

SAMUEL, THE PROPHET

This lesson will show a training exercise by God rather than by Eli to Samuel as a new prophet. There is a change of tutelage over the mentoring of Samuel in the word and work of God. Because of this change in mentors, Samuel will teach Eli the word of God in today's lesson.

We will examine today's lesson text by four homiletic points of Samuel, the Prophet.

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| (1 Sam.3:15-17) | Reluctance of Samuel to give Eli the prophecy. |
| (1 Sam.3:18) | Resignation of Eli to accept the directive will of God. |
| (1 Sam.3:19-20) | Revelation of Samuel as God's prophet to the nation. |
| (1 Sam.3:21) | Reinstating of presence of Lord at Shiloh. |

This is big day for both Samuel and Eli in the plan of God.

**This lesson will study five aspects of the introduction of Samuel
as the Prophet of God to the nation of Israel.**

- 1. This lesson teaches the gifted communicators at least four things about teaching to communicate the word of God.**
 - He must teach it without fear of repercussions from its clarity ((1 Sam.3:15).
 - He must explain exactly what God wants the people to understand. Do not hide anything from them ((1 Sam.3:16-17).
 - He must teach the listener with the intent to understand, believe, and obey the directive will ((1 Sam.3:17b-18).
 - He must know that once delivered the Lord is responsible to the listener and the word ((1 Sam.3:19; Rom.4:21).
- 2. The communicator of the word of God must leave the confirming and promoting of the teacher and teaching to the Lord ((1 Sam.3:20-21).**
 - He must understand he is under the divine chain of command (God to Lord Jesus Christ to gifted communicator to people/ 1 Cor.11:1-3; Eph.5:22-24; 1 Pet.5:1-5).
 - He must understand the goal of teaching the truth of word of God is to develop spiritual growth by inhale and exhale towards intimacy with God the Father (John 21:15-17; 1 John1:3-4; 1 Cor.1:9; Rom.12:1-2).
- 3. Eli was resigned to accept the word of God and the directive will be taught by the young rookie prophet Samuel (3:18; Num.32:23' Ps.119:11.**

(1 Sam.3:18b) "It is the Lord; let Him do **what seems good to Him.**"

Eli understood that accepting the directive will as good for Lord was good for Eli (Rom.8:28, 37; Job 1:21; 2:10; Gen.50:19-21).

Eli accepted the directive will of God in spite of what the content said. This was not true for Jonah (1 Sam.1:1-3) (Positive volition verses negative volition).

We are told Eli was 98 and with poor eye sight but he did not use any of it as an excuse to not obey the directive will of God (1 Sam.4:15-22).

Eli's last good piece of advice to Samuel is recorded in 1 Sam.3:17-18.

4. A new day in Israel has just begun with the confirmation of a prophet sent by God to the nation

Compare 3:1 to 3:19

(1 Sam.3:1) "Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord before Eli. And word from the Lord was rare in those days, visions were infrequent."

(1 Sam.3:19) "Thus Samuel grew and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fail."

A spiritual reformation is coming to Israel though Samuel. But it will take some time because cosmos diabolicus (worldly thinking) had replaced the truth of word of God through false teachers without rebuke from spiritual leaders like Eli (Judges 21:25; 1 Sam.2:27-36).

5. Samuel is an example of what God can do with one obedient communicator of the word of God in a nation.

A communicator who is willing to reach and maintain spiritual growth maturity no matter how corrupt the cultural norm and standard among believers (2 Pet.3:18; Eph.4:11-16).

He must be willing to go against the cultural norm and standard of his generation.

(Phil.2:13-15) "**For it is God** who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or disputing; **so that** you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world."

It is declared by biblical historians that the enemy of Israel never crossed their border during Samuel time because the spiritual leadership was in line with the word of God (Job.1:8-10; Ex.13:21).

(Matt.5:13-14) "**You are the salt of the earth;** but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. **You are the light of the world,** a city set on a hill cannot be hidden."