

Life Lessons From 1 Samuel
A Lesson in Contrasts
1 Samuel 2:11-36 (page 186)

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God knows the distinction between faithful service and unfaithful service (1 Sam 2:11-17)

- Faithfulness is not a matter of age or maturity, but of the state of the heart (vs 11)
- The responsibility of service is not necessarily an indication of a heart faithfully committed to God's will (vs 12-17; Lev 7:29-34; Num 6:19-20; Deut 18:3; 1 Peter 2:9-10; Phil 3:18-19)

God knows the distinction between a life of purity versus of a life of immorality (1 Sam 2:18-25)

- Faith that honors God in one's lifestyle brings God's blessing (vs 18-21; Exo 28:31; Psalm 127:3)
- Faithless rejection of God in one's lifestyle brings God's displeasure and wrath (vs 22-25; Exo 38:8; 1 Tim 2:5-6; Rom 1:24-25; Matt 10:37-39; Heb 3:12-13)

Godliness brings favor, while ungodliness brings God's judgment (1 Sam 2:26-36)

- Godliness results in God's hand preparing us for His use and His presence being evident in our life (v 26; Luke 2:52)
- Ungodliness results in God's displeasure and our destruction (vs 27-36; Deut 5:16; 1 Cor 3:16-17; 6:19-20; Eph 6:4)

Life Lesson:

Those that honor Me I will honor, but those who despise Me will be disdained (v 30) - we can't live any way we please and expect the Lord to bless us, with the privilege of priesthood comes the responsibility of obedience.