

FIRST SAMUEL STUDY

CHAPTER 4:1-11

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"When the Glory has Departed" - Part 3

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Children, Hearing the Lord, The Call of God

INTRODUCTION to the text :

1 Samuel 4:1-11

**How Can You Tell if the
Glory has Departed From Your Christian Relationship and Experience?**

We are examining "10" Areas that Point to
Spiritual Decay

FAILING TO MAINTAIN THE SPIRITUAL EDGE

MAINTAINING THE EDGE—
THE KEY TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Jude 1:20-21

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the
Holy Spirit,
21 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus
Christ unto eternal life.

Philippians 2:12-13

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but
now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;
for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

2 Corinthians 13:5

New King James

Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? -- unless indeed you are disqualified.

Amplified Bible

Check up on yourselves. Are you really Christians at all? Do you pass the test? And do you know Christ's presence and power more and more within you? Or are you just pretending to be Christians when actually you aren't at all?

1.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Word*

2.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Worship*

3.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Posterity*

4.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Awareness*

5.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Dependence*

6.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Power*

7.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Victories*

8.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Witness*

9.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Influence*

10.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Future*

When the Glory has Departed

3.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Posterity*

The failing of passing the importance of Worship

—

Up to our children!

1 Samuel 3:12-13

"In that day I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. 13 "For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them."

a.) Children must *SEE* us worship

Worship Creates a Tender Heart Toward Spiritual Things
A "Must See" Thing

Joshua 4:1-5

And it came to pass, when all the people had completely crossed over the Jordan, that the LORD spoke to Joshua, saying: 2 "Take for yourselves twelve men from the people, one man from every tribe, 3 "and command them, saying, 'Take for yourselves twelve stones from here, out of the midst of the Jordan, from the place where the priests' feet stood firm. You shall carry them over with you and leave them in the lodging place where you lodge tonight.'" 4 Then Joshua called the twelve men whom he had appointed from the children of Israel, one man from every tribe; 5 and Joshua said to them: "Cross over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of the Jordan, and each one of you take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel,

No Spiritual Posterity

b.) They need to hear *Why* we worship

A "Must See" Thing
Creates Big Questions

Joshua 4:6-7

"that this may be a sign among you when your children ask in time to come, saying, 'What do these stones mean to you?' 7 "Then you shall answer them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. And these stones shall be for a memorial to the children of Israel forever."

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

"And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. 7 "You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. 8 "You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 "You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

No Spiritual Posterity

c.) They need to know *Who* we worship

Let's Worship God? God who, God where, God why?

Psalms 34:11

Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Psalm 121:2

My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 100:3

Know that the LORD, He is God; it is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

When the Glory has Departed

4.) There Will Be No Spiritual Awareness

Throughout North America There is a Common Species of Man Known as;

- The "Sunday Christians"
- The "Easter Christian"
- The "Christmas Christian"

There will be **No Real Spiritual Sensitivity**

There Will Be No Spiritual Awareness

a.) No interest in spiritual things

WHAT ABOUT LIFE, ME, THE WORLD, LIFE AND DEATH
MEANING BEYOND SELF

Deep Thoughts Never Enter Their Minds

b.) No thought of His presence

Judges 17:6

In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

There Will Be No Spiritual Awareness

c.) No deep considerations

1 Corinthians 2:13-14

These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

When the Glory has Departed

5.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Dependence*

4b And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God. 5 And when the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel shouted so loudly that the earth shook.

a.) *Trust in Human Means*

Talent / Money / Beauty / Power

To Not Trust In Those Things - Would Be Viewed as Weak

1 Samuel 4:3

3b... Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD from Shiloh to us, that when it comes among us it may save us from the hand of our enemies."

There Will Be No Spiritual Dependence

b.) *Trust in Externals*

3 Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD from Shiloh to us, that when it comes among us it may save us

Psalm 20:7

Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; but we will remember the name of the LORD our God.

People Love To Trust in Religious Things

Actual things like crosses and statues and images, Wall Plaster and Tortilla

There Will Be No Spiritual Dependence

c.) *Trust in What Was*

vv. 3-4

Rather than - what is Now!

God is always in the Now - doing in the Now - being in the Now
Caught in Traditions and Liturgy

When the Glory has Departed

6.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Power*

Like a train that pulls off the power it will begin to slow down, so slow, that you will not notice it's slowing down at all until it's come to a stop

2 Timothy 3:5

having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

In The Last Days A Spiritually Powerless Church Will Prevail

When the Glory has Departed

a.) Continual Defeat by the Flesh

When others talk about the awesome things of God, you can't join in, because you're still struggling with the things that controlled you - before you were a Christian

Galatians 5:17

For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another...

