**Eli and Samuel**

1 Samuel 2-3

03-24-19pm

1 Samuel 3:1

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord in the presence of Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

1 Samuel 3:2

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place.

1 Samuel 3:3

The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was.

1 Samuel 3:4

Then the Lord called Samuel, and he said, “Here I am!”

1 Samuel 3:5

and ran to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down.

1 Samuel 3:6

And the Lord called again, “Samuel!” and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.”

1 Samuel 3:7

Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

1 Samuel 3:8

And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy.

1 Samuel 3:9

Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if He calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

1 Samuel 3:10

And the Lord came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.”

1 Samuel 3:11

Then the Lord said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.

1 Samuel 3:12

On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end.

1 Samuel 3:13

And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them.

1 Samuel 3:14

Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.”

1. **God honors prayers of parents for their children.**

1 Samuel 3:1

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord in the presence of Eli.

1 Samuel 1:27

For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition that I made to Him.

1. **Sin destroys families, and must be taken seriously.**

1 Samuel 3:12-13

On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them.

1 Samuel 2:12

Now the sons of Eli were worthless men. They did not know the Lord.

1 Samuel 2:29

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?’

1 Samuel 2:30

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.

1 Samuel 2:31

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.

1 Samuel 2:32

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.

1 Samuel 2:33

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 of your house shall die by the sword of men.

1 Samuel 2:34

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.

1. **It’s never too early for the spiritual training of a child.**

1 Samuel 3:7

Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

1 Samuel 2:18

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy clothed with a linen ephod.

1 Samuel 2:19

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.

1 Samuel 2:20

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.

1 Samuel 2:21

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.

1 Samuel 2:26

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and also with man.

1. **God desires to speak to those who will listen to Him.**

1 Samuel 3:9

Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if He calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

1 Samuel 3:10

And the Lord came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.”