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BIB 102 OA Old Testament Literature
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Written Assignment II

In the story of Eli he was a high priest and a judge to the people of Israel and he served God unconditionally and wholeheartedly. Eli saw Hannah praying but he thought she was drunk and he went over to her to ask her how long she will continue to be drunk. Once Hannah told him she was praying to God for a baby he then joined her and then when they finished he told her to go and that God granted what she had asked for.. This is one of the things that Eli does that is considered good. Eli prayed with Hannah assuring her that she will have a baby. Another thing that Eli did that was good was that he took Samuel under his wing and taught him how to follow and obey God. He taught Samuel everything he knows along with the strength of honoring and obeying God. Which then would lead Samuel to be the person God will speak through making Samuel a prophet as well.

One of the bad things that Eli did was not raise his sons to fear and love God wholeheartedly like he did and how he taught Samuel how to. Eli's sons did not know the Lord which ended up causing a lot of trouble for Eli and themselves. Eli allowed his sons to be corrupt and not pull them back on track with God like a parent/mentor should. In my opinion Eli was not a bad character he just made mistakes and had flaws like any other human. Should he have taught his sons to love God how he taught Samuel to love God yes especially that those were his own sons. But he then tells his sons that he did not hear good reports about them from the other people and what he heard was absolutely not a good thing. His sons decided to ignore him and continue to do what they wanted. Eli also did not correct his sons when it came to the offering and the wrongs they were doing there.

A few things that I have taken out of Eli's life that I can learn and apply to my Christianity walk today is as a parent it is my job and obligation to raise my child to fear God and love him. It is up to me to teach him about God's mercy and grace. Another thing that I have taken away is praying for others. Praying for others is so important because it plants that seed in them and it helps them grow as a person spiritually. Another take away that I have received is the blessing of mentoring others in your knowledge not just in Christ but in all life aspects. Mentoring someone who is a new believer in faith is so important because you are able to share all your knowledge and help them grow in their faith which then means you had helped build them up. One last thing that I have taken from this is honoring God. Honoring God is so important because he is the heavy father and he gets disappointed if you do not follow and honor him which causes suffering. Honoring God can lead to a lot of joy and happiness like Hannah. She honored and obeyed God and she was able to have her son Samuel.

In conclusion Eli was a great prophet who just made a mistake by not keeping his sons in line with God. That mistake later cost Eli. Eli understood God's wrath towards his house and even said if God feels what he is going to do what he thinks is best that he should do it. Eli was also a great mentor to Samuel and raised him to be wholeheartedly invested in God and become another prophet. It is important to love and honor God just as Eli taught Samuel to. Not only yourself but your children and your family too. Eli has shown me so many important things to follow and not follow in my Christian walk with God.