The priests who serve in the temple during the Kingdom Age will be from the family of Zadok (Ezek. 40:45–46; 43:19; 44:10–16).²

² Warren W. Wiersbe, *Be Successful*, "Be" Commentary Series (Colorado Springs, CO: Victor/Cook Communications, 2001).

