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### 1 Samuel 1-3: Analysis of Eli and his actions for the learning of a good Christian

From the reading of 1 Samuel 1-3, the behavior of Eli will be studied specifically, who without being a main character, gives us a deeper understanding of the characteristics and qualities that as good Christians we must keep in mind and that these be applied in our daily life, guiding the analysis through the positive and negative actions of the character as their derivatives in other characters. This is to lead a series of necessary precepts that could be applied to have a closer and purer Christian path to God.

In the analysis of the positive actions, in 1 Samuel 1-3, Eli is depicted as a religious leader and judge of Israel. Eli is not a main character in these chapters, but his actions towards Hannah show him as a compassionate, supportive and faithful leader who blesses the Lord's hand in people's lives. He was the High Priest at the Shiloh temple, where he met with Hannah to pray for a child. He recognized Ana's piety because when Ana arrived at the temple to pray, Eli looked at her and recognized that she was deeply concerned and in fervent prayer. After realizing that Hannah is not drunk, as he thought at first, but in deep prayer, Eli encouraged her by saying: "Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked for" (1 Samuel 1:17). In this way he showed her compassion and support. After Hannah's prayer is answered and she gives birth to a son, she fulfills her promise to God and takes the child to Eli to dedicate himself to the Lord's service. He blesses her and her child and acknowledges the Lord's hand in her life, showing her faith and her reverence for God.

On the other hand, regarding negative actions, Eli did not discipline his sons Hophni and Phinehas, who were priests in the temple of Silo. They were corrupt and behaved immorally as they abused their power and took advantage of the offerings that the people make to God, and Eli did not discipline them or stop their behavior. They treated the offerings with contempt and did not follow proper procedures, and Eli instead of correcting their behavior, instead, "heard all that his sons were doing with all Israel and how they slept with the women who waited at the gate." of the tent of meeting". (1Samuel 2:22). On the other hand, when Hannah arrives at the temple to pray, Eli looked at her and mistakenly thought that she was drunk and told her to go away and stop being gluttonous and drunk, this shows a lack of empathy and understanding towards Hannah's situation and her. assumptions he made without knowing the background of the situation. Lastly, as Judge and High Priest, Eli was in a leadership position, but he did not set an example, discipline his children, or correct his behavior. This led to the corruption and moral decline of the priests in the temple.

Much can be inferred and learned from this reading, beginning with The Importance of Spiritual Authority, Christians today must respect and submit to spiritual authority, but they must also be aware of the responsibility that comes with having spiritual authority and using it appropriately. Eli failed to discipline his children and, as a result, his behavior became corrupt and immoral. In the same way, Christians must be disciplined in their walk with God and strive to live a life that pleases him. Eli, as High Priest and Judge, has spiritual authority but does not exercise it properly. The importance of moral integrity, as Christians we must strive to live a life of integrity, showing honesty, purity, and respect for God and others, as well as having a healthy fear of God, which means having reverence and respect for Him and obeying His commandments. Finally, we must strive to be humble, empathetic, and understanding with

others, especially those who are going through difficult times, and be willing to repent and confess our sins, to live a life that pleases God.

Although a series of actions taken by Eli was identified, it was shown how these actions had consequences on different characters throughout this story. On the one hand, those positive actions showed her empathy and understanding towards a difficult situation, but not before negatively judging Hannah, and in the same way, she failed in her task of leading her children along a pure, faithful, and loyal path, both to the church, as to his followers and God himself, sunk in corruption, Eli failed. This study allows us to identify those actions that we must maintain, following Eli's example, and what actions of this we must avoid and perhaps approach situations differently and positively from the beginning, avoid sentencing people without knowing the story behind each one so as not to fall into error: in the same way, to have the tenacity and firmness necessary to correct those who have strayed from the path of the Lord and are hurting not only society but also themselves.

Bibliography:

“1 Samuel 1:1-17”, “1 Samuel 2:22”. *The Holy Bible: New International Version*.

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