

# Faithfulness Amidst Corruption

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1 Samuel 2:11-26

Oak Community Church (PCA)

## Review:

- We are all barren like Hannah without hope except for God
- God used her barrenness to draw her to Him in prayer
- Hannah's prayer<sup>2:1-10</sup> looked to God's bigger plan

## A Masterful Story of Contrasts:

- Our storyteller uses contrasts to make his points
  - Humble Hannah - Provocative Peninnah
  - Little Samuel - Sons of Eli
- God is working to accomplish His Good Plan of Redemption

## The Wickedness of Eli's Sons

- Showed contempt for offerings by stealing sacrifices
- God provided for priests' food through offerings<sup>Lev7:34;Dt18:3</sup>
- Set up plan to steal from worshipers<sup>13-14</sup>
- Sons also stole fat<sup>15-16</sup> - God's portion<sup>Lev17:6</sup>
- Also turned holy place into their pleasure palace<sup>22</sup>
- Their sin was very great before God<sup>17</sup>

## Faithfulness Amidst Corruption

- Samuel faithfully ministers before the Lord<sup>18</sup>
- Elkanah & Hannah faithfully worship & support Samuel<sup>19</sup>
- Eli sees actions & gives priestly blessing<sup>20</sup>
- Samuel amidst corruption is not a prescription for us<sup>1Co15:33</sup>
- Set Godly tone in your home early and often!
- Set example in your life of Gospel living<sup>Eph6:5-9</sup>

## Eli Fails as a Parent

- Now Samuel is contrasted to Eli's failures
- Eli knew what his sons were doing, but did little<sup>22-25</sup>
- At the very least should have removed sons from priesthood
- Parents guide and discipline using Word<sup>Prv13:24;1K1:6;Dt6:7;Eph6:4</sup>

## Beware of Hardening Your Heart

- Difficult verse: *'it was the will of the Lord to put them to death'*<sup>25</sup>
- Hophni & Phineas were culpable *'would not listen to the voice of their father'*<sup>25</sup>
- They spurned the precious sacrificial pictures of God's mercy
- Pharaoh example<sup>Ex8:15;9:12</sup>
- Don't miss the grace of the Gospel<sup>Heb6:4-6</sup>
- Don't reject God's mercy<sup>Heb10:26-27</sup>
- God will deal with those who are His adversaries<sup>1S2:10</sup>
- Remember the Gospel Exchange<sup>2Cor5:21</sup> don't miss it<sup>2Cor6:1-2</sup>

## Samuel trusted God in Faith & Action

- Samuel grew in stature & favor with the Lord & man<sup>26</sup>
- Same words used for the boy Jesus<sup>Lk2:52</sup>
- Never, ever forget the truth of the incarnation<sup>Jn1:4-5</sup>
- God planned our redemption through Jesus the Messiah<sup>Isa9:6</sup>
- Don't miss or reject God's Gracious Provision!