

Wickedness Leads to Destruction

1 Samuel 2:12-4:22

1 Sam 2:12-17 - Eli's sons were corrupt, they warped God's instructions, and they caused God's people to **abhor** the offering of the Lord.

1 Sam 2:22-25 Eli _____ his sons for their sins and _____ them of God's judgment.

1 Sam 2:27-36 - Eli honored his sons _____ than he honored God. Eli was _____ from his son's sins. He was becoming fat by eating the best of all the offerings. God's punishment on Eli and his sons included both his sons dying on the **same** day and that all of his male descendants would die in the _____ of their lives. God also said that the priesthood would be taken _____ from Eli's family.

1 Sam 3:1-18

During the beginning of Samuel's life, we find out that the word of the Lord was _____. At this point in Samuel's life he _____ received a revelation from God. That's why he went to Samuel three times thinking Eli had called him. After the third time Samuel went to Eli, Eli determined that it was God who was calling Samuel and he gave Samuel _____ instructions on how to respond if God called again. Samuel listened, and when the Lord called the fourth time Samuel replied, "Speak, for your _____ hears." The Lord was upset with Samuel because he knew what his sons were doing, but he did not _____ them. After hearing this distressing prophecy, Eli simply responded "It is the Lord, let Him do what seems good to Him."

1 Sam 3:19-4:1

God started communicating to the people through Samuel. The fact that the Lord "let none of his words fall to the ground," meant that _____ Samuel spoke came true. God made it very clear to _____ Israel that Samuel was a prophet.

Fulfillment of God's punishment against Eli and his family

1 Sam 4:1-11

In the first battle of this war with the Philistines, four thousand men of Israel died. The people's solution was to get the ark of the covenant. They viewed the ark as an idol. The second battle resulted in thirty thousand soldiers dying, Hophni and Phinehas' deaths, and the capture of the ark of God.

The end of Eli's family serving as High Priest

1 Sam 22:16-23 *And the king said, "You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father's house!" 17 Then the king said to the guards who stood about him, "Turn and kill the priests of the Lord, because their hand also is with David, and because they knew when he fled and did not tell it to me." But the servants of the king would not lift their hands to strike the priests of the Lord. 18 And the king said to Doeg, "You turn and kill the*

priests!" So Doeg the Edomite turned and struck the priests, and killed on that day eighty-five men who wore a linen ephod. 19 Also Nob, the city of the priests, he struck with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and nursing infants, oxen and donkeys and sheep — with the edge of the sword. 20 Now one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled after David. 21 And Abiathar told David that Saul had killed the Lord's priests. 22 So David said to Abiathar, "I knew that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul. I have caused the death of all the persons of your father's house. 23 Stay with me; do not fear. For he who seeks my life seeks your life, but with me you shall be safe." NKJV

Saul killed _____ of Eli's descendants, including Ahimelech, in the prime of their lives. Abiathar, one of Eli's descendants, _____ and starts serving as David's priest. It's probably at this time that Saul makes Zadok the high priest.

1 Chron 15:11-13 *And David called for Zadok and Abiathar the priests, and for the Levites: for Uriel, Asaiah, Joel, Shemaiah, Eliel, and Amminadab. 12 He said to them, "You are the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites; sanctify yourselves, you and your brethren, that you may bring up the ark of the Lord God of Israel to the place I have prepared for it. 13 For because you did not do it the first time, the Lord our God broke out against us, because we did not consult Him about the proper order." NKJV*

Once David takes over the entire kingdom Zadok and Abiathar _____ serve as priests.

1 Kings 2:26-27 *And to Abiathar the priest the king said, "Go to Anathoth, to your own fields, for you are deserving of death; but I will not put you to death at this time, because you carried the ark of the Lord God before my father David, and because you were afflicted every time my father was afflicted." 27 So Solomon removed Abiathar from being priest to the Lord, that he might fulfill the word of the Lord which He spoke concerning the house of Eli at Shiloh. NKJV*

Solomon removes Abiathar from being priest to _____ the word of the Lord spoken to Eli.

Lessons to Learn

Sin never pays off but always makes you pay!

As parents, we need to restrain our kids from sinning.

Good people can raise rotten kids. This is especially true if the kids have a sense of entitlement.

God carries out his punishments even if it takes multiple generations.