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BIB102

In the chapter of 1 Samuel it talks about the household of Elkanah and the wife Hannah who vows to devote her son to the Lord. Hannah goes to the temple so she may be able to bear a son. While she goes with her husband Eli a prophet watches her pray and worship the Lord and he says she is drunk because she speaks on her heart and not with her tongue and Eli intervenes. While he asks her if she was drinking and if she is drunk Hannah responds with she is sorrowful for the Lord. He then dismisses her and tells her to go her own way and also says “The Lord will grant what you want”, Later she bears a son that she did pray for and she rejoices in the Lord. In the chapter it also talks about the sons of Eli named Hophni and Phinehas who do not know the Lord and they do everything wrong against the Lord. They sleep with other woman who have husbands, they stay near the temple haggling woman. It also goes on as Samuel grows up and he begins his ministry as a child and Samuel will have descendants for many. Continually it goes that Eli has a prophecy from the Lord that God will judge his household deeply and that his sons will die because of their transgression against the Lord. Also stating the household of Eli will be far from the Lord’s presence. As Samuel and Eli are in the temple Eli goes and prays on the floor to wait on the Lord and Samuel waits outside but God calls Samuel three times and Samuel goes in thinking it’s Eli but Eli tells him no, until Eli tells Samuel “If you hear it again, answer it this way” and the fourth time Samuel says” Lord your servant hears” and the Lord gives Samuel a

prophecy over Eli's house confirming that is to come and after Eli asks what has been said and to spare no detail and Samuel tells him all and Eli is distraught for the sins of his kin. Same then grows up and all the Lord said came to pass just as it what said.

Eli does some good but also wrong in this story. The first thing he did that was wrong was confuse if Hannah was drunk or just praying, back then there were certain ways to do what and I can understand if someone came to pray and I got concerned and possibly even called them out for how they do it but to say God will answer now leave is wrong because who am I to take the place to answer her prayer unless God tells me to. The next big was good later in the story because He doesn't become prideful or lost but stays faithful because the Lord is good. He could have denied Samuel but instead he tells Samuel to spare no detail and once it's spoken says "Thus says the Lord". He let the new prophet Samuel come and take ministry as it should be when an elder must pass the torch to another.

Something that I believed can learn for those in their everyday life in or outside of the Christian journey is that the Lord is good. Many people even catch myself thinking "If the Lord is so good why this and that" instead we must understand the God doesn't do wrong of that is against His character. We must also learn to control our kids and not them do whatever they please and keep trying for them. I do not have kids but if I were to see my kids as Eli saw his kids I would treat them with a hard stick. I would discipline them and teach them from young. I've learned it's not the dog that is meant and ruthless but it is the owner who raised it who was rude and cruel. I was raised in an agnostic household, there was a God there but who or why He was who He was I didn't know. I also knew there is a higher power and He judges right but I

must figure out who He is. Someone coming from a Christian household can have these views but they can get lost I see that only because they depend on the faith of others and not their own.

We can learn from this book of 1 Samuel is that some will get crude and mean and some will think what they do is right and become prideful. Some people will grow in the Lord more than others can think. We must depend on others to help and save us or depend on the faith of others to help us, but depend on our own faith and stay faithful.