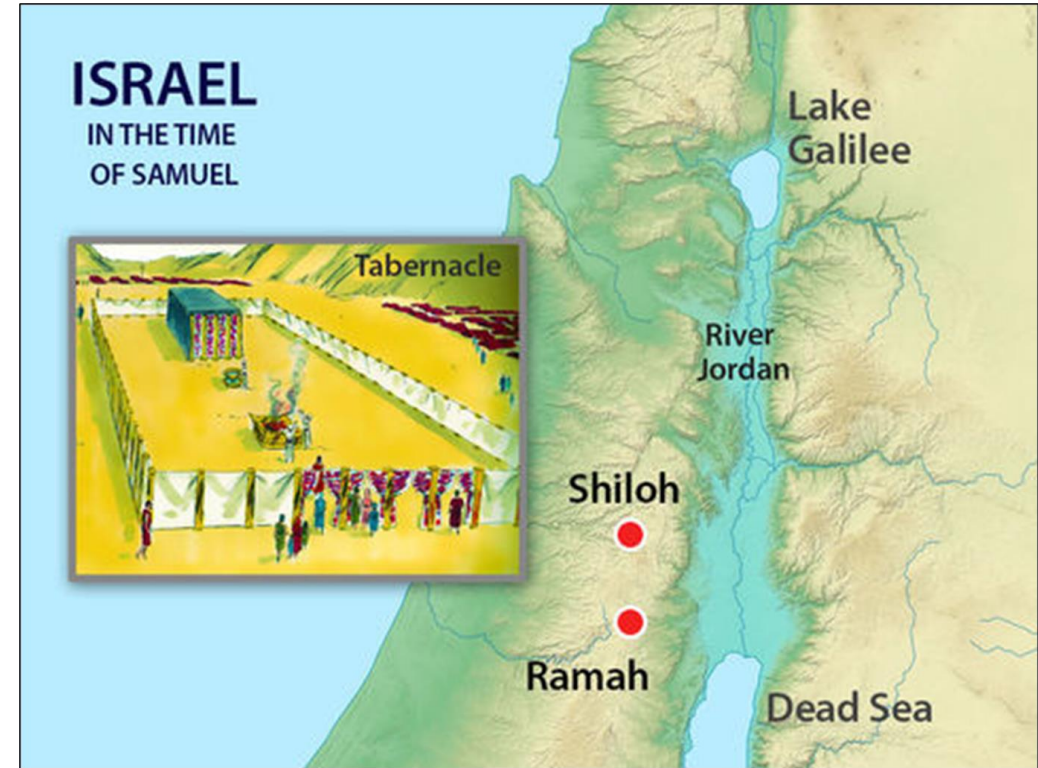




1 Samuel 1:1-2 There was a certain man of the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Elkanah ... He had two wives. The name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other, Peninnah. And Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.



Now this man used to go up year by year from his city to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts at Shiloh



1Sa 1:6-7 And her rival used to provoke her grievously to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. So it went on year by year. As often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat.



1Sa 1:10-12 She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. And she vowed a vow and said, “O LORD of hosts, if you will indeed give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life.” As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth.



1Sa 1:14-15 And Eli said to her, “How long will you go on being drunk? Put your wine away from you.” But Hannah answered, “No, my lord, I am a woman troubled in spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD.



1Sa 1:20 And in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, "I have asked for him from the LORD."



1Sam 1:24-27 And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. And the child was young. And she said, "Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to him.



1Sa 1:28 Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.” And he worshipped the LORD there.



1Sa 2:1 And Hannah prayed and said, “My heart exults in the LORD; my horn is exalted in the LORD. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation.

1Sa 2:10 The LORD will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed.”



1Sa 2:19-21 And Samuel's mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Indeed the LORD visited Hannah, and she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters.



1Sa 2:18,26 Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy clothed with a linen ephod. The boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the LORD and also with man.



1Sa 2:12 Now the sons of Eli were worthless men.
They did not know the LORD.



1Sa 2:17 The sin of the young men was very great in the sight of the LORD, for the men treated the offering of the LORD with contempt.



1Sa 2:27,29 And there came a man of God to Eli and said to him, “Thus says the LORD, Why do you scorn my sacrifices and my offerings that I commanded for my dwelling, and honour your sons above me by fattening yourselves on the choicest parts of every offering of my people Israel? “

This is the final warning.

