

1 Samuel 3:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD appeared again in Shiloh: for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the LORD.

Analysis

The chapter concludes with emphasis on renewed revelation: 'the LORD appeared again in Shiloh.' The prophetic silence of verse 1 has ended. God 'revealed himself to Samuel...by the word of the LORD' - divine communication has resumed through a faithful channel. The location at Shiloh is significant: despite its coming destruction, God continues to reveal Himself there through Samuel. The corrupted sanctuary becomes the site of prophetic renewal. God works through broken institutions to raise up reforming voices.

Historical Context

Shiloh's continued function as revelation site despite its corruption shows God's patience with flawed institutions. Yet the emphasis on Samuel rather than the priesthood signals the coming shift in Israel's spiritual leadership from priests to prophets.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does God bring renewal to corrupted institutions through faithful individuals?
2. What does the return of divine revelation at Shiloh teach about God's commitment to His people?

Interlinear Text

אֶל יְהוָה תֵּצֵל הַפִּי בְּשֵׁל וְלִבְרָא הַיְהוָה יְהוָה
again And the LORD appeared in Shiloh revealed And the LORD H413
H3254 H3068 H7200 H3588 H1540 H3068

יְהוָה שָׁמָעָ לְשֹׁמְעָ ר בְּשֵׁל וְבְדִבָּר
himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word And the LORD H3068
H8050 H7887 H1697

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 12:7 (References Lord): And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.

1 Samuel 3:1 (Word): And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; there was no open vision.

Genesis 15:1 (Word): After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding great reward.

Numbers 12:6 (Word): And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.

1 Samuel 3:4 (References Lord): That the LORD called Samuel: and he answered, Here am I.

Hebrews 1:1 (Parallel theme): God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

Amos 3:7 (References Lord): Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

1 Samuel 3:10 (References Lord): And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org