

FIRST SAMUEL

Lesson 6: Chapter 2, verse 25, Our Advocate. 2:27-36, The Doom of Eli's Family

29 July 2016

SYSTEMS OF JUSTICE IN THIS WORLD

1. If two people have a dispute they can settle the matter in a court of law (vs. 25).
 2. Christians ought to be able to settle their disagreements within the church (1 Cor. 6:1).
 3. When Christians are injured or treated wrongly by a non-Christian, there is nothing wrong with using the various legal systems available to settle the matter as Paul did (Acts 16:37, 22:25, 25:10).
 4. **“But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully”** (1 Tim. 1:8).
 5. Rulers and governors are there for our wellbeing and our benefit (Rom. 13:3-4).
-

JUSTICE IN GOD'S COURT

1. All have sinned against the Lord (Rom. 3:23) and must face Him to be judged (Heb. 9:27, Rom. 14:10, Rev. 20:10-15, 2 Cor. 5:10, Acts 17:31).
 2. No man on earth can defend me in that day and win. If my lawyer presents evidence of my goodness, the Bible refutes that evidence (Rom. 3:10-12, Eph. 2:8-9, Titus 3:5, Isaiah 64:6, James 2:10).
 3. Jesus Christ the righteous is the only one who can plead my cause and win (1 John 2:1).
 4. Job understood the situation. He understood that he was unrighteous and unable to clean himself up enough to be right before a holy God. He said, **“Neither is there any daysman betwixt us, that might lay his hand upon us both”** (Job 9:30-33).
 5. A daysman who can put his hand upon a man and upon God at the same time would have to be both man and God. Jesus Christ is that daysman (1 Timothy 2:5, 3:16, John 14:6).
 6. With Jesus Christ as your advocate (1 John 2:1), you can't lose! **“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus”** (Romans 8:1).
-

THE DOOM OF ELI'S FAMILY

VERSE 27 An unnamed man of God came to tell Eli exactly what God said and exactly what Eli needed to hear. Speaking the truth won't make a man of God popular or famous. He won't be the pastor of a large congregation, but he'll be able to stand before God one day knowing that he did right.

VSS 28-29 Eli is reminded of the great privilege God bestowed upon his family, beginning with Aaron, assigning them to the priesthood. As such, any sin committed by them is more grievous to God and more damaging to the people. Their sins affected the whole nation (see vs. 24). Severe judgment must be exercised upon Eli for his sin of betraying the trust that God's placed in him.

VERSE 30 Here is God's proclamation that He is not going to let the house of Eli walk before Him anymore. They had already stopped walking before God anyway, so God made it official. They were "castaway" priests (1 Cor. 9:27); God couldn't use such irreverent servants.

VSS 31-33 God's sentence is passed. Eli and his family will be cut off. They will all die young until they eventually cease to exist in the priesthood anymore.

Also, God promised him that enemies will come and destroy the city and take all the wealth, which we know to include the Ark of the Covenant.

This is the result of one man refusing to do what he knows is right and refusing to stand for the Lord.

VSS 34-35 Eli's sons will both die in one day. After that, God will raise up a faithful priest. Samuel fulfills this in the immediate sense. David fits the description in the future and eternal sense (Acts 13:22, 2 Sam. 7:16). Perhaps God will raise up David to be priest before His Anointed (Jesus Christ) forever.

VERSE 36 Eli's sons were guilty of stealing from the offerings of God. God says that in the future, his descendants will be begging for bread.

The theme of the lesson: always put God first. (Matthew 10:37).