

~ELI 1 (488)

(E'li) [Ascended, Gone Up]

.. Lax In Disciplining Sons

.. Yehowah Judges His House

• **A High Priest of Israel, evidently a descendant of Aaron's fourth-named son Ithamar.**

• **And Zadok the son of Ahitub and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar were priests, and Seraiah was secretary. (2 Samuel 8:17)**

• **So Solomon drove out Abiathar from serving as a priest of Yehowah, to fulfill Yehowah's word that he had spoken against the house of Eli in Shiloh. (1 Kings 2:27)**

• **And David, and Zadok from the sons of Eleazar, and Ahimelech from the sons of Ithamar proceeded to make divisions of them for their office in their service. (1 Chronicles 24:3)**

• **Now Aaron took Elisheba, Amminadab's daughter, the sister of Nahshon, as his wife. Later she bore him Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. (Exodus 6:23)**

• **As High Priest, Eli judged Israel for 40 years. Samuel began to be a prophet during his lifetime.**

• **And it came about that at the moment that he mentioned the ark of the true God, he began to fall from the seat backward beside the gate, and his neck got broken so that he died, because the man was old and heavy, and he himself had judged Israel forty years. (1 Samuel 4:18)**

• **Then Yehowah came and took his position and called as at the other times; Samuel, Samuel! At this Samuel said; Speak, for your servant is listening. (1 Samuel 3:10)**

• **And Yehowah went on to say to Samuel; Look! I am doing something in Israel which if anyone hears about, both his ears will tingle. (1 Samuel 3:11)**

• **On that day I shall carry out toward Eli all that I have said respecting his house, from beginning to end. (1 Samuel 3:12)**

- And you must tell him that I am judging his house to time indefinite for the error that he has known, because his sons are calling down evil upon God, and he has not rebuked them. (1 Samuel 3:13)
- Then Abner also spoke in the ears of Benjamin, after which Abner also went to speak in the ears of David at Hebron all that was good in the eyes of Israel and in the eyes of the whole house of Benjamin. (2 Samuel 3:19)
- When Abner came to David at Hebron, and with him twenty men, David proceeded to make a feast for Abner and for the men that were with him. (2 Samuel 3:20)
- Then Abner said to David; Let me rise up and go and collect all Israel together to my lord the king, that they may conclude a covenant with you, and you will certainly become king over all that your soul craves. So David sent Abner off, and he got on his way in peace. (2 Samuel 3:21)
- **Eli's** day was one characterized by spiritual famine in Israel, for word from Yehowah had become rare in those days, there was no vision being spread abroad.
- All the while the boy Samuel was ministering to Yehowah before **Eli**, and word from Yehowah had become rare in those days, **there was no vision being spread abroad.** (1 Samuel 3:1)
- The first glimpse of **Eli** is given in of (1 Samuel Chapter 1). **Eli** is seated outside by the doorpost of the tabernacle and is rebuking righteous Hannah, whom he judges to be drunk, when actually she has been praying extendedly before Yehowah there in front of the tabernacle.
- Upon Hannah's reply that she is not drunk but has spoken out of the abundance of her concern and vexation, **Eli** dismisses her in peace. Yehowah answers Hannah's prayer, and she gives birth to a son whom she names Samuel. As soon as he is weaned she, in keeping with her vow, turns him over for service at the tabernacle.
- Then Hannah got up after they had eaten in Shiloh and after the drinking, while **Eli** the priest was sitting upon the seat by the doorpost of the temple of Yehowah. (1 Samuel 1:9)

- And she was bitter of soul, and she began to pray to Yehowah and to weep greatly. (1 Samuel 1:10)
- And she went on to make a vow and say; O Yehowah of armies, if you will without fail look upon the affliction of your slave girl and actually remember me, and you will not forget your slave girl and actually give to your slave girl a male offspring, I will give him to Yehowah all the days of his life, and no razor will come upon his head. (1 Samuel 1:11)
- And it occurred that while she prayed extendedly before Yehowah, Eli was watching her mouth. (1 Samuel 1:12)
- As for Hannah, she was speaking in her heart, only her lips were quivering, and her voice was not heard. But Eli took her for drunk. (1 Samuel 1:13)
- So Eli said to her; How long will you behave drunk? Put away your wine from upon you. (1 Samuel 1:14)
- At this Hannah answered and said; No, my lord! A woman hard pressed in spirit I am, and wine and intoxicating liquor I have not drunk, but I pour out my soul before Yehowah. (1 Samuel 1:15)
- Do not make your slave girl like a good-for-nothing woman, for it is out of the abundance of my concern and my vexation that I have spoken until now. (1 Samuel 1:16)
- Then Eli answered and said; Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant your petition that you have asked of him. (1 Samuel 1:17)
- To this she said; Let your maidservant find favor in your eyes. And the woman proceeded to go on her way and to eat, and her face became self-concerned no more. (1 Samuel 1:18)
- So it came about at the rolling around of a year that Hannah became pregnant and brought a son to birth and proceeded to call his name Samuel, because, said she, it is from Yehowah that I have asked him. (1 Samuel 1:20)
- Accordingly just as soon as she had weaned him, she brought him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull and one ephah

of flour and a large jar of wine, and she proceeded to enter the house of Yehowah in Shiloh. And the boy was with her. (**1 Samuel 1:24**)

