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BIB 102

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### Writing 2- 1 Samuel 1-3 (chapters 1-3)

The life of Eli in 1 Sam. 1-3 in the Bible focuses on Eli's good intentions and also his bad ones. These chapters of 1 Sam. contribute to the fact that Eli was a good man himself but not a good enough father for his sons that continue to disobey God. There are a few things that Eli does that are proven good. I say this because in 1 Sam. 1: 17 in the Bible, Eli explains to Hannah , "Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him." . He opens his mouth in the name of the Lord to help Hannah with her problem of not being able to have a son. She continuously weeped and starved herself feeling hopeless with her prayers not being answered, but Eli answered her for God. Soon after she was pregnant, God answered her prayers to be able to have a son dedicated to the Lord. The things he does are life changing, he changes Hannah's life with just a simple explanation of what she should do. It's all she has ever wanted not only for herself but for the Lord.

There are not only good things that Eli is proven to be a good person, but quite the opposite in God's eyes. Eli found out what his sons were doing to his people. Sleeping with the women who were not their wives at the entrance to the tent of

meeting. He only questioned their doings but did not take control or discipline them for their doings. It's almost as if he ignored it thinking that God will deal with them by death but did not try to help turn around the bad that they were doing in God's name. His wrongful things are proven in 1 Sam. 2: 29 in the Bible, "Why do you scorn my sacrifice and offering that I prescribed for my dwelling?..." God questions Eli for his son's wrong doings. Eli is their father therefore he should teach them the right ways to be an honorable priest of Israel. As if Eli is letting his sons do wrongful doings towards the Lord. The bad things I see that Eli does is him failing to restrain his sons. Does this make Eli a good or bad person in the Bible?

Overall in the Bible you might think to yourself is Eli a good or bad character? I say that he is a good person at heart, but for the looks of God and his sons' people he is found to be a bad person. He failed as a father to restrain his sons from their wrong doings as priests of Israel. I feel as if Eli could have handled the situation with his son better for the reason being he continues to let them sin. It is as if he is allowing his sons to sin against our God. This is very wrong especially if you consider yourself a true believer of our Lord and savior. There are a few verses in these three chapters in the Bible that help prove my accusations.

It is proven that his character in these three chapters conclude to him being a good man himself, disregarding the fact that he was not much of a father for his sons. Considering the fact that his sons continuously sinned with Eli knowing that in God's eyes he is a bad person and failed at his job. In 1 Sam. 3: 13 in the Bible God explains

to Samuel, "For that I told him that I would judge his family forever because of the sin he knew about; his sons blasphemed God, and he failed to restrain them". This verse of the bible explains what God's future intentions are for Eli and his family because of the way Eli handled things. In the end of the third chapter and even throughout the first and second, Eli is a good person in my eyes. Even though he has heard what God has planned for him and his family for his disobedience he has accepted his fate and theirs. He feels as if it is necessary because whatever God does is just what it is for the better.

In conclusion, 1 Sam. 1-3 of the Bible have really shown me the life lessons learned from what is right and wrong that Eli does. There are life lessons in this part of the Bible which are not to disobey God and whenever you feel or know something someone is doing is not right, simply correct them for their wrongdoings in the name of the Lord. Otherwise it is shown as sin and disobedience. I feel as if I learned that God can very much give you power, but can quickly take it away from you if he is shown you cannot handle it or correct your own people/ ancestors from sin. The specific regard to the life of Eli proved to have a life lesson on me was the fact that he was in fact a good man, however his love for God might have not been that strong and deep considering the fact that he allowed his sons to continuously sin and disobey God. This is applied to my walk of Christianity today because if I know I am doing something wrong, such as sin, if I do not repent or change what I am doing for the better, God will simply teach me a lesson. A not so nice lesson for the fact that I went against his word knowing it is wrong.