

How God's Work of Renewal Begins (1 Samuel 2:12-4:1a)

1 Samuel: Following God's Unexpected King

Sermon Text Discussion 8/26/18

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1 Samuel: Following God's Unexpected King

By Drew Hunter

Overview

God cares about justice. He brings down the proud and he raises up his leader to bring his word to the world.

1. God Brings Down the Proud (1 Samuel 2:12-36)
2. God Raises Up His Leader
3. God Sends Out His Word

Quotation

"I simply taught, preached, and wrote God's Word; otherwise I did nothing. And while I slept, or drank Wittenberg beer with my friends Philip and Amsdorf, the Word so greatly weakened the papacy that no prince or emperor ever inflicted such losses upon it. I did nothing; the Word did everything." Martin Luther.

"And then Jesus came to clean house. He turned over tables in the temple. He condemned the corrupt leaders and he came as the one true king. And he brought us his word. He brought the good news: that the kingdom of God was breaking into the world. Jesus lived a sinless life, he died an unfathomably terrible death in our place, and God raised him from the dead on the third day. And then he sent out his disciples into the world to spread the good news of the gospel—that we are not only saved from hell, but also brought into God's family for eternity—by sheer grace alone. No amount of our bad works disqualify us; no amount of our good works can earn this". Drew Hunter

Understanding & Application

1. How is what is happening in our times right now with the recent unveiling of moral corruption similar to what was happening with Eli's sons?
2. Why were Eli's sons worthless? What were their sins? What was the root of their problem?
3. What do you value in leadership? What should we value in leadership?
4. What is the point of the story of Samuel? What does it mean that in the story of Samuel, we're most like Israel, we're God's people who need God to raise up a prophet to bring us his word?
5. Interact with this section from Drew's sermon: This story shows us what God does: he brings his word to his world. This is what we need. And he did it again in the first century. His word became rare again. And then Jesus came. Hebrews 1:1-3 says, "Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son." Jesus is the final and ultimate revelation of God. He shows us what God is like; he shows us who God is.
6. In light of this, what should we be praying for God to do and what should we be doing?