

- I) V27 INTRO: Then *a man of God* came to Eli and said to him *Thus says the LORD*
Eli the priest had two unsaved sons: they were referred to as **corrupt** (V12)
- II) They were priests, and yet they did not have the knowledge of God
With no fear of God, they sinned without any sense of wrong
- III) They robbed God, bullied and robbed the people, and committed sexual sins
THE RESULT
- IV) The people disrespected the offering of the Lord, and were stumbled (V17, 24)
AS WE SAW
- V) Eli attempted to reprove his sons for what they were doing
By now he was an old man and his sons rejected what he had to say
- VI) As godly as Eli was, he failed to properly discipline his sons
Pr 22:15 Foolishness is bound up in the heart (inner man; will) of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him.
- VII) His sons were hardened in their sins and rejected any correction
Gen 8:21 (concerning man) **every inclination of his heart is evil from his youth**
They were beyond repentance
- VIII) God Himself was now going to move and bring judgment **upon them all**
There is no doubt that God waited patiently before He brought judgment
- IX) He showed His patience in the days of Noah
He determined that He would bring judgment
WHY?
- X) Gen 6:5 The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that *every inclination* of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time
Gen 6:11-12 The **earth was corrupt** in the sight of God, and full of violence. And God looked upon the earth and saw that it was corrupt; for all living creatures on the earth had corrupted their ways
- XI) Gen 6:3 The Lord said My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days shall be 120 years
GOD WAITED PATIENTLY

- I) He gave people time to repent
2 Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead, he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
- II) Sometimes we think that because He doesn't act, that He ignores it
We need to realize that He is giving us time to repent
Ro 2:4 do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?
- III) Again, as demonstrated in the time of Noah, eventually He will bring judgment
1 Pe 3:20 God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat. Only eight people were saved from drowning in that terrible flood
- IV) What are we to do when we are convicted? Do we continue in sin?
Rev 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. There be zealous and repent
ELI'S SONS REFUSED TO REPENT
- V) V27 Then a man of God came to Eli and said to him Thus says the LORD
God had made a determination to bring judgment on Eli and his sons
- VI) Before He does this, He sends a message to him through a man of God
Man of God is used for a prophet around 78 times
It is used of Moses, Samuel, David, Elijah and others
- VII) God sent him to speak to Eli, to prepare him for what was about to take place
God had waited for *some time*, and His patience had reached its end
- VIII) His mercy is expressed in His longsuffering, as He gives people time to repent
2 Pe 3:15 Consider that the *longsuffering* of our Lord is salvation
AS I HAVE SAID
- IX) It seems that the Lord had waited patiently for Eli's sons to repent
V22 Points out that Eli was now very old, around 80
- X) The sons had been sinning terribly for some time, and God is now acting
He does so by sending a prophet to rebuke Eli
HE SAYS
- XI) V27 Thus says the LORD Did I not *clearly reveal Myself* to the house of your father

- I) This is not the first warning
He was warned when he had heard of what his sons did
- II) The knowledge of their sins should have served as a warning **in and of itself**
When informed of this, he acted but did not do so decisively
- III) He had told his sons that he was aware of what they were doing
He had even told them that they were stumbling the people
V22-24
- IV) Instead of acting quickly and strongly, he allowed the sin to fester
It became leaven that infected the people: they despised the offering
Eccl 8:11 Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily,
therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil
- V) Commentators have said that this would have been a peace offering
It is found in Lev 7:11-21, representing peace with, or fellowship with God
It was freely given mainly for an expression of gratitude for God's goodness
- VI) They stopped giving offerings because they knew they would be hijacked
They felt it would be better to not offer to the Lord than to have it abused
This led to them not expressing gratitude to God for His goodness
- VII) They stopped giving expressions of gratitude, and for fellowship with God
They wouldn't contribute to the sins of the priests
2 Co 6:14 Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness
be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness?
2 Th 3:6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and
sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live
according to the teaching you received from us.
- VIII) Obviously as believers, we should be thankful to God
Ps 50:14 It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to Your name,
O Most High
Ps 107:1 Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever
- IX) They were neglecting fellowship with God and thankfulness to Him

- I) God gave them time to repent, but they refused and He now deals with it
Eli knew God was displeased with what was happening, but did nothing to stop it
Time has passed, and God now sends a prophet to confront him
- II) V27-28 He said *Thus says the LORD* Did I not clearly reveal Myself to the house of
He reminds Eli of how good God has been to all of Aaron's descendants
FIRST
- III) He reminds him of how God revealed Himself, while the nation was in bondage
God had selected **Aaron and his** descendants to be His priests (Ex 28-29)
Ex 29:9 The priesthood shall be theirs for a perpetual statute. So you shall
consecrate Aaron and his sons
POINT
- IV) You were in bondage, but God set you free and chose you to serve Him
This is an honor you do not deserve, but you have not seen the value of it
- V) God's desire was for them to be His own special people, serving and loving Him
Ex 19:6 You shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the
words that you shall speak to the children of Israel.
QUOTE
- VI) They should be both a kingdom and a nation, a multitude of peoples connected
together; not a scattered and disorganized people, but a royal nation, using their own
rites, living under their own laws, subject in spiritual matters **only to God**, and in things
civil, to every ordinance of man for God's sake.
IN OUR CASE
- VII) By nature, we were in bondage to sin, but are now free in Jesus
Jn 8:36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.
1 Pe 2:9 You are a chosen generation, a **royal priesthood**, a holy nation, His own
special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness
into His marvelous light
- VIII) V28 And did I not give to the house of your father **all the offerings** of the children
Not only did He give them freedom, but also provided for them generously
With a nation giving large amounts of sacrifice, the priests were wealthy
- IX) By application, we too have been blessed and made spiritually rich
Eph 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has
blessed us with *every spiritual blessing* in the heavenly *places* in Christ

