

1 SAMUEL 2; March 17; Two Families Contrasted

ANALYSIS:

1. In her prayer, Hannah told the LORD that she rejoiced in _____
_____.
2. In verses 11 & 18 it says Samuel _____ unto the LORD,
and verses 21 & 26 that he _____ before the LORD.
3. Eli's sons were sons of _____, they knew _____ _____ _____.
4. After Hannah gave Samuel to the LORD, He blessed her with _____
more sons and _____ daughters.
5. A man of God told Eli the LORD would destroy Eli's family because Eli
_____ above the LORD.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

The story of Hannah is instructive and comforting. In chapter one she vows to give her much longed for son to the LORD. After the LORD gave her Samuel, she fulfils her vow by training Samuel and giving him to the LORD for as long as he lived. Her prayer in chapter two of thanksgiving and worship to the LORD is outstanding. Although she had just given her cherished son to the LORD, and would go home without him, she is filled with rejoicing in God her Savior, "I rejoice in thy salvation." Her prayer is filled with confidence the LORD is with her and will bless her to bear more children (v 5). Verse 21 tells of the fulfillment! Elkanah and Hannah earned the honor of being known as the parents of Samuel!

In painful contrast, the other parent in this chapter, Eli, is shown to have forfeited God's choice and blessing of being the priestly family by multiple sins. The LORD charged Eli for kicking at the sacrifice and offering, honoring his sons above the LORD, and making himself fat with the chiefest of all the offerings (v 29). Eli's judgment would be the eath of his two sons in one day and anyone remaining of his house would be a beggar (vs 34, 36).

Let us pray for and work consistently to train all our children that they may obtain to Samuel's testimony that he "was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men" (v 26). Even as "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man" (Luke 2:52).

HELP:

1. Thy salvation (v 1).
2. Ministered, grew.
3. Belial, not the LORD (v 12).
4. 3, 2 (v 21)..
5. Honourst thy sons (v 29)