

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE DESTINY OF HUMANITY

RLJ-1684

JOHN S. TORELL

DECEMBER 30, 2018

PART 17: THE EARLY LIFE OF SAMUEL

Samuel was the man that the Lord used to stabilize Israel and return the nation back to the worship of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. His name means “asked of God.”

1 Samuel 1:20

GOD IS SUPREME

Lucifer thought he could outsmart and dethrone God. **Isaiah 14:12-20; Genesis 1:26-27**

The people born after Noah’s flood thought they could reach heaven. **Genesis 11:1-8**

Goliath learned it is deadly to defy the living God. **1 Samuel 17:38-52**

Mankind can never outsmart God. **Isaiah 55:8-9**

GOD USES IMPERFECT PEOPLE

Samuel was designed by God before the creation of the world and his parents were pre-selected to receive him. **Isaiah 49:1; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Galatians 1:15**

Elkanah was a bigamist. **1 Samuel 1:1-2**

Samuel’s father was not a pagan worshiper but was faithful to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. **verses 3-5**

His second wife Hannah continually grieved over the fact that she could not have children. **verses 6-8**

Hannah decided to call on God and vowed that If God would give her a son, she would dedicate Him to the Lord, and give him back to God. **verses 9-12**

Eli the priest thought she was drunk. **verses 13-14**

Hannah told him that she was not inebriated and then was blessed by the Eli. **verses 15-17**

Hannah had faith that God would answer her prayer and she began to rejoice and eventually gave birth to a son named Samuel. **verses 18-20**

HANNAH KEPT HER PROMISE

Hannah did not make the journey to Shiloh on the year she gave birth to Samuel. **verses 21-23**

When Samuel was five or six years old, Hannah took him to Shiloh to give him to the Lord and stay with Eli. **verses 24-28**

A HOUSE OF INIQUITY

Eli had two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, who rebelled against God. **1 Samuel 2:11-17**



In the midst of this spiritual filth, God was simultaneously raising up Samuel to be a man of God and a mighty prophet. As a child prophet, Samuel was dressed with an ephod (a priestly garment) and as he grew older, his mother made a new ephod every year. **verses 18-19**

When Hannah fulfilled her promise and gave Samuel to God, the Lord gave her five more children. **verses 20-21**

Hophni and Phinehas were sexual predators and preyed upon the women that came to worship at Shiloh. **verse 22**

Eli was not only a priest, he was also a judge over Israel, and instead of judging his sons and sentencing to death for their sins, Eli merely spoke to them and took no action. **verses 23-25**

Samuel prospered in the Lord in the midst of this corruption. **verse 26**

God sent a prophet to warn Eli but he refused to do anything. **verses 27-36**

SAMUEL IS ACTIVATED

Eli no longer heard from the Lord toward the end of his life. **1 Samuel 3:1**

The Lord called to Samuel one evening after he lay down and he mistakenly thought Eli was summoning him. **verses 2-9**

Jesus came a fourth time and told Samuel what would happen in Israel and what He was going to do to Eli and his household. **verses 10-14**

Samuel's job was to open the doors to the tabernacle. He knew that Eli would ask him what the Lord had spoken and Samuel feared telling Eli that he was about to be judged and would lose his life. **verse 15**

Samuel showed his true character when he boldly told Eli what the Lord had said. Eli realized that the Lord had indeed spoken and the time for him and his son's to repent was over. All they could do was await the Lord's judgment. **verses 16-18**

Samuel was by now established as a prophet of the Lord and recognized by all of the tribes of Israel. **verses 19-21**

JUDGMENT UPON ELI

There is only death and destruction when the time of grace is up. **Galatians 6:7-8**

The Philistines were used by God to strike Israel and the first battle saw some 4,000 Israelites killed. **1 Samuel 4:1-2**

The elders realized that God had abandoned them and they decided to do something religious by ordering the Ark of the Covenant to be brought to their camp. The Ark was accompanied by Eli's two sons. The Philistines heard the shouting of the Israelites when this religious artifact arrived on a cart. **verses 3-5**

The Philistines knew about the Ark of the Lord and mistakenly thought that the God of Israel had come into the camp to fight for them. They failed to understand that the Ark was not God nor did He inhabit it. The Philistines believed that the God of Israel was just another national god who fought for His people. **verses 6-9**

Fearing for their lives, the Philistines fought hard against the men of Israel and killed 30,000 of them. Hophni and Phinehas were executed and the ark was taken as loot. **verses 10-11**

A runner was sent to Eli and he fell backward and broke his neck upon hearing the news. Eli had lived the good life and become fat. God used his excessive weight to kill him. **verses 12-19**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?