

1 Samuel 2:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men.

Analysis

Against the dark backdrop of Eli's failing house, Samuel's progress shines. He 'grew on' (literally 'was becoming great and becoming good') in both divine and human estimation. The phrase 'favour both with the LORD, and also with men' precisely parallels Luke's description of Jesus (Luke 2:52). Samuel becomes a type of Christ - growing in wisdom and stature, pleasing God while earning human respect. Where corruption marked the sons of Eli, godliness characterizes the son of Hannah. God's replacement is maturing even as judgment approaches.

Historical Context

The parallel between Samuel's development and Jesus' development (Luke 2:52) is widely noted by commentators. Both young servants of God grew in comprehensive ways - spiritually, intellectually, physically, and socially - preparing for their appointed ministries.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. What areas of comprehensive growth is God developing in you?
2. How does growing favor with God relate to growing favor with people?

Interlinear Text

וְהָיָה יֶלֶד	שְׁמוּאֵל ל	הָיָה לוֹ	וַיִּגְדַּל	וְיָטָב לוֹ	עִם ה'	עַם
And the child	Samuel	on	grew	and was in favour	H1571	H5973
H5288	H8050	H1980	H1432	H2896		
יְהוָה ה'	וְיָטָב לוֹ	עִם ה'	אֲנָשִׁים:			
both with the LORD	H1571	H5973	H376			
H3068						

Additional Cross-References

Luke 2:52 (Parallel theme): And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Acts 2:47 (References Lord): Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Romans 14:18 (Parallel theme): For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men.

Luke 2:40 (Parallel theme): And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

1 Samuel 2:21 (References Lord): And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.

Proverbs 3:3 (Parallel theme): Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:

Luke 1:80 (Parallel theme): And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

