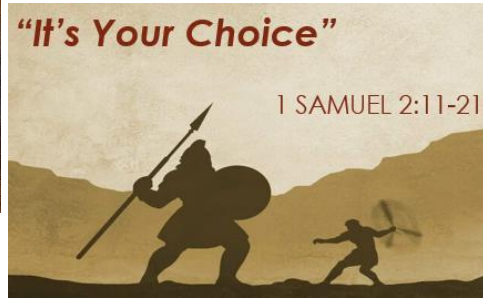
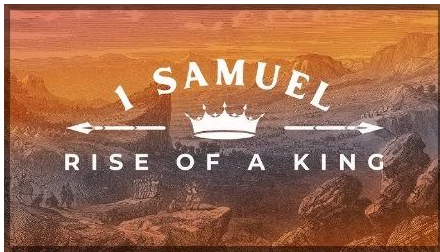


5/25/2025



**Are you a good example?
For life?**

- ▶ Do you make life look “attractive”?
- ▶ Do people realize what their life looks like? To others?
- ▶ As believers, shouldn't our lives be more “attractive” than any other people on the planet? ★
- ▶ Now this *example*... is it not based on choices we make? Choices **you** make?

Choices:

- ▶ We have a lot of *choices* we're faced with every day.
- ▶ Choices that can help us...
- ▶ Some that can harm us...
- ▶ Some that make no difference either way.
- ▶ Some can have lasting effects – when at first it seemed like no big deal.
- ▶ For example:

But it's your choice!

- ▶ If you want to live well...
 - ▶ Not be plagued with disease.
 - ▶ Not have organ problems.
 - ▶ Not have family hereditary problems...
 - ▶ **Then eat well!!**
- ▶ If you don't want to live well, be sick...
 - ▶ Then eat garbage.
 - ▶ Make poor diet choices.

🔊 OVER 🔊

More importantly, Here in 1 Samuel 2:

- ▶ The narrator gives a *spiritual* contrast.
- ▶ Contrasts 2 people, who had choices:
 - ▶ And is saying to you and I:
 - ▶ **You have a choice!**
 - ▶ What will your choice be?
 - ▶ Are you going to choose God? [Samuel]
 - ▶ Or will you choose Satan? [Hophni, Phinehas]

You have a choice, every day, to live for God or self.

The narrator shows us 3 facts:

I. Hannah's Samuel – simply serving

- A. He ministered before Eli (v.11)
- B. His serving (*ministering*) picture (v.18)
- C. The Love of his mother (v.19)

The picture is simple:

Life is good, easy, wonderful, when you live for the LORD!! God is GOOD!

II. Eli's sons – seriously sinning

- A. Called “sons of Belial” – *worthless men* (v. 12)
- B. What the priests' custom was to do (v. 13-14)
- C. The further wrong practice of Eli's sons (v. 15-16)
- D. The Narrator's response (v. 17)

III. Samuel, Hophni & Phinehas – summaries of success?

- A. Elkanah, Hannah & Samuel (v. 20-21)

Is blessings from God in your future?

*It's **your** choice!*

- B. Hophni & Phinehas (v. 17)

Zephaniah 1:12-14

IN CONCLUSION UNDERSTAND:

- God is 2 things:
 - He is the source of empowerment and victory and blessing, for all those who fear Him,
 - BUT for all others He is the overpowering authority who dispenses fearful judgment.
- What's *your* choice?
- Illustration: Samson – had other options, it could have been different...