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1 Samuel 1-3 The Life of Eli

Eli The Priest Good or Bad

In the book of Samuel Hannah one of the wives of Elkanah who could not bear him children. Hannah had great faith, so she went to the tabernacle to pray for a child Eli saw her and asked what she was doing. Eli without knowing what she was there for assumed. That was just one of the many things that Eli had done in the book of Samuel that I will explain as I go along in my writings about Eli in the book of Samuel.

Eli was a Priest in good standing with God, however, his sons were not, he approached Hannah as she was praying silently, and Eli assumed that she was drunk and called her out for being drunk. After Hannah had finished praying, she informed him she was not drunk but praying after speaking of what she was doing, the Lord gave him a message to give to her that her prayer would be answered. Before all this had occurred, Eli had problems with his sons.

Eli's sons Hophini and Phinehas were undisciplined and of evil content, they did not know of or want to know of God which is strange since their father is a Priest. In those, days fathers had full control of their kids and were expected to control them, and

Eli failed to do so. The sons terrorized the people of Israel and sinned against God and were willfully disobedient against Eli and had lay with women at the door of the tabernacle under the law they should be put to death, but Eli did not. Know that Hannah's son had grown under Eli's counsel because she made a promise to God to give him to the Lord.

Hannah's son was named Samuel and as a child, he ministered before Eli know he has grown in size and status with God and his people then a man of God came to Eli and reminded him of what God has given to him and his family and know what God says about him and his family they will be cut off and live a short life and die young. Now Samuel heard the voice of God and at first did not know but Eli told him who it was, and God revealed to Samuel what he was going to do to Eli. Samuel did not want to tell Eli, but Eli insisted and Samuel told him.

In conclusion, Eli as a priest let down all the people of Israel and God by not controlling his sons and following the Law. The only good I find in what Eli did was blessing Hannah and understanding Samuel's prophecy. What I take away from this book is not to judge people too quickly, discipline your children and stay in the way of God. Eli, I believe is a priest who is not all in.