

Series: 1 Samuel: The Chosen King III

Text: 1 Samuel 3:1-21

HI: The Lord sent his word.

Title: *The Word of the Lord*

Hook: A noise in the night

Date: 1.29.23

Purpose: To proclaim the word of the Lord, the gospel of salvation.

FCF: Like ancient Israel, we can easily settle for godless religious activity in place of true devotion to God. God's grace reaches us here, as he sends forth his word to rescue his people.

COR: The corruption of Israel's religious leaders is all too familiar. We have grown accustomed to religious scandal, as those in positions of spiritual influence so often go wrong. The Lord meets this head on, as he pours out his righteous judgment, establishing a new leader who will bring his word to his people.

Witness of Christ [WC*]: Word of the Lord through prophet Hebrews 1:1-4
Hebrews 10:26-31

Apologetic: This is a warning text: 1 Samuel 3:11-14 // Hebrews 10:26-31

Form: Inductive

Call to Worship: Psalm 18:30-31

Benediction: 1 Peter 1:23-25: Walk in this good news

Outline:

I. The call of the Lord gently breaks the silence of night. (1-10)

A. The Lord's word was rare.

B. Eli has failing eyes.

C. Samuel has open ears.

D. The Lord's voice was clear.

II. The Lord's judgment is just and his words hold weight. (11-18)

A. God's judgment was on the doorstep.

B. Samuel's responsibility fills him with anxiety.

III. The word of the Lord saves his people from godless religion. (19-21)

A. Samuel grew in the Lord's presence.

B. Samuel was established as the Lord's prophet.

C. Israel's dark night gave way to sunlight.

Main Idea:

Subject: How does the Lord deal with the godless priesthood?

Complement: He calls Samuel as a prophet to bring the word of the Lord to Israel.

Exegetical Idea: In response to the godlessness of the priesthood, the Lord calls Samuel as a prophet to bring the word of the Lord to Israel.

Theological Idea: To rescue a people who are estranged from him, the Lord sends his word.

Homiletical Idea: The Lord sent his word.

Introduction:

READ 1 Samuel 3:1-21

1 Samuel 3:1 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD in the presence of Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place.

³ The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.

⁴ Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!"

⁵ and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

⁶ And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again."

⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸ And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy.

⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears."

¹¹ Then the LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle.

¹² On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end.

¹³ And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them.

¹⁴ Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵ Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli.

¹⁶ But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." And he said, "Here I am."

¹⁷ And Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you."

¹⁸ So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, "It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him."

¹⁹ And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.

²⁰ And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD.

²¹ And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.

1 Sam. 3:1-21

"You shall command the people of Israel that they bring to you pure beaten olive oil for the light, that a lamp may regularly be set up to burn. In the tent of meeting, outside the veil that is before the testimony, Aaron and his sons shall tend it from evening to morning before the LORD. It shall be a statute forever to be observed throughout their generations by the people of Israel. (Exod. 27:20-21)

I. The call of the Lord gently breaks the silence of night. (1-10)

RE-READ 1 Samuel 3:11-18

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II. The Lord's judgment is just and his words hold weight. (11-18)

RE-READ 1 Samuel 3:19-21

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²¹ And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.

(1 Sam. 3:1-21 ESV)

III. The word of the Lord saves his people from godless religion. (19-21)

HI: The Lord sent his word.

Conclusion:

READ Hebrews 1:1-4:

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

READ Hebrews 10:26-31

²⁶ For if we go on sinning deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

²⁷ but a fearful expectation of judgment, and a fury of fire that will consume the adversaries.

²⁸ Anyone who has set aside the law of Moses dies without mercy on the evidence of two or three witnesses.

²⁹ How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?

³⁰ For we know him who said, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge his people."

³¹ It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. (Heb. 10:26-31 ESV)

The Lord sent his word.