

God's Will Prevails In Spite Of The Sins Of Sinful Leaders

Samuel Succeeds—Eli Falls and Dies

“The Blessed man will succeed in *ALL* that he does...”

CHANGE FROM BARRENNESS TO FERTILITY 1:1—2:10

God blesses those who put Him first

Hannah obeys when she fulfills her vow

Eli's sons disobey their vows as priests

Hannah's obedience results in blessing.

A Blessed Son—Fertility—More Children

Hannah's song

“The mighty are broken — the feeble become strong”

God turns barrenness into fertility

2:10 “The LORD will judge the ends of the earth;

he will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

The first mention in the Bible of a **“Messiah King”**

CONTRAST SAMUEL AND ELI'S SONS 2:11-36

Samuel is a channel of blessing—**he is “fruitful”**

Eli's sons are a source of frustration, corruption—**they “will perish”**

Eli's sons discourage the Israelites with their corruption

Eli does not restrain, or discipline, the sinful behavior of his sons

Eli's sons are growing in disfavor with both God and the men

Samuel is growing in favor with both God and men

Eli enjoys the fruits of his sons corruption and extortion

“Children can grow up in an ungodly environment away from parental supervision and still become godly.” Tom Constable

CALLING SAMUEL TO BE GOD'S VOICE TO THE PEOPLE 3:1-21

Samuel's first message as a prophet is an announcement of Eli's doom.

God decides who will prosper and who will perish

The end Eli's line of priests

The beginning of Samuel's line of prophets

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT 4:1—7:2

Does losing the Ark means losing God? **“Ichabod”**

The nation ignored God's covenant

The nation disregarded God's Law

Israel lost God's blessing—but not His presence

God's *Glory* departs from Israel—not God Himself

God demonstrates His *Glory* in the land of Philistia (*Ch. 5—6*)

He destroys dagon and he inflicts pain

SAMUEL AS ISRAEL'S JUDGE 7:3-17

Samuel is faithful—like Hannah

Samuel's leadership was a blessing Israel **“he gives fruit in his season”**

Samuel calls his people to repentance, confession, and cleansing and intercession through the blood of a *Lamb*—

and then there is victory!