

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
ELI, AN UNDISCIPLINED PRIEST
1 SAMUEL 2:12-17, 22-36

Introduction

The fact that Eli thought that Hannah was drunk is a significant indicator of the state of the society in that day.

Men were turning to polygamy and women to strong drink. There had been no reversal of the downward moral and spiritual path described in Judges, which corrupted even the priesthood.

Judges 21:25 In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.

I. THE WICKEDNESS OF ELI'S SONS.
(1 Samuel 2:12-17, 22, 24)

A. Their Wickedness In Relation To God!

- 1. They Knew Him Not! (vs 12)**
- 2. They Were Sons Of Belial! (vs 12)**
"Without profit, worthlessness, destruction, wickedness."
- 3. They Profaned And Even Stole The Offerings Of God! (vs 13-14)**
 - a. They Took More Than They Were Allotted! (Leviticus 7:34)**
 - b. They Took Before The Sacrifice! (Leviticus 3:9-16)**

B. Their Wickedness In Relation To Israel (And God)!

- 1. They Bullied The People Of God. (vs 15-16)**
- 2. They Committed Fornication With The People Of God. (vs 22)**

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Note: This was a ritual fornication in accord with Canaanite cultic practice.

(Leviticus 18:20, 29; 20:10; 21:6-7)

3. They Caused The People To Abhor The Offering Of The Lord! (vs 17) (Quit Sacrificing)

4. They Caused The People To Transgress! (vs 24)

C. Their Wickedness In Relation To Their Father (And God)!

1. They Did Not Honor Him!

2. They Did Not Obey Him! (vs 25)

THE WICKEDNESS OF ELI'S SONS...

II. THE WICKEDNESS OF THE FATHER!

A. He Regarded The Sacrifices Of God Lightly! (vs 29a)

B. He Respected His Sons More Than God! (vs 29b)

C. He Received His Portion Of His Son's Excesses! (vs 29c)

III. THE WORD OF THE LORD.

A. The Review Of The Priesthood. (vs 27, 28)

B. The Rebellion Of The Priesthood. (vs 29)

C. The Rejection Of The Priesthood. (vs 30-34)

1. Their Power Would Be Broken.

2. Their Lives Would Be Shortened.

3. Their Comforts Would Be Embittered.

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4. Their Substance Would Be Wasted.

D. The Revival Of The Priesthood. (vs 35-36)

1. In Human Terms.

This was fulfilled when the priesthood was taken from Abiathar, descendant of Aarons's son Ithamar, and given to Zadok, descendant of Aaron's son Eleazar.

(1 Kings 2:27, 35)

2. In The Ultimate Sense.

The "*Faithful Priest*" and "*Anointed One*" are one and the same, The Lord Jesus Christ. He is both Priest and King.

(Cf. Psalm 110)

Hebrews 5:6 As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Revelation 19:16 And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

Conclusion

1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

1. Don't regard God's commands lightly!
2. Don't honor your children above God by excusing or justifying error in their lives!
3. Don't become party with your child's sin!
4. Don't accept lightly your parental duties!