

# Eli

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**English Meeting**  
**24 April 2022**



# Background

## Judges 21:25

In those days *there was* no king in Israel; everyone did *what was* right in his own eyes.

## Affliction of Hannah

Pray / Purify / Magnify / Dedicate → Nazirite → King

## Affliction of Eli

Judgement of Sin

# What happened?

## Samuel 1:3

This man went up from his city yearly to worship and sacrifice to the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. Also the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, *were* there.

## Samuel 2: 12-17

<sup>12</sup> Now the sons of Eli *were* **corrupt**; they did not know the LORD. <sup>13</sup> And the priests' custom with the people *was that* when any man offered a sacrifice, the priest's servant would come with a three-pronged fleshhook in his hand while the meat was boiling. <sup>14</sup> Then he would thrust *it* into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; and the priest would take for himself all that the fleshhook brought up. So they did in Shiloh to all the Israelites who came there. <sup>15</sup> Also, before they burned the fat, the priest's servant would come and say to the man who sacrificed, "Give meat for roasting to the priest, for he will not take boiled meat from you, but raw."

<sup>16</sup> And *if* the man said to him, "They should really burn the fat first; *then* you may take *as much* as your heart desires," he would then answer him, "**No, but you must give *it* now; and if not, I will take *it* by force.**"

<sup>17</sup> Therefore the **sin** of the young men was very **great** before the LORD, for men **abhorred** the offering of the LORD.

## Samuel 2: 22-25

<sup>22</sup> Now Eli was very old; and he heard everything his sons did to all Israel, and how they **lay with the women** who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. <sup>23</sup> So he said to them, “Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all the people. <sup>24</sup> **No, my sons! For *it is not a good report*** that I hear. You make the LORD’s people transgress. <sup>25</sup> If one man sins against another, God will judge him. But if a man sins against the LORD, who will intercede for him?” Nevertheless they **did not heed** the voice of their father, because the LORD desired to kill them.

## Samuel 2: 27-30

<sup>27</sup> Then a man of God came to Eli and said to him, “Thus says the LORD: ‘Did I not clearly reveal Myself to the house of your father when they were in Egypt in Pharaoh’s house? <sup>28</sup> Did I not **choose him** out of all the tribes of Israel *to be* My priest, to offer upon My altar, to burn incense, and to wear an ephod before Me? And did I not give to the house of your father all the offerings of the children of Israel made by fire? <sup>29</sup> Why do you kick at My sacrifice and My offering which I have commanded *in My* dwelling place, and **honour your sons more than Me**, to make yourselves fat with the best of all the offerings of Israel My people?’ <sup>30</sup> Therefore the LORD God of Israel says: ‘I said indeed *that* your house and the house of your father would walk before Me forever.’ But now the LORD says: ‘Far be it from Me; for those who honour Me I will honour, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.’”

## Samuel 2: 31-36

<sup>31</sup> Behold, the days are coming that I will cut off your arm and the arm of your father's house, so that there will not be an old man in your house. <sup>32</sup> And you will see an enemy *in My dwelling place, despite* all the good which God does for Israel. And there shall not be an old man in your house forever. <sup>33</sup> But any of your men *whom* I do not cut off from My altar shall consume your eyes and grieve your heart. And all the descendants of your house shall die in the flower of their age. <sup>34</sup> Now this *shall be a sign to you that will come upon your two sons, on Hophni and Phinehas: in one day they shall die, both of them.* <sup>35</sup> Then I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest *who* shall do according to what *is* in My heart and in My mind. I will build him a sure house, and he shall walk before My anointed forever. <sup>36</sup> And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left in your house will come *and* bow down to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and say, "Please, put me in one of the priestly positions, that I may eat a piece of bread."

## Samuel 3: 1-2

Now the boy Samuel ministered to the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was **rare** in those days; *there was no widespread revelation*.<sup>2</sup> And it came to pass at that time, while Eli *was* lying down in his place, and when his eyes had begun to grow so **dim** that he could not see.

## Samuel 4: 17-18

<sup>17</sup> So the messenger answered and said, “Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has been a great slaughter among the people. Also your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, **are dead**; and the ark of God has been captured.”

<sup>18</sup> Then it happened, when he made mention of the ark of God, that Eli fell off the seat backward by the side of the gate; and his neck was broken and **he died**, for the man was old and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.



# How to serve God?

## 1. Listen

### Exodus 29:20

Then you shall kill the ram, and take some of its blood and put *it* on the tip of the right ear of Aaron and on the tip of the right **ear** of his sons, on the thumb of their right **hand** and on the big toe of their right **foot**, and sprinkle the blood all around on the altar.

## Isaiah 50: 4-5

<sup>4</sup> “The Lord GOD has given Me  
The **tongue** of the learned,  
That I should know how to **speak**  
A word in season to *him who is* weary.  
He awakens Me morning by morning,  
He awakens My **ear**  
**To hear** as the learned.

<sup>5</sup> The Lord GOD has opened My ear;  
And I was not rebellious,  
Nor did I turn away.

## 2. Cleanse and Purify

### James 4:8

Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. **Cleanse** *your* hands, *you* sinners; and **purify** *your* hearts, *you* double-minded.

### Numbers 16:3

They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, “*You take* too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation *is* holy, every one of them, and the LORD *is* among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?”

### Numbers 16:32

And the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all *their* goods.

### 3. Formality vs Reality

#### Isaiah 1: 12-14

“When you come to appear before Me,  
Who has required this from your hand,  
To trample My courts?

<sup>13</sup> Bring no more **futile sacrifices**;

Incense is an abomination to Me.

The New Moons, the Sabbaths, and the calling of assemblies—  
I cannot endure iniquity and the sacred meeting.

<sup>14</sup> Your New Moons and your appointed feasts

My soul hates;

They are a trouble to Me,

I am weary of bearing *them*.

## Isaiah 1: 15-16

<sup>15</sup> When you spread out your hands,  
I will hide My eyes from you;  
Even though you make many prayers,  
I will not hear.  
Your hands are full of blood.

<sup>16</sup> “**Wash** yourselves, make yourselves **clean**;  
Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes.  
Cease to do evil,

## 4. Submit to Discipline

### 1 Peter 5:5

Likewise you younger people, **submit** yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud,  
But gives grace to the humble.”

### 2 Timothy 3:10

But you have carefully **followed** my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance,

## 5. Humility? Pride?

### Exodus 5:2

And Pharaoh said, “Who *is* the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go.”

### Numbers 12: 1-5

Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman. <sup>2</sup> So they said, “Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also?” And the LORD heard *it*. <sup>3</sup> (Now the man Moses *was* very humble, more than all men who *were* on the face of the earth.)

<sup>4</sup> Suddenly the LORD said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, “Come out, you three, to the tabernacle of meeting!” So the three came out. <sup>5</sup> Then the LORD came down in the pillar of cloud and stood *in* the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam. And they both went forward.

## Numbers 12: 6-9

<sup>6</sup> Then He said, “Hear now My words:  
If there is a prophet among you,  
I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision;  
I speak to him in a dream.

<sup>7</sup> Not so with My servant Moses;  
**He is faithful** in all My house.

<sup>8</sup> I speak with him face to face,  
Even plainly, and not in dark sayings;  
And he sees the form of the LORD.

Why then were you not afraid  
To speak against My servant Moses?”

<sup>9</sup> So the anger of the LORD was aroused against them, and He departed.



## 6. Reverence and Godly Fear

### Hebrews 12: 28-29

<sup>28</sup> Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with **reverence and godly fear**. <sup>29</sup> For our God *is* a consuming fire.