- I) 2 Pe 1:3 His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue (excellence)
2 Co 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.
- II) V29 Why do you **kick at** My sacrifice and My offering which I have commanded in
Kick at: An overfed ox or donkey that has pampered and is unmanageable
- III) Kick at speaks of rejecting the yoke
They tried to rid themselves of God's authority over them
- IV) **QUESTION**: Why have you treated My ordinances as a burden to you
This is how I have provided blessings for you
- V) They enjoyed the benefits but rejected God's authority over them
- VI) V30 Therefore the LORD God of Israel says I said indeed that your house and the
In Israel the priesthood descended from Aaron
Over time Aaron's family line was broken into various lines of descent
- VII) Other lines held the position of High Priest, and it now was held by Eli's line
God is saying that Eli's descendants will no longer hold such a high position
- VIII) V30 Those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly
Your family has not honored Me, and I **will not honor you**
- IX) V31 Behold the days are coming that I will **cut off your arm** and the arm of your
To cut off the arm is a picture of cutting off his and his family's strength
Ps 37:17 For **the arms of the wicked** shall be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous.
- X) The result of Eli's lack of dealing with the sin of his sons is to see **his house fall**
- XI) When our children are undisciplined, the result can be catastrophic
They can grow up rebellious and reject any kind of authority
Our children learn discipline through the instruction and example of parents

- I) This is one of the reasons why God places such responsibility on us fathers
We have the task of bringing our children up in the faith
Eph 6:4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up (train; nourish) in the training (correction) and admonition (rebuke; warn) of the Lord.
- II) Train your children in the fear of the Lord, teaching them sin has consequences
Pr 19:18 Discipline your son, for in that there is hope; do not be party to his death
- III) Their rebelliousness brings chaos and disruption to the family
It also spills out into the community
Pr 29:15 To discipline a child produces wisdom, but a mother is disgraced by an undisciplined child
- IV) They will grow up believing that they are entitled to whatever they want
This is what happened with Hophni and Phinehas
They took what belonged to God and His people and abused the women
CONTINUING
- V) V32 And you will see an **enemy in My dwelling place**, despite all the good which
This speaks of what will soon take place (ch 4)
- VI) **Enemy**: The calamity that he saw was the defeat of the Israelites, the capture of the ark, the death of his wicked sons, and the triumph of the Philistines
- VII) Dwelling place speaks of the Tabernacle
Ex 25:8 (God said) Let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.
- VIII) Your failure to discipline your sons has resulted in judgment to you
- IX) V32 And there will not be an old man in your house forever
Older men represent wisdom that comes through age
Job 12:12 Wisdom *is* with aged men, and with length of days, understanding.
Your house will lack a wise man to lead you back to God's blessings
- X) V33 Any of your men whom I do not cut off from My altar shall consume your eyes
Those who do not die will be miserable: it would break your heart to see them
Your descendants will meet with untimely and violent deaths

- I) V34 This shall be a sign to you that will come upon your two sons, on Hophni and
This is fulfilled in Ch 4
- II) V35 I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who shall do according to what is
Eli and his family will no longer hold the office of High Priest
In spite of this, the priesthood will remain
APPLICATION
- III) God will raise up someone else who will faithfully do His will
We are not indispensable! God will use whoever is ready and available
- IV) If God can't use you, there will be someone else that He can use
2 Chron 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth,
to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him.
- V) We need to be prepared, that we might be used by Him
Is 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who
will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here *am* I! Send me."
- VI) V35 This priest will do according to what is in God's heart and His mind
This priest will not disobey Me, nor will he dishonor Me
- VII) Many commentators believe this priest to be Samuel, who was a Levite
This is probably not accurate because he wasn't a descendant of Aaron
- VIII) Other commentators speak of a priest named Zadok (1 Chron 6:8-15)
2 Sa 8:17 tells us that Zadok became priest when King David ruled
- IX) V35 He shall walk before **My anointed forever**
PROPHECY
- X) This is related to when Messiah (My Anointed) will rule and reign on earth
Ezek 44:15 The priests, the Levites, the sons of Zadok, who kept charge of My
sanctuary when the children of Israel went astray from Me, they shall come near Me to
minister to Me; and they shall stand before Me to offer to Me the fat and the blood," says
the Lord GOD.
- XI) V36 It shall come to pass that everyone who is left in your house will come and
Those who gorged themselves on the sacrifices will end up begging for food

I) Job 4:8 As I have observed, those who plow iniquity and those who sow trouble reap the same