



## **Demo Day in the House of God**

**1 Samuel 2:12-36**

**February 24, 2019**

**Sermon Questions**

1. In 1 Samuel 2:1 it states that the sons of Eli did not know the Lord. Since they obviously knew who the Lord was, what does it mean that they did not “know” the Lord? Can you describe ways that you “know” the Lord differently now than you did a couple of years ago? How do you think we get to “know” the Lord more deeply?
2. This passage reveals how God judged the sons of Eli by giving them over to their own sin and their own hearts. What exactly does that mean? Does that mean that God caused them to sin? Where else in the Bible do you see reference to God giving people over to their sin? Why do you think God does that?
3. Eli was accused of giving a blind eye to his sons’ sins and also participating in their sin. For some reason, Eli chose to give his sons a pass. Most all of us are guilty of this same thing at some point in our Christian lives. Why do you think we tend to give other people and ourselves passes on certain sins?
4. God judged Eli for not intervening in the sins of his sons. How do you balance this example of Gods’ judgement with his call to be merciful and forgiving of the sins of others?
5. As with Eli, we see numerous examples throughout the Bible of the failings of God’s appointed leaders. It seems the trend continues as many leaders are failing us inside and outside the Church today. Yet, God has appointed Christ as our ultimate, faithful high priest who never fails. How much of your life do you look to Jesus and how much do you look to people to address the issues of life? What biblical passages can you cite that assure us how Christ will provide if we come to him with our needs?
6. Where in your life are you giving a pass to your own sin and/or the sins of others? How can you go more deeply to Christ, the ultimate high priest to address these sins?

**Scripture Passage Over Leaf ...**

## 1 Samuel 2:12-36 (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> Now the sons of Eli were worthless men. They did not know the LORD. <sup>13</sup> The custom of the priests with the people was that when any man offered sacrifice, the priest's servant would come, while the meat was boiling, with a three-pronged fork in his hand, <sup>14</sup> and he would thrust it into the pan or kettle or cauldron or pot. All that the fork brought up the priest would take for himself. This is what they did at Shiloh to all the Israelites who came there. <sup>15</sup> Moreover, before the fat was burned, the priest's servant would come and say to the man who was sacrificing, "Give meat for the priest to roast, for he will not accept boiled meat from you but only raw." <sup>16</sup> And if the man said to him, "Let them burn the fat first, and then take as much as you wish," he would say, "No, you must give it now, and if not, I will take it by force." <sup>17</sup> Thus the sin of the young men was very great in the sight of the LORD, for the men treated the offering of the LORD with contempt.

<sup>18</sup> Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy clothed with a linen ephod. <sup>19</sup> And his mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. <sup>20</sup> Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the LORD give you children by this woman for the petition she asked of the LORD." So then they would return to their home.

<sup>21</sup> Indeed the LORD visited Hannah, and she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the boy Samuel grew in the presence of the LORD.

### Eli Rebukes His Sons

<sup>22</sup> Now Eli was very old, and he kept hearing all that his sons were doing to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who were serving at the entrance to the tent of meeting. <sup>23</sup> And he said to them, "Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all these people. <sup>24</sup> No, my sons; it is no good report that I hear the people of the LORD spreading abroad. <sup>25</sup> If someone sins against a man, God will mediate for him, but if someone sins against the LORD, who can intercede for him?" But they would not listen to the voice of their father, for it was the will of the LORD to put them to death.

<sup>26</sup> Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and also with man.

### The LORD Rejects Eli's Household

<sup>27</sup> And there came a man of God to Eli and said to him, "Thus says the LORD, 'Did I indeed reveal myself to the house of your father when they were in Egypt subject to the house of Pharaoh? <sup>28</sup> Did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to go up to my altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? I gave to the house of your father all my offerings by fire from the people of Israel. <sup>29</sup> Why then do you scorn my sacrifices and my offerings that I commanded for my dwelling, and honor

your sons above me by fattening yourselves on the choicest parts of every offering of my people Israel?' <sup>30</sup> Therefore the LORD, the God of Israel, declares: 'I promised that your house and the house of your father should go in and out before me forever,' but now the LORD declares: 'Far be it from me, for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be lightly esteemed. <sup>31</sup> Behold, the days are coming when I will cut off your strength and the strength of your father's house, so that there will not be an old man in your house.<sup>32</sup> Then in distress you will look with envious eye on all the prosperity that shall be bestowed on Israel, and there shall not be an old man in your house forever. <sup>33</sup> The only one of you whom I shall not cut off from my altar shall be spared to weep his eyes out to grieve his heart, and all the descendants<sup>[c]</sup> of your house shall die by the sword of men. <sup>34</sup> And this that shall come upon your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, shall be the sign to you: both of them shall die on the same day. <sup>35</sup> And I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who shall do according to what is in my heart and in my mind. And I will build him a sure house, and he shall go in and out before me anointed forever. <sup>36</sup> And everyone who is left in your house shall come to implore him for a piece of silver or a loaf of bread and shall say, "Please put me in one of the priests' places, that I may eat a morsel of bread."'"