





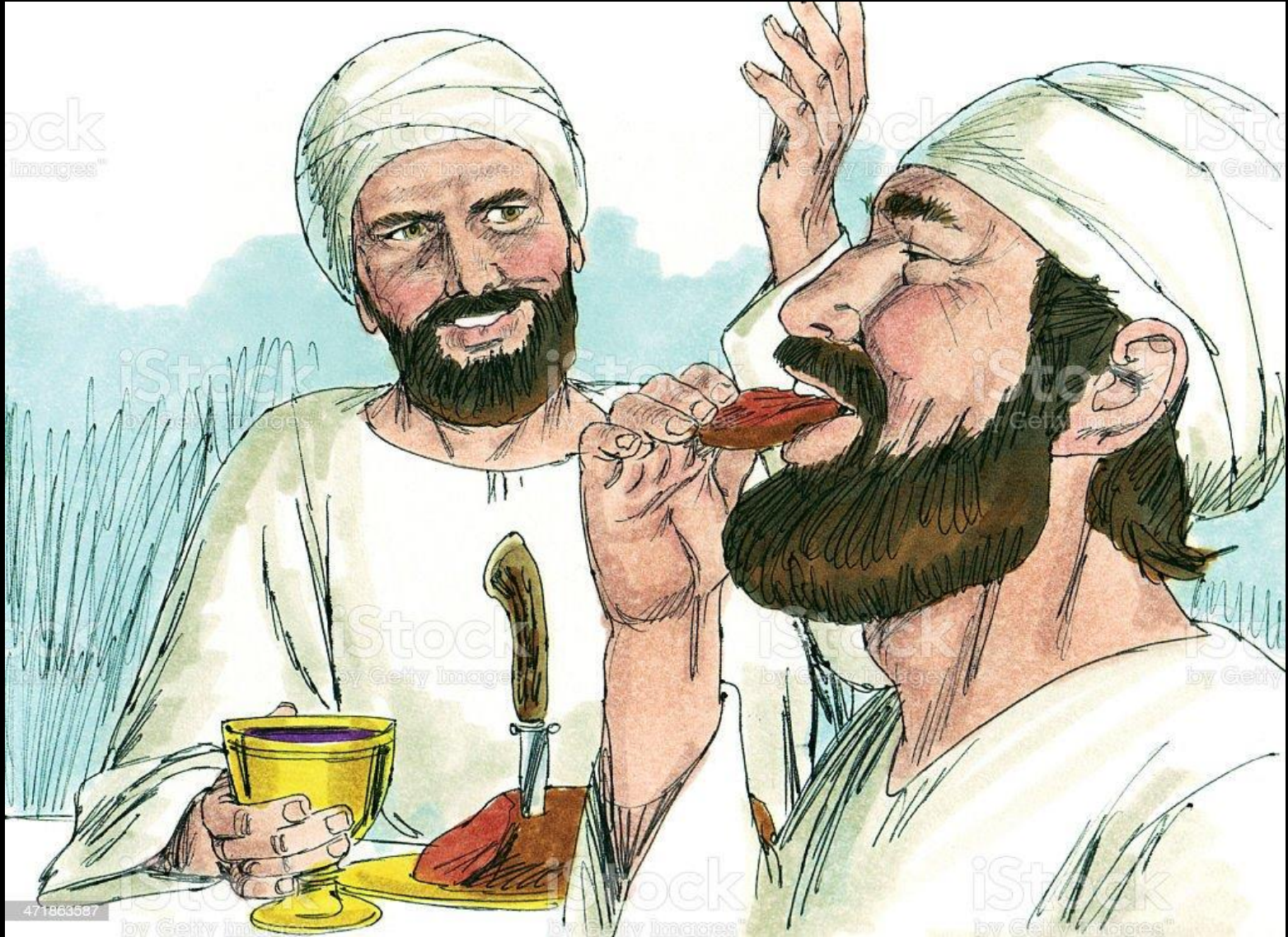


THE RARE WORD

1 SAMUEL 3:1

I Samuel 3:1

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.



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Introduction

A. The cause of this problem was long term

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

1 Samuel 2:12

Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the LORD.

1 Samuel 2:17

Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD: for men abhorred the offering of the LORD.

Introduction

B. The condemnation of this problem was inevitable

1 Samuel 3:11

And the LORD said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle.

Exodus 34:7

Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.

Introduction

C. The consequences of this problem was far-reaching

1 Samuel 3:12-14

12 In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end.

13 For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.

14 And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever.

I. The Way of God Will Be Rarely Found

A. The Way of God is found in the Word of God

Romans 10:17

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

B. Religion gets in the way of the Way

Mark 7:13

Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

I. The Way of God Will Be Rarely Found

C. The results of not finding the Way are devastating

Matthew 7:14

Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Matthew 23:15

Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

II. The Worship of God Will Be Rare

A. Because the Word of God is not abundant

Colossians 3:16

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

B. Because the Word of God is away

Matthew 15:8

This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

II. The Worship of God Will Be Rare

C. Because the Word of God has been replaced

Matthew 15:9

But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

III. The Work of God Will Be Rare

A. A lack of the Word results in a lack of impact

1 Thessalonians 2:13

For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

III. The Work of God Will Be Rare

B. A lack of impact results in a lack of faith

Hebrews 4:2

For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

C. A lack of faith results in a lack of God's work

Matthew 13:58

And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

**Is The Word Of God Rare In Your
Life?**