- And I, in my turn, have lent him to Yehowah. All the days that he does happen to be, he is one requested for Yehowah. And he proceeded to bow down there to Yehowah. (**1 Samuel 1:28**)
- Then Elkanah went to Ramah to his house, and as for the boy, he became a minister of Yehowah before Eli the priest. (**1 Samuel 2:11**)
- And Samuel was ministering before Yehowah, as a boy, having a linen ephod girded on. (**1 Samuel 2:18**)

.. Lax In Disciplining Sons

- As a father and High Priest in Israel, **Eli** is lax in applying Yehowah's discipline. His two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, serve as officiating priests, but they are good-for-nothing men, only interested in satisfying their bellies and unclean sexual desires.
- They are not content with the portion of the sacrifice assigned to them by God's law, and even serve themselves ahead of Yehowah by having an attendant demand raw meat from the offerer before making the fat smoke upon the altar.
- **Eli's** greedy, sensual sons use their position at the tent of meeting to carry on vice and theft at the expense of Yehowah's pure worship.
- Even when his corrupt sons have immoral intercourse with the women who serve at the entrance of the tabernacle, **Eli** does not oust them from office but merely rebukes them mildly. **Eli** keeps honoring his sons more than Yehowah.
- Now the sons of **Eli** were good-for-nothing men, they did not acknowledge Yehowah. (**1 Samuel 2:12**)
- As for the due right of the priests from the people, whenever any man was offering a sacrifice, an attendant of the priest came with the three-pronged fork in his hand, just when the meat was boiling. (**1 Samuel 2:13**)
- And made a thrust into the basin or the two-handled cooking pot

or the caldron or the one-handed cooking pot. Anything that the fork might bring up the priest would take for himself. That is the way they would do in Shiloh to all the Israelites coming there. (**1 Samuel 2:14**)

- Also, before ever they could make the fat smoke, an attendant of the priest came and said to the man sacrificing; Do give meat to roast for the priest so that he may receive from you, not boiled meat, but raw. (**1 Samuel 2:15**)
- When the man would say to him; Let them be sure to make the fat smoke first of all. Then take for yourself just whatever your soul may crave; he actually said; No, but you should give it now, and, if not, I shall have to take it by force! (**1 Samuel 2:16**)
- And the sin of the attendants came to be very great before Yehowah, for the men treated the offering of Yehowah with disrespect. (**1 Samuel 2:17**)
- And Eli was very old, and he had heard of all that his sons kept doing to all Israel and how they would lie down with the women that were serving at the entrance of the tent of meeting. (**1 Samuel 2:22**)
- And he used to say to them; Why do you keep doing things like these? For the things I am hearing about you from all the people are bad. (**1 Samuel 2:23**)
- No, my sons, because the report is not good that I am hearing, that the people of Yehowah are causing to circulate. (**1 Samuel 2:24**)
- If a man should sin against a man, God will arbitrate for him, but if it is against Yehowah that a man should sin, who is there to pray for him? But they would not listen to the voice of their father, because Yehowah was now pleased to put them to death. (**1 Samuel 2:25**)
- Why do you men keep kicking at my sacrifice and at my offering that I have commanded in my dwelling, and you keep honoring your sons more than me by fattening yourselves from the best of every offering of Israel my people? (**1 Samuel 2:29**)

