

Lucas Cuyuch

Assignment #2

Old Testament

In the 1Sam Chapters 1-3 We read about the life of Eli and the beginning of Samuel's life and how he got to where he was. In these first few chapters we see that Eli is a priest and spends his time in the temple where he sees Samuel's mom Hannah. As the story continues we learn more about Eli and Samuel and Eli's family and How God eventually intervenes in Eli's situation.

What Eli does well overall in the story is that In the beginning, he praises God for Hannah's faithfulness to her promise to God and we see how Eli accepts Samuel into his house, and begins to teach him and shepherd him in the ways of the Lord. Later on, we see, Eli leads Samuel to his purpose, when Samuel doesn't know who is calling him. It reads, " then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. So Eli told Samuel, go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, speak, Lord, for your servant is listening. So Samuel went and laid down in his place." 1Sam 3:9 We hear that at Eli's instruction from Samuel he listens because he accepts Eli's counsel and understanding of the situation because he too was a servant of God. So we see that throughout the story Eli does do some good things in his life.

The bad things Eli does begins with his judgment toward Hannah. When Hannah was praying in front of the temple, he called her and asked her when she would stop drinking when in reality, she was praying. It reads, " as she kept on. Praying to the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving, but her voice was not shared. Eli thought she was drunk and said to her, how long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your

wine.” 1Sam 1:12-14. We see here that Eli almost casted judgment on someone who was in prayer but I dont think this was a defining moment for him in his life. We see I think the defining moment in his life when Elis son are in sin and he rebukes them but though his intention were maybe good So that his son would learn he did not make sure his sons were honoring God and in turn he and his family dishonored God with their way of life and taking of the sacrifices meant for God.

I think overall Eli was not a bad character But leaned probably more towards the good but because he made decisions and didn't make sure to Honor the Lord so he was bad in the Lord's eyes and became an example of what happens when you dishonor God and you do not repent especially even when you are his chosen priesthood and are supposed to be an example to the people. It reads, “ those who honor me I will honor, but those who despise me will be disdain. The time is coming when I will cut short your strength and the strength of your priestly house, so that no one in it will reach old age, and you will see distress in my dwelling.” 1Sam 2:30-31. I also realize this was all happening in Gods presence and his dwelling is supposed to be the cleanest of spaces because all that is in his dwelling is holy. So Eli allowed the dishonor to happen to Gods tabernacle when he was the house meant to protect it.

I think with regard to Eli’s life specifically, I think I can apply to my walk with God today, to always make sure I honor God, and all that I do. Especially because now that Jesus has been raised to life, and now his spirit rests in us, and we have become God’s dwelling place, we need to be sure to honor God, and all that we do, especially in God’s presence. I also think it’s important that we learn from Samuel as an example to always be ready, and be ministering to the Lord and reading his word, which is how we know Samuel was spoken to by God. God also speaks of Samuel through an encounter with him so to always pray and be ready for that as well.