

1 Samuel 2 & Leviticus 10

“Holiness, Horror, Humility & Happiness”

Introduction.

F. B. Meyer – *“His life seems to have been one unbroken record of blameless purity, integrity, and righteousness. One purpose ran through all his years, threading them together in an unbroken series. There were no gaps nor breaks; no lapses into sensuality or selfishness; no lawless deeds in that wild, lawless age... It was a beautiful life – strong in its faculty of administration, wise in steering the nation from the rule of the judges into the royal state of the kings, unimpeachably just, but blamelessly pure, towering above his contemporaries like a peak of glistening crystal, on which the sunlight plays, while all the valleys beneath are wrapped in scudding clouds and sweeping rain.”*

Samuel’s name actually means “_____ of God” but in the Hebrew language his name sounds like “_____ of God”.

Warren Wiersbe – *“Samuel was God’s ‘bridge builder’ at a critical time in Jewish history when the weak confederation of tribes desperately needed direction. He was the last of the judges and the first of a new line of prophets after Moses. He established a school of the prophets, and he anointed two kings – Saul who failed and David who succeeded. At a time when the ages were colliding and everything seemed to be shaking, Samuel gave spiritual leadership to the nation of Israel and helped to move them toward national unification and spiritual rededication.”*

(1 Corinthians 16:13, 14; 1 Samuel 1:1, 2; Judges 21:25; Proverbs 16:25; 1 Samuel 1:3)

I. Four Priests who Experienced Horror before a Holy God.

A. Hophni and Phinehas: The Sins of the Sons of Eli.

1. They were woefully _____ of God. – 1 Samuel 2:12
(Proverbs 3:32; 1 Peter 2:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19)

With Hophni and Phinehas, their ignorance was not innocent but _____.

“We are a generation of cheap Christians, going to Heaven as inexpensively as possible. Religious hobos and spiritual deadbeats, living on muck instead of meat, crusts of bread instead of manna, acting as though we were on a cut-rate excursion rather than in a hot battle with the Devil... God forgive us in an hour like this, that we have been dry Christians, preaching a dynamite gospel and living firecracker lives.”

2. They were willing to _____ God’s commands. – 1 Samuel 2:12-17
(Leviticus 7:28-36; 10:12-15; Deuteronomy 18:1-5; Proverbs 13:13)

3. They were wickedly _____ towards God’s children. – 1 Samuel 2:22
(Romans 3:18)

4. They were walking/worshipping _____ before God’s people. – 1 Samuel 2:22-25
(1 Corinthians 11:1)

B. Nadab and Abihu: The Sins of the Sons of Aaron.

Introduction:

Nadab and Abihu were the two _____ sons of Aaron and of his wife Elisheba. Aaron and Elisheba also had two younger sons, Eleazar and Ithamar. Nadab and Abihu's uncle was Moses.

(Leviticus 9:22-10:3; Exodus 24:1; Jude 3)

God has not left it up to _____ to decide how _____ should be obeyed and worshipped.

1. They Redefined what God _____. – Leviticus 10:1
 - (1) Perhaps they used unauthorized fire from an unauthorized place.
 - (2) Perhaps they tried to usurp the role and function of the high priest.
 - (3) Perhaps they tried to enter the Holy of Holies (see Leviticus 16:1, 2).
 - (4) They acted independently of God's ordained spiritual leadership, Moses and Aaron.
 - (5) Perhaps they were drunk (see Leviticus 10).
 - (6) Perhaps they tried to steal glory, worship and attention from God.

2. They Underestimated how God _____. – Leviticus 10:2
(Leviticus 10:5; Ecclesiastes 8:11-13; 2 Peter 3:10, 11; Romans 6:1, 2; 1 Peter 4:17)

The timing of God's judgment is not _____.

3. They Ignored how God must be _____. – Leviticus 10:3
(Exodus 19:22; James 3:1)

A. W. Tozer – "Holy is the way God is. To be holy He does not conform to a standard. He is that standard. He is absolutely holy with an infinite, incomprehensible fullness of purity that is incapable of being other than it is. Because He is holy, His attributes are holy; that is, whatever we think of as belonging to God must be thought of as holy."