

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
THE CALL OF SAMUEL
1 SAMUEL 2:11, 18-21, 26; 3:1-21

I. THE GREAT NEED OF A NATION!

- A. The Nation Of Israel Had Taken A Downward Turn!**
- B. We've Seen How Even The Priests Had Become Corrupt!**
- C. God Needed A Faithful Priest And A Prophet!**

II. GOD'S PROVISION OF THAT NEED!

- A. God Began With A Righteous Man And Woman!
(Elkanah and Hannah)**
- B. God Used A Need In A Woman's Life!
(Hannah's need and desire for a man child!)**
- C. Hannah Vowed A Vow Unto The Lord!**
- D. God Blessed Her For Dedicating Samuel To Him! (2:21)**

III. GOD'S PREPARATION OF A LEADER!

In the three references to Samuel's development (2:21, 26; 3:19), we notice a dedication and development first to God. How?

A. His Parent's Training!

Probably his first 3 to 6 years were lived with his parents in Ramah. (Until he was weaned!)

At home he most likely received some deep and permanent impressions from examples, prayers, and loving instructions.

These early impressions instilled principles that kept him from evil and directed him toward good.

From these early years, Samuel came to understand that he was dedicated to the Lord.

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
THE CALL OF SAMUEL
1 SAMUEL 2:11, 18-21, 26; 3:1-21

The concept of dedication was easy for him to understand because his parents explained it by example and teaching.

B. His Constant Attendance In The Temple!

At Shiloh, Samuel had daily contact with the sacred items of Israel's worship. The holy practices there molded him gradually, firmly, and unalterably for service in later life.

He was a youth who remained true to God even though exposed to evil influences.

IV. GOD'S CALL OF A LEADER! (3:1-10)

**A. God's Call Can Be Misunderstood Because Of Ignorance.
(vs 7)**

Samuel's failure to respond to God was a failure of ignorance, not of stubbornness or self-will.

He tried to obey even though he misunderstood the source of his call.

**B. Often Others Need To Help Us Respond To God's Call.
(vs 9)**

**C. His Call Requires Us To Be Honest And Submissive.
(vs 10)**

1. Recognition Of God's Rightful Claim To Us. (*"speak"*)
2. Willingness To Listen Honestly. (*"heareth"*)
3. Humility To Submit And Serve. (*"Thy servant"*)

BOOK OF 1 SAMUEL
THE CALL OF SAMUEL
1 SAMUEL 2:11, 18-21, 26; 3:1-21

V. SAMUEL WITHHOLDING GOD'S WORD! (vs 15)

- A. The Cause—Fear And Affection For Those Condemned.
- B. The Act—Hiding God's Word And Refusing To Tell What It Says.
- C. The Penalty—Punishment. (Vs 17)
- D. The Best Course—Courage To Tell Everything. (Vs 18)

VI. SAMUEL'S DIVINE ASSOCIATION! (vs 19)

Throughout his life, Samuel's constant companion was the LORD!
Our association with Him should be parallel with Samuel's.

- A. The Cause—Samuel *"agreed"* with God (Amos 3:3) and his whole life centered around doing God's will!
- B. The Result—Samuel enjoyed blessings, influence, respect, and authority; he brought back to Israel the reality of God's presence!
- C. The Length—Samuel began his association with God early and never ended it!
- D. The Security—*"He let none of his words fall."*

Conclusion

Did you know that God has a call on every person's life?

- 1. The Call To Salvation!
- 2. The Call To Sanctification!
- 3. The Call To Service!