

Living in a corrupt world

1SAM 2:26 And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favor with the LORD and with men.

1SA 3:19-21-22 The LORD was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba recognized that Samuel was attested as a prophet of the LORD.

Samuel came along in a time when there was a lot of corruption, some of it very close to him in the temple with the bad influence of Eli and Eli's sons. In spite of these negatives he pursued a path of growth and he was able to hear the voice of God and bring God's message to the house of Israel. The main positive person in his life was his Godly mother, Hannah, whom he only saw once a year. In spite of all the negatives around him he committed himself to growth and an entire nation was blessed because those that heard him knew he spoke the Word of God.

Martin Luther said:

“This life, therefore,

is not righteousness,

but growth in righteousness,

not health but healing,

not being but becoming,

not rest but exercise,

we are not yet what we shall be,

but we are growing toward it.

The process is not yet finished,

but it is going on.

This is not the end, but it is the road.

All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified.”

We need to remember all the Jesus did for us by his sacrificial death on the cross. It is a time for us to commit ourselves anew to be seekers of Him and seekers of growth, that we like Samuel, can be a blessing to others by bringing them God's love and God's word.

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