

1 Samuel 2:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Nay, my sons; for it is no good report that I hear: ye make the LORD'S people to transgress.

Analysis

Eli's continued appeal shows concern but inadequate response. His statement 'it is no good report that I hear' focuses on what people are saying. The phrase 'ye make the LORD'S people to transgress' identifies a crucial dynamic: corrupt leadership causes followers to sin. The Hebrew ta'avrim (cause to cross over, transgress) makes the priests responsible not only for their own sin but for others' stumbling. Leadership multiplication works both ways - godly leaders multiply righteousness; wicked leaders multiply wickedness.

Historical Context

The principle that leaders bear responsibility for followers' sins appears throughout Scripture. Jesus warns that causing 'little ones' to stumble merits severe judgment (Matthew 18:6). Paul identifies this as a reason why elder qualifications are so rigorous (1 Timothy 3:1-7).

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How might your actions, good or bad, cause others to follow in similar paths?
2. What heightened accountability do those in leadership bear?

Interlinear Text

אֶל	בְּנֵי י	כִּי	לֹא	טוֹב ה	הַשְׁמָעָה	אֲשֶׁר	אֲנִי
H408	Nay my sons	H3588	H3808	for it is no good	report	H834	H595
	H1121			H2896	H8052		
שִׁמְעֵי	מַעֲבֵרִים	עַם	יְהוָה:				
that I hear	to transgress	people	ye make the LORD'S				
H8085	H5674	H5971	H3068				

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