
SERMON OUTLINE

Letting God be God

1 Samuel 2:1-11

Setting: Elkanah worshipped and Hannah prayed when God blessed them with Samuel (1 Samuel 1:28b-2:1a).

- I. God is Holy: We can thankfully rejoice that God controls our blessings (1 Samuel 2:1b-5).
 - A. True joy comes as I acknowledge that only God can bless me (1b).
 - B. *Attribute:* God is *holy (unique)*, doing what no one else can (2).

- II. God is Discerning: God reverses things based on man's pride and humility (1 Samuel 2:4-8a)
 - A. *Attributes:* God is *all-knowing* and *all-powerful* – especially taking note of the arrogant (3).
 - B. God can make the strong weak and the weak strong (4).
 - C. God can take jobs or give jobs (5a).
 - D. God can give many children to the childless or allow children to be taken (5b).
 - E. God can give life or take it away (6).
 - F. God can give wealth or poverty (7a).
 - G. God humbles and exalts – especially delighting to give honor to the humble (7b-8a).

- III. God is Just: God is faithful to the righteous, but will judge the wicked (1 Samuel 2: 8b-10).
 - A. *Attributes:* God is *sovereign* because he created all things and thus is *just* when he judges (8b-9a).
 - B. Human strength cannot oppose God's justice (9b-10a).
 - C. God always honors the king he anoints (10b).

Transition: Samuel stayed to serve God at the tabernacle while his parents returned home (2:11).