

Scripture reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-21

God Raised an Upright Prophet

Eli grew old and his sight was dimmed, therefore the temple works were administered by him through little Samuel. His children had become bad to worst day by day. Though Samuel was a little boy, he ministered to God under Eli with faithfulness and righteousness. One night, God called Samuel. But little Samuel thought it was Eli who called and went to Eli to inquire of him. This happened again. When Samuel went the third time, Eli realized that it was God speaking to Samuel. He said to Samuel, "Next time you hear God calling, you must say, "Speak Lord, for your servant hears". When God called him again, he responded just as Eli had said. He began to hear the voice of God and went on to be his prophet. From that day forth, God spoke to Samuel and led the people of Israel. From Dan to Beersheba people knew that Samuel had been established as a prophet of the Lord.

Question:

God chose his priests only from the tribe of Levi. How then did He choose Samuel as a prophet for himself though he come to the temple as a mere servant from Ephraim?

Answer:

When the people who were chosen by God despise the divine mission, no matter from what chosen race they might come from, our God will despise them. Even a great prophet like Moses was not allowed into the Promised Land because of his error. At the same time, those who walk before Him upright and faithfully, He will prepare such to be a useful vessel unto Him. The reason being, He is a righteous God. That's the reason, even when gentiles (non Jews) like Rahab and Ruth repented and believed in Him, He not just accepted them as His children but also gave them the privilege of becoming the ancestors of Jesus Christ. Dear children, even when you seek Him likewise with an upright heart, He is willing to use you in the same manner.

"For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. You have done a foolish thing, and from now on you will be at war." 2 Chronicles 16:9

Prayer

Father, speak to us just as you spoke to Samuel. We too are willing to serve you. Amen