Romans 8:5

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh,

Romans 8:7-8

Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

There Will Be No Spiritual Power

b.) Inability to Finish a Work

You're a "Spectator Christian"

(oxymoron - contradiction)

I JOHN 3:17-18

But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? 18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.

c.) Negative Impact for Christ

11 Also the ark of God was captured; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died.

We give occasion to the world to mock God by our weakness and poor example

1 Corinthians 5:1

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles--

WHAT'S YOUR CURRENT, POSITIVE IMPACT FOR CHRIST THAT IS FLOWING OUT OF YOUR LIFE?

Hebrews 5:12-14

For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

When the Glory has Departed

7.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Victories*

6 Now when the Philistines heard **the noise** of the shout, they said, "What does the sound of this **great shout** in the camp of the Hebrews mean?" Then they understood that the ark of the LORD had come into the camp. 7 So the Philistines were afraid, for they said, "God has come into the camp!" And they said, "Woe to us! For such a thing has never happened before. 8 "Woe to us! Who will deliver us from the hand of these mighty gods? These are the gods who struck the Egyptians with all the plagues in the wilderness. 9 "Be strong and conduct yourselves like men, you Philistines, that you do not become servants of the Hebrews, as they have been to you. Conduct yourselves like men, and fight!" 10 So the Philistines fought, and Israel was defeated, and every man fled to his tent. There was a very great slaughter, and there fell of Israel thirty thousand foot soldiers.

There Will Be No Spiritual Victories

a.) *No Threat to Satan*

In Fact – You're The Best Tool Satan Has Because He will gladly suffer the loss of losing your soul as long as you do nothing for the kingdom...

Just Sit, Defeated and Weary

A Sterile Christian is a Liability in War

There Will Be No Spiritual Victories

b.) *Liberal Thinking will Prevail*

I used to believe that... I used to be involved in... I used to go to...

Mr. D.O.A. Says

“As long as they’re sincere in what they believe”

THEY WILL “SELECT” FROM THE BIBLE WHAT THEY WANT OUT OF THE BIBLE

There Will Be No Spiritual Victories

c.) *No personal investment*

They’re “Church Goers” but not Church Builders

No One in the Church is really Depending On Them

Matthew 25:14-29

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. 15 "And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. 16 "Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. 17 "And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. 18 "But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. 19 "After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' 21 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' 22 "He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' 23 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' 24 "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. 25 'And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' 26 "But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. 27 'So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. 28 'Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. 29 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.

Regarding Their Lives Personally;

There's No **Time** Commitment to What God is Doing
There's No **Prayer** Commitment to What God is Doing
There's No **Sacrificial** Commitment to What God is Doing
There's No **Financial** Commitment to What God is Doing
There's No **Heart** Commitment to What God is Doing

IF EVERYONE AT THIS CHURCH WAS JUST LIKE YOU
WHAT KIND OF CHURCH WOULD IT BE?

8.) ***There Will Be No Spiritual Witness***

Because the Word (Bible) is not a priority in your life, you have no true worship life, that leads to a failure in passing the baton to your children, like you, they are spiritually unaware. That leads to an independence from God, which results in having a powerless life. A powerless life has no spiritual victories and that leads to a poor witness...

a.) ***No one around knows***

You're an "undercover" Christian.
Your Christianity is a private thing.

b.) ***No one asks you to pray***

...because you've never offered to pray for others

A man from this church went one year to the promise keepers and after that he would write me a letter once a month telling me that he had been praying for me everyday...

"That's The Man That I Want to Call"

There are two people in my life who ask me every week, "what can I pray for you this week"?

Hebrews 13:18
Pray for us;

I Thessalonians 5:25
Brethren, pray for us.

II Thessalonians 3:1
brethren, **pray for me**, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you,

No Spiritual Witness

c.) ***You will not tell others***

“Jack, This Makes Me Feel Uncomfortable”
That’s the Holy Spirit Stirring You Up

9.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Influence*

Just Like Lazarus of Old,
– You Have New Life Inside You, But You’re All Bound Up

You’re Sterile and unable to Reproduce Spiritually

10.) *There Will Be No Spiritual Future*

a.) *A slow backward slide*

Paul Simon:

“Slip Sliiiding Away, Slip Sliiiding Away, The More You’re Near Your Destination, the More You’re Slip Sliiiding Away!!!”

Like a Train When the Power is Pulled Back

IT SLOWS SO SLOWLY THAT YOU REALLY CANT TELL ITS SLOWING DOWN FOR A LONG, LONG, LONG, TIME

b.) *A growing, embittered heart*

c.) *A lonely church existence*

The End