

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

CLEANING HOUSE

1 SAMUEL 2:11-36

FEBRUARY 5TH, 2023

- I. Corruption in the House of God: vs. 12-17
- II. Favor upon Samuel: vs. 18-21
- III. Lackluster Correction of Eli: vs. 22-26
- IV. Judgement on the House of Eli: vs. 27-36
- V. A Significant Promise: vs. 35-36
- VI. Application
 - a. Understand the great danger of tolerating sin
 - b. Be careful of developing contempt toward the things of God
 - c. Look for ways God is at work in quiet ways

Questions:

1. What is your general posture toward those in leadership (skeptic and suspicious or disposition toward wanting to be led)? How does that play itself out in your life?
2. What is the most shocking thing about this passage from your perspective? From your perspective, what is the danger of tolerating sin instead of putting it to death?
3. Highlight the four occurrences of Samuel's maturity progression in vs. 11, 18, 21, and 26. In the midst of an overall sinfully wicked display of Israel's leadership, what do these four mentions of Samuel tell us about God and how He tends to work? How have you seen God work in similar ways in your own life?
4. Review verses 22-26 and highlight ways that Eli did well in approach his son's sinful behavior and where he missed the mark? What does this show us as far as the importance of godly discipline in the home?
5. Review the following passages of Scripture as a group and answer this question: is it possible to be so persistently rebellious against God that one is beyond the possibility of repentance? Why or why not?
 - Romans 1:24-28
 - Hebrews 6:4-6
 - Hebrews 12:15-17
 - Exodus: Pharaoh's hardened heart
 1. Pharaoh hardening his own heart: Exodus 8:15, 32; 9:34; 7:13, 14, 22; 8:19; 9:7, 35)
 2. God hardening Pharaoh's heart: Exodus 4:21; 7:3; 9:12; 10:1, 20, 27; 11:10; 14:4, 8)

6. The promise of a “faithful priest” from the unnamed prophet in vs. 35-36 seems to be ultimately fulfilled in Jesus. Have each person take one of the follow passages and answer this question: what do we learn about Jesus as a high priest from this passage?
 - Hebrews 2:17
 - Hebrews 4:14-15
 - Hebrews 4:16
 - Hebrews 6:19-20
 - Hebrews 7:24-25
 - Hebrews 7:27
 - Hebrews 9:12

7. In what ways can you better protect yourself from developing contempt for the things of God?