- In the course of time a prophet of God comes with a dire message of warning. The power and influence of the house of **Eli** is to be chopped off, so that there will not come to be an old man in his house. His corrupt sons are appointed to die in one day.
- And a man of God proceeded to come to **Eli** and say to him; This is what Yehowah has said; Did I not for a fact reveal myself to the house of your forefather while they happened to be in Egypt as slaves to the house of Pharaoh? (**1 Samuel 2:27**)
- And there was a choosing of him out of all the tribes of Israel for me, to act as priest and go up upon my altar to make sacrificial smoke billow up, to bear an ephod before me, that I might give to the house of your forefather all the offerings made by fire of the sons of Israel. (**1 Samuel 2:28**)
- Why do you men keep kicking at my sacrifice and at my offering that I have commanded in my dwelling, and you keep honoring your sons more than me by fattening yourselves from the best of every offering of Israel my people? (**1 Samuel 2:29**)
- That is why the utterance of Yehowah the God of Israel is: I did indeed say; As for your house and the house of your forefather, they will walk before me to time indefinite. But now the utterance of Yehowah is; It is unthinkable, on my part, because those honoring me I shall honor, and those despising me will be of little account. (**1 Samuel 2:30**)
- Look! Days are coming when I shall certainly chop off your arm and the arm of the house of your forefather, so that there will not come to be an old man in your house. (**1 Samuel 2:31**)
- And you will actually look upon an adversary in my dwelling amid all the good that is done to Israel, and never will there come to be an old man in your house. (**1 Samuel 2:32**)
- And yet there is a man of yours that I shall not cut off from being at my altar so as to cause your eyes to fail and to make your soul pine away, but the greater number of your house will all die by the sword of men. (**1 Samuel 2:33**)
- And this is the sign for you that will come to your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas. On one day both of them will die. (**1 Samuel 2:34**)

- **And I shall certainly raise up for myself a faithful priest. In harmony with what is in my heart and in my soul he will do, and I shall certainly build for him a lasting house, and he will certainly walk before my anointed one always. (1 Samuel 2:35)**
- **And it must occur that anyone left over in your house will come and bow down to him for the payment of money and a round loaf of bread, and will certainly say; Attach me, please, to one of the priestly offices to eat a piece of bread. (1 Samuel 2:36)**
- **Through none other than the young boy Samuel, Yehowah reaffirms the adverse judgment upon the house of Eli.**
- **And Yehowah went on to say to Samuel; Look! I am doing something in Israel which if anyone hears about, both his ears will tingle. (1 Samuel 3:11)**
- **On that day I shall carry out toward Eli all that I have said respecting his house, from beginning to end. (1 Samuel 3:12)**
- **And you must tell him that I am judging his house to time indefinite for the error that he has known, because his sons are calling down evil upon God, and he has not rebuked them. (1 Samuel 3:13)**
- **And that is why I have sworn to the house of Eli that the error of the house of Eli will not be brought to exemption from punishment by sacrifice or by offering to time indefinite. (1 Samuel 3:14)**
- **Samuel is afraid to relate the message, but does so at Elis request. Eli then meekly submits, saying; It is Yehowah. What is good in his eyes let him do.**
- **And Samuel continued lying down until the morning. Then he opened the doors of Yehowah's house. And Samuel was afraid to tell Eli of the appearing. (1 Samuel 3:15)**
- **But Eli called Samuel and said; Samuel, my son! At this he said; Here I am. (1 Samuel 3:16)**
- **And he went on to say; What is the word that he has spoken to you? Do not, please, hide it from me. May God do so to you and**

so may he add to it if you should hide from me a word of all the word that he has spoken to you. (1 Samuel 3:17)

- So Samuel told him all the words, and he did not hide anything from him. At that he said; It is Yehowah. What is good in his eyes let him do. (1 Samuel 3:18)

· Yehowah Judges His House

- Retribution comes according to God's word. Israel loses about 4,000 men in battle with the Philistines. The Israelites decide to get the Ark from Shiloh and to bring it into the camp, thinking that this will result in deliverance from their enemies. But the Philistines step up their battle efforts.

- Thirty thousand Israelites are slain. The Ark is captured. Hophni and Phinehas, who are there with the Ark, die. A man from Benjamin hurries from the battle lines to bring the report to Eli.

- Blind and feeble, 98-year-old Eli is sitting on a seat by the roadside, his heart atremble concerning the Ark. Upon hearing that the Ark has been captured, Eli falls over backward and dies of a broken neck.

- And the Philistines proceeded to draw up in formation to meet Israel, and the battle went badly, so that Israel was defeated before the Philistines, who went striking down about four thousand men in closed battle line in the field. (1 Samuel 4:2)
- When the people came to the camp the older men of Israel began to say; Why did Yehowah defeat us today before the Philistines? Let us take to ourselves from Shiloh the ark of Yehowah's covenant, that it may come into our midst and may save us from the palm of our enemies. (1 Samuel 4:3)
- So the people sent to Shiloh and carried from there the ark of the covenant of Yehowah of armies, who is sitting upon the cherubs. And the two sons of Eli were there with the ark of the covenant of the true God, namely, Hophni and Phinehas. (1 Samuel 4:4)
- And it came about that as soon as the ark of the covenant of Yehowah came into the camp, all the Israelites broke out into loud shouting, so that the earth was in a stir. (1 Samuel 4:5)

