Introduction

“Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.

Philippians 2:12-16a

Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life.”

We are to be people of faith in a time of corruption.

How do we do that?

I. Worship God with all our heart.

Hannah’s faith was rooted in her knowledge of God.

Hannah believed that

- God delivers.
- God is holy.
- God is powerful.
- God reverses the fortunes of the weak and the strong.
- God can even raise the dead.

I Samuel 2:1-11
Her prayer is prophetic. She prays for His king, His anointed – the Messiah. How do we get a faith like hers? We need to know our God!

“The people who know their God will display strength and take action.” Daniel 11:32 NASB

II. Be faithful in the little things. I Samuel 2:12-26

“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.” Luke 16:10

Eli’s sons were wicked men – sons of Belial.

- They treated the Lord’s offering with contempt.
- They were guilty of sexual immorality.
- They would not listen to their father’s rebuke.
- They did not know God. Verse 12

To know the Lord is more than an intellectual knowledge or recognition. It is a heart relationship. It is to enter into fellowship with God and acknowledge his claim on our life.

It is possible to be around religious things all your life and still not know God.
In contrast, Samuel ministered before the Lord.

- He wore the linen ephod – the garment of a priest.
- He grew in the presence of the Lord and in favor with God and men.

Do you know the Lord?
Have you surrendered your life to him?

III. God will reward you.
I Samuel 2:27-36

Do you remember Hannah’s prayer?
“The Lord is a God who knows and by him deeds are weighed.” Verse 3

Eli’s sin is revealed.
- Eli scorned his privilege as a priest.
- Eli scorned God’s sacrifice.
- Eli honored his sons more than God by failing to remove them from the priesthood.

Eli’s judgment is pronounced.
- His line would be cut off.
- He would see distress in God’s dwelling.
- His two sons, Hophni and Phinehas would die on the same day.
- God would raise up another priest to take his place.
“Those who honor me, I will honor, but those who despise me will be disdained.”
I Samuel 2:30
God sees and he rewards.

Conclusion:
Eric Liddell – Chariots of Fire
Two words described his life – absolute surrender.

“Those who honor me, I will honor.”