

“Historical Books Of The Bible”
1 Samuel 3:1-21
Wednesday November 13, 2013

1 Samuel 3:1-15

The Book of 1 Samuel is a crucial link from the forbidding days of Judges to David's monarchy.

Samuel – “The name of God” “Heard of God” and “Asked of God”

Abraham was the first prophet; Gen 20:7 “He is a prophet”; Moses the great prophet – Deut 18:15, 18-22; 34:10; Samuel became a first in a series of prophets.

1 Samuel 1-7 – The Ministry Of Samuel: There are 3 main characters in the book: Samuel, Saul, and David.

1 Samuel 2:12

1 Samuel 2:17-18

1 Samuel 2:26

- 1. Verses 1-9 – Call Of A Prophet**
- 2. Verses 10-18 – Message Of A Prophet**
- 3. Verses 19-21 – Ministry Of A Prophet**

1. Verses 1-9 – Call Of A Prophet:

1 Samuel 3:1

“boy” – “young person”; now in his teens –Term boy was used of David when he took on Goliath – 1 Sam 17:33

1 Sam. 2:12 – Worthless sons – Hophni & Phinehas:

1. Worthless – reprobate v. 12
2. Corrupted sacrifices – v. 13-17
3. Fornication – v. 22
4. Eli tolerant of sin – v. 24

Samuel was ministering to the Lord! (submission)

The spiritual leaders were corrupt, and God's people weren't obeying His law, so Why should God say anything new to them?

A Famine For The Word: Amos 8:11-12

1 Sam 3:2-3

"lamp of God had not yet gone out" – Lampstand or Candlestick – 7 lamps of Tabernacle – Ex. 27:20-21; Ex. 30:8; Lev. 24:2

The lamp was a symbol of the light of God's truth given to the world through His people Israel.

1 Sam 3:4 – "that the LORD called Samuel;" – The Lord spoke to Samuel 4X (1 Sam. 3:4, 6, 8, 10)

1 Sam 3:5

One of the marks of a faithful servant is an attentive ear and an immediate willing response.

1 Sam 3:6-9

Be Still: "And Eli said to Samuel, 'Go lie down,'"

Be Attentive: "and it shall be if He calls you, that you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for Thy servant is listening.'" ; "to hear so as to obey".

2. Verses 10-18 – Message Of A Prophet:

1 Sam 3:10

God Of Grace Reaching Out: "and called as at other times,"

Obedient Servant Responding: And Samuel said, "Speak, for Thy servant is listening." The word listening – "to hear with interest, to obey"

1 Sam 3:11-12

1 Sam. 2:27-36 – Is God merciful – 8-10 years have gone by

1 Sam. 4:11,18 – Another 15 years; Total 25 years

Rev. 3:7 – "He Who is holy, Who is true," – Holy – hates sin... pure, True – implements Justice – wrath.

1 Sam 3:13

Eli Was Warned About God's Judgment: "For I have told him that I am about to judge his house forever for the iniquity"

Eli Knew God's Judgment Was Coming: "which he knew,"

Eli's Son's Brought The Judgment On Themselves: "because his sons brought a curse on themselves"

Eli Was Partly Responsible For God's Judgment: "and he did not rebuke them."

1 Sam 3:14

Eli's family sins were deliberate and defiant, and for such sins no sacrifice could be offered!

Numbers 15:30-31

1 John 5:16

Eli and his sons were hardened – Gen. 6:3, Noah's day, God was patient for 120 years

1 Sam 3:15

Nehemiah – (Neh. 2:1-8) Before King of Babylon

Nathan – (2 Sam. 12:1-14) "David, you are the man"

Moses – (Exodus) Pharaoh – "Let my people go"

Elijah – 450 prophets

Joshua – "as for me and my house"

Greatest Example Of Jesus Christ: 1 Tim 6:13-14

God gives us the Message (Bible), we must share it. Eph. 4:15 – Love & Truth

1 Sam 3:16-18

The Greatest Test Of God's Prophet: Will He Speak God's Message Without Compromise? Not Adding, Not Subtracting? "Samuel told him – everything; hid nothing from him."

Galatians 4:16

And he said, "It is the LORD; let Him do what seems good to Him." Eli exhibits passive resignation to something that I believe he could have changed!

3. Verses 19-21 – Ministry Of A Prophet:

1 Sam 3:19

"Thus Samuel grew" – 1 Samuel 2:21

"let none of his words fail." – "to fall to the ground"

Eccl. 12:11

1 Sam 3:20

"Israel from Dan even to Beersheba" – North to South 150 miles; all of Israel heard about Samuel.

God used this difficult task to confirm to others that Samuel was God's man; That he was speaking on behalf of God.

1 Sam 3:21

Conclusion:

1. Israel's Lack Of Spirituality Restrained God From Speaking And Giving Direction. It Was Not God's Fault But The People's. When We Don't Hear God Speaking, We Should Do Spiritual Inventory.
2. Samuel Models The Mark Of A Faithful Servant Of God; One Who Has An Attentive Ear And An Immediate And Willing Heart Of Response.
3. The Greatest Test Of God's Prophet: Will He Speak God's Message Without Compromise? Not Adding, Not Subtracting?