

Infant Dedication

{Sunday, February 23, 2014 A.D}

REFERENCE TEXTS:

1 Samuel 2:12-4:18 (NASB95)

¹² Now **the sons of Eli were worthless men; they did not know the LORD¹³ and the custom of the priests the priest would take for himself you shall give it to me now; and if not, I will take it by force.** **the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD, for the men despised the offering of the LORD.** . . .

²² Now Eli was very old; and **he heard all that his sons were doing to all** Israel, and how **they lay with the women who served at the doorway of the tent of meeting.** ²³ He said to them, **"Why do you do such things, the evil things that I hear from all these people?"**

But **they would not listen to the voice of their father, for the LORD desired to put them to death.** . . .

²⁷ Then a man of God came to Eli and said to him, **"Thus says the LORD,**

²⁹ **"Why do you . . . honor your sons above Me those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me will be lightly esteemed. I will break your strength and the strength of your father's house so that there will not be an old man in your house. . . and all the increase of your house will die in the prime of life.** ³⁴ **"This will be the sign to you which will come concerning your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas: on the same day both of them will die.** ³⁵ **"But I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who will do according to what is in My heart and in My soul; and I will build him an enduring house, . .**

¹¹ The LORD said to Samuel, **I will carry out against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. the iniquity which he knew, because his sons brought a curse on themselves and he did not rebuke them.**

¹⁴ **"Therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever."**

¹⁵ Now **Eli was ninety-eight years old, and his eyes were set so that he could not see.** ¹⁶ The man said to Eli, "I am the one who came from the battle line. "Israel has fled before the Philistines and there has also been a great slaughter among the people, and **your two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead,** and the ark of God has been taken." ¹⁸ When he mentioned the ark of God, **Eli fell off the seat backward beside the gate, and his neck was broken and he died, for he was old and heavy.**

FOCUS TEXT:

Colossians 1:9-12 (NASB95)

⁹ For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be **filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,** ¹⁰ so that **you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects,** bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹ strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, **for the attaining of all steadfastness** and patience ; **joyously** ¹² **giving thanks to the Father,** who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in Light.

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- God v. self
 - God v. spouse
 - God v. child
 - God v grandparents (both ways)
 - God v. extended family
 - God v. friends
 - God v. church
 - God v. culture (broadest sense)

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- ❖ Respect/Fear of God (Lordship—Powerful King & Judge)
 - ❖ Goodness of God
 - ❖ Holy Scripture (competent/careful/confident)
 - ❖ Prayer (God-centered, spiritual/eternal)
 - ❖ Solemn Assembly
 - ❖ Show God to be Holy (infinite value of God – worthy to be worshiped)
 - ❖ Keep the Lord's Day Holy
 - ❖ Grateful for Grace
 - ❖ First & Best is to be Offered – Called to Excellence
 - ❖ Success equals Obedience not outcome
 - ❖ Truth & Love – Love & Truth
 - ❖ Duty of the Believer
 - ❖ Humility/Teachable → Growth

❖ Love of God/Truth