

1 Samuel 2:12-36

Wicked Priests

1. 2:12 – Wicked Priests

- a. A righteous prayer is here contrasted with wicked intercession.
- b. Hannah's prayer of rejoicing, righteousness, blessing, and hope in the LORD.
- c. 11 - *"the child did minister"* - Samuel ministered before Eli, like a son...
- d. 12 - *"Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial"* - wickedness - associated with idolatry (Deu 13:13), fornication (Jdg 19:22), drunkenness (1Sa 1:16), greed (1 Sam 2:16), rebellion (1Sa 10:27) profanity (2 Sa 16:7), vanity (2 Chr 13:7), lies (2 Ki 21:10).
- e. *"they knew not the Lord"* - Jer 2:8, the same evil and ignorance we see today.

2. 2:13-17 – Priests' Custom

- a. 13 - *"the priests' custom"* - Not an isolated incident, a custom of contempt.
- b. *"fleshhook of three teeth"* - Tridents were used to catch meat out of water.
 - i. (Satan → hooved feet, red, trident - Eze 1:7, 28:14; Isa 27:1, Rev 12:3, 17:1, 15)
- c. The law of sacrifices in Leviticus 7:28-36, 17:6 (notice fat, portion, sodden Num 6:19)
- d. 14 - *"all that the fleshhook bought up"* - instead of their God granted portion.
- e. 15 - *"before they burnt the fat...give flesh...raw"* - The fat is the Lord's - Lev 3:3-5, 16, 7:23
 - i. *"not have sodden flesh"* - they wanted it first with fat not boiled ← unholy
- f. 16 - *"give it me now...I will take it by force"* - Phinehas (brazen mouth) Hophni (fighter)
- g. 17 - *"men abhorred the offering"* - Because of injustice, their portion and God's reduced

3. 2:18-21 – A Blessed Family

- a. *"But Samuel ministered... with a linen ephod"* - Clothing of honor among the priests.
- b. *"his mother ... yearly sacrifice"* - his parents continued offering and providing for him.
- c. 20 - Eli's blessing: *"LORD give thee seed...for [Samuel]"* - A family blessed Num 6:23-27
- d. 21 - Eli's family multiplies sins, whereas Samuel's family multiplies sons.

4. 2:22-26 – A Cursed Family

- a. (20) *"they went unto their own home"* - do this when God's house is defiled - Josh 24:15
- b. 22 - *"Eli... heard all..."* - house of God made a house of harlots - Eze 22:26, Rev 17:5
- c. 23-24 - *"ye make the LORD's people to transgress"* - Calling evil good - Mal 2:5-8, 17
- d. 25 - *"if a man sin against the LORD, who?"* - Indeed, w/o priests, who? God's a Judge.
- e. *"hearkened not unto the voice of their father"* - no ears to hear, Eli, the high priest, God.
- f. 26 - *"and the child Samuel grew on..."* in contrast to the sons of Eli, in favour.
- g. Samuel is going to be an intercessor for Israel, before the anointed King comes.

5. 2:27-36 – Prophecy of the Priests

- a. 27 - *"a man of God said... 'Thus saith the LORD'"* - God sees evil, and judges in his time
 - i. This prophecy (like Hannah's) spans through Samuel to Solomon and Christ
- b. 27-28 - God chose Aaron's house for priests, + offerings - Exo 4:27, 28:1, Num 18
- c. 29 - *"why... honourest thy sons above me"* - Eli's sin = honoring his family above God.

- i. *"fat with... the offerings of Israel"* - Isa 56:11-12, Eze 34:2
- d. 30 - *"I said... for ever, but now...be it far from me"* - God changes his doings - Jer 18:9-10
- e. 31-32 - The righteous get a house, the wicked get their house cut off. Num 26:60-61
- f. 32-33 - *"thou shalt see... an enemy"* (Philistines, Saul - 1 Sam 22:17-18, other priests)
- g. *"the man.... whom I shall not cut off"* - Abiathar betrays David - 1 Kings 2:26-27
- h. 34 - *"this shall be a sign"* - That this curse will be fulfilled proven by 1 Sam 4
- i. 35 - *"I will raise me up a faithful priest"* - faithful to God and David - 1Kings 1:5-8, 2:35
- j. *"walk before mine anointed for ever"* - Sons of Zadok in the future temple -Eze 44:15-16
- k. 36 - *"every one that is left in thine house (Ithamar/Eli)"* - see Eze 44:10-14