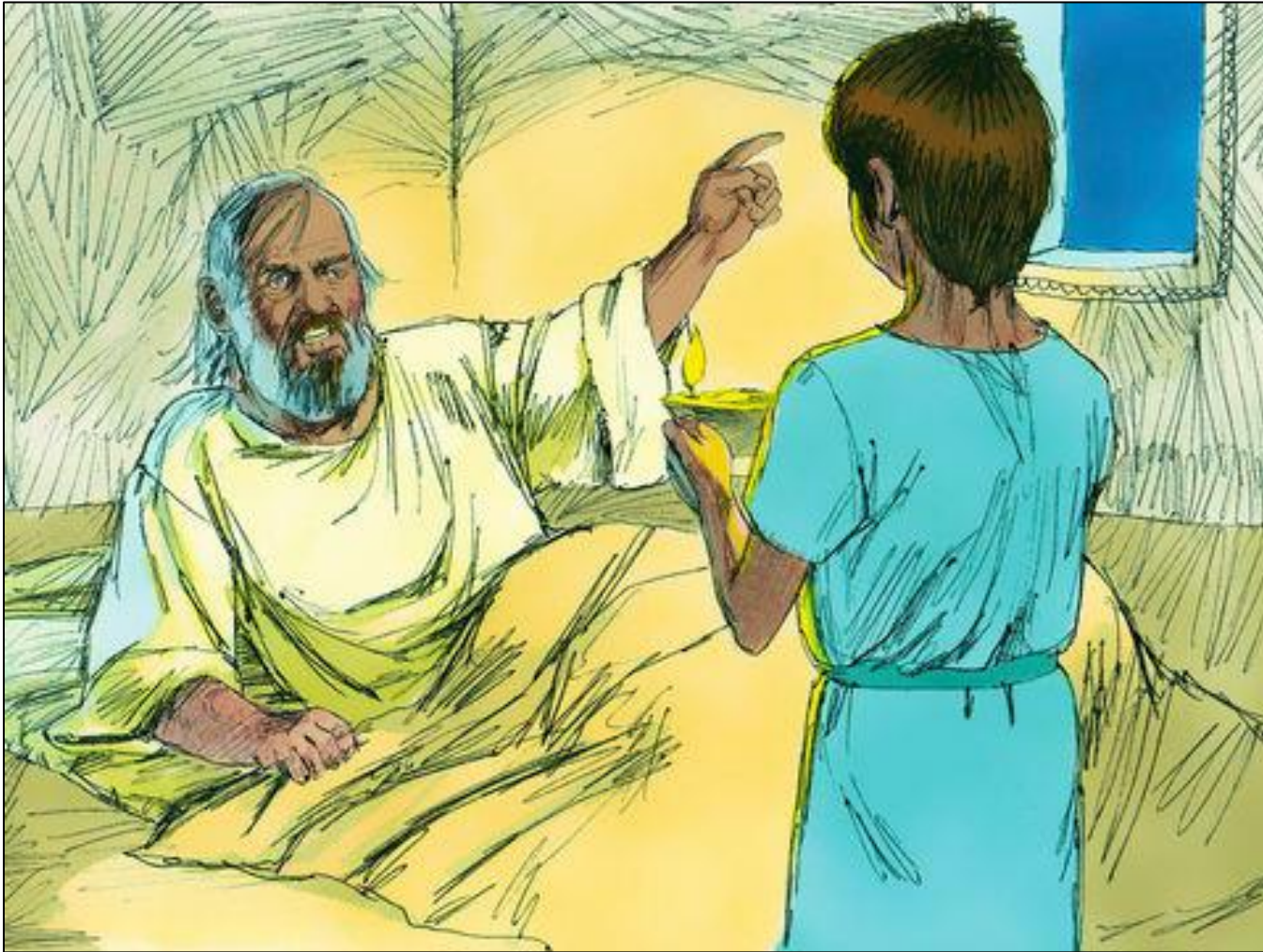


1Sa 2:23-25 And he said to them, “Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all these people. No, my sons; it is no good report that I hear the people of the LORD spreading abroad. If someone sins against a man, God will mediate for him, but if someone sins against the LORD, who can intercede for him?”

What should Eli have done ?



