

When God's Honor is at Stake

1 Samuel 2:27-36

A Focus on Honor

- God's reputation is on the line, and He is going to do something about it

God is Worthy

- To give honor = To consider weighty, substantial, significant
- God is uniquely qualified to receive the highest praise and glory

How God is Dishonored

- When His blessings are treated with contempt
- When He is disobeyed and misrepresented
- When He is blasphemed because of our behavior

How God Restores His Honor

- Short term: He removes the blessings of the earthly priesthood
 - Long term: His zeal for His own honor culminates in Christ, our faithful High Priest
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Question: How can we live a "weightier" life?

For Life Group Discussion

1 Samuel 2:27-36

1. Read 1st Sam 2:30. In everyday terms, what does it look like to "honor" God versus "despising" Him, or treating Him lightly? Where do you see each tendency in your life right now?
 2. Eli "honored (his) sons above God" (2:29). Can fall into that same error in our churches or personal lives? Can we esteem other things, such as relationships, reputation, vocation, or even giftedness, more than God?
 3. Consider the "old-fashioned scale" described in the message. Looking at your schedule, budget, activities and attention, what truly weighed the most last week? Are there ways you can tip the scale toward God's honor?
 4. Read 1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-12. What "spiritual sacrifices," such as praise, repentance, generosity etc. can you offer that display (not earn!) God's honor? Pick one to focus on this week
 5. Read 1 Samuel 2:35. How does Jesus, our faithful High Priest, change the way we read the warning to Eli's house? In what ways does assurance in Christ free us from fear and performance while deepening reverent obedience? Read Jn 12:26; Heb 7:25; and 13:15-16 for help.
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Homework: Read and study 1st Samuel 10:17-25, and all of chapter 13 in preparation for upcoming messages