- The Philistines also got to hear the sound of the shouting and began saying; What does the sound of this loud shouting in the camp of the Hebrews mean? Finally they got to know that the ark of Yehowah itself had come into the camp. (1 Samuel 4:6)
- And the Philistines became afraid, because, they said; God has come into the camp! So they said; Woe to us, for such a thing as this never occurred before! (1 Samuel 4:7)
- Woe to us! Who will save us from the hand of this majestic God? This is the God that was the smiter of Egypt with every sort of slaughter in the wilderness. (1 Samuel 4:8)
- Show yourselves courageous and prove yourselves men, you Philistines, that you may not serve the Hebrews just as they have served you, and you must prove yourselves men and fight! (1 Samuel 4:9)
- Accordingly the Philistines fought and Israel was defeated, and they went fleeing each one to his tent, and the slaughter came to be very great, so that out of Israel there fell thirty thousand men on foot. (1 Samuel 4:10)
- And the ark of God itself was captured, and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died. (1 Samuel 4:11)
- And a man of Benjamin went running from the battle line so that he arrived at Shiloh on that day with his garments ripped apart and dirt on his head. (1 Samuel 4:12)
- When he arrived, there was Eli sitting on the seat by the roadside, watching, because his heart had become atremble over the ark of the true God. And the man himself went in to report in the city, and the whole city began crying out. (1 Samuel 4:13)
- And Eli got to hear the sound of the outcry. So he said; What does the sound of this turmoil mean? And the man himself hurried that he might go in and report to Eli. (1 Samuel 4:14)
- Now Eli was ninety-eight years old, and his eyes had set so that he was unable to see. (1 Samuel 4:15)
- And the man proceeded to say to Eli; I am the one coming from the battle line, and I, it is from the battle line that I have fled

today. At this he said; What is the thing that has happened, my son? (**1 Samuel 4:16**)

- So the news bearer answered and said; Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has also occurred a great defeat among the people, and also your own two sons have died, Hophni and Phinehas, and the very ark of the true God has been captured. (**1 Samuel 4:17**)
- And it came about that at the moment that he mentioned the ark of the true God, he began to fall from the seat backward beside the gate, and his neck got broken so that he died, because the man was old and heavy, and he himself had judged Israel forty years. (**1 Samuel 4:18**)
- Further retribution against the house of **Eli** came at the hands of King Saul, who ruthlessly ordered the murder of the priests of Nob, the descendants of **Eli** through Phinehas son Ahitub.
- And Ahijah the son of Ahitub, the brother of Ichabod, the son of Phinehas, the son of **Eli**, the priest of Yehowah in Shiloh, was carrying the ephod. And the people themselves did not know that Jonathan had gone. (**1 Samuel 14:3**)
- At once the king sent to call Ahimelech the son of Ahitub the priest and all the house of his father, the priests that were in Nob. So all of them came to the king. (**1 Samuel 22:11**)
- Finally the king said to Doeg; You turn and assault the priests! Immediately Doeg the Edomite turned and himself assaulted the priests and put to death on that day eighty-five men bearing an ephod of linen. (**1 Samuel 22:18**)
- Only Abiathar, a son of Ahimelech, escaped the massacre and continued serving as priest throughout David's reign.
- However, one son of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, whose name was Abiathar, made his escape and went running away to follow David. (**1 Samuel 22:20**)
- As for King David, he sent to Zadok and Abiathar the priests, saying; Speak to the older men of Judah, saying; Why should you become the last ones to bring the king back to his house, when the word of all Israel itself has come to the king at his

house? (**2 Samuel 19:11**)

- **However, Abiathar was removed as priest by Solomon for having offered help to the rebellious conspirator Adonijah.**
- **And he came to have dealings with Joab the son of Zeruiah and with Abiathar the priest, and they began offering help as followers of Adonijah. (**1 Kings 1:7**)**
- **And to Abiathar the priest the king said; Go to Anathoth to your fields! For you are deserving of death, but on this day I shall not put you to death, because you carried the ark of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah before David my father, and because you suffered affliction during all the time that my father suffered affliction. (**1 Kings 2:26**)**
- **So Solomon drove out Abiathar from serving as a priest of Yehowah, to fulfill Yehowah's word that he had spoken against the house of **Eli** in Shiloh. (**1 Kings 2:27**)**
- **Thus the judgment of Yehowah on **Eli's** house was fulfilled, and his descendants were ousted from the high-priestly office for all time.**
- **And you must tell him that I am judging his house to time indefinite for the error that he has known, because his sons are calling down evil upon God, and he has not rebuked them. (**1 Samuel 3:13**)**
- **And that is why I have sworn to the house of Eli that the error of the house of **Eli** will not be brought to exemption from punishment by sacrifice or by offering to time indefinite. (**1 Samuel 3:14**)**