

Brittany Tomala
Old Testament
1 Samuel 1-3
Assignment 2

The book of 1 Samuel is the beginning of the story on how the birth of the prophet Samuel came to be. In which, his mother Hannah, one of the wives of Ramathaim, had been given a double portion of bread because he not only loved her, but because the Lord had closed her womb. Meaning that Hannah was unable to have children, unlike Peninnah, the other wife of Ramathaim, who had his children.

In 1 Samuel 1, Hannah covenants with the Lord as she prays for a son. Hannah had great faith in the Lord, and while Hannah was at the tabernacle, she wept and cried out to the Lord as she prayed for a child of her own. Eli the priest, from the Lord Almighty at Shiloh, had witnessed Hannah's sorrows and grief and had mistaken her for a drunk. In which, Hannah had explained her sorrows and weeping in which the cause of why she was calling out to the Lord to Eli. Eli, the high priest, revealed to Hannah that God would grant her the gift of her desire for children. Therefore, when she gave birth to her son, she named him Samuel. In which, to keep her promise to the Lord if he gifted her a son, Hannah brought Samuel to Eli to serve the Lord.

As the story progresses into 1 Samuel 2, a prayer from Hannah, in which she praised the Lord for all that He had done for her. Her prayer shows her great faith, her knowledge of the gospel, and her love for God. As the Chapter processes, you discover the poor examples of living the gospel was set from the wicked sons of Eli. In which, you learn the sons of Eli sinned by taking meat from the animal sacrifices that did not belong to them. In this sense they were robbing God of offerings and cheating the people. As a result, the people who sought guidance from the teachings of Eli's sons were affected when they came to worship at the tabernacle.

Eli's sons were guilty of immorality in the holy areas of the tabernacle sanctuary. In which, his children persevered in acts through cheating, being rude, utilizing profane language, or being indecent yet professing to be an unwavering force. Accordingly, Eli defied his two children, in which Hophni and Phinehas were rebellious to their dad's insight. Under the law of Moses, willful disobedience to parents was punishable by death, and the parents were obligated to see that the punishment was carried out.

Since Eli did not carry out the punishment the law of Moses required for his sons' actions, he was failing to do his duty. Eli failed in his parental responsibility and in his office as the presiding priest. Although he rebuked his sons, he took no action to see that the abominations in his family and at the tabernacle were corrected.

As a result of the corruption in Eli's family, a man of God came to Eli and pronounced the Lord's curse upon Eli's house. In other words, Eli's household would be destroyed and his posterity would not live to old age. His wicked sons would die on the same day, and the Lord would give the high priest's duties of the tabernacle to a more faithful man.

Lastly, in 1 Samuel 3, The Lord calls to Samuel to be a prophet. God calls out to Samuel, in which Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord was yet to be revealed to him. As a result, he mistakenly responded to Eli, in which Eli had realized it was the Lord calling out to Samuel. In response, he told Samuel to listen and if the Lord calls out on him again to respond and obey what he was told. In which, the Lord then revealed the plan he was going to carry out against Eli and his household had not been faithful to the Lord. As a result, Samuel related the message amongst Eli, and in response Eli had accepted what the Lord's plan was for him. As a result, his whole family is damned by the Lord and his sons will die on the same day, to pay for their sins.

In regards to Eli, overall he was a good man, that made some bad decisions. In which, who doesn't, overall he did reveal the greatest blessing to Hannah, in regards to her desire of having children. In regards to Eli's sons, he had not been a strong role model in which led him and his family to be damned by the Lord. In my opinion, I viewed Eli to be a good man, that just made some wrong choices. In which, overall he did confront his wicked sons, but they still deceived and disobeyed him. Therefore, he did not have the control to begin with, but they paid with the sacrifice of their life, and since Eli did not obey Moses law. He also is cursed by the Lord and will not reach old age either, and his years to come will be miserable. He was damned for not obeying Moses' law, in killing his sons, but what parent doesn't want to spare both their children and only children. Although, Eli's sons did have their fate coming, due to their numerous unholy acts.

In conclusion, lessons to be interrupted through the story of Samuel, is when we ask the Lord to bless us, we must be willing to use those blessings in order to serve Him. In which, it is essential to recall that the blessing is dependent on by God, therefore we must serve Him, to show our gratitude for his gift. In which, the Lord expects us to consecrate our lives, in the matter of our choices and our time, in order to provide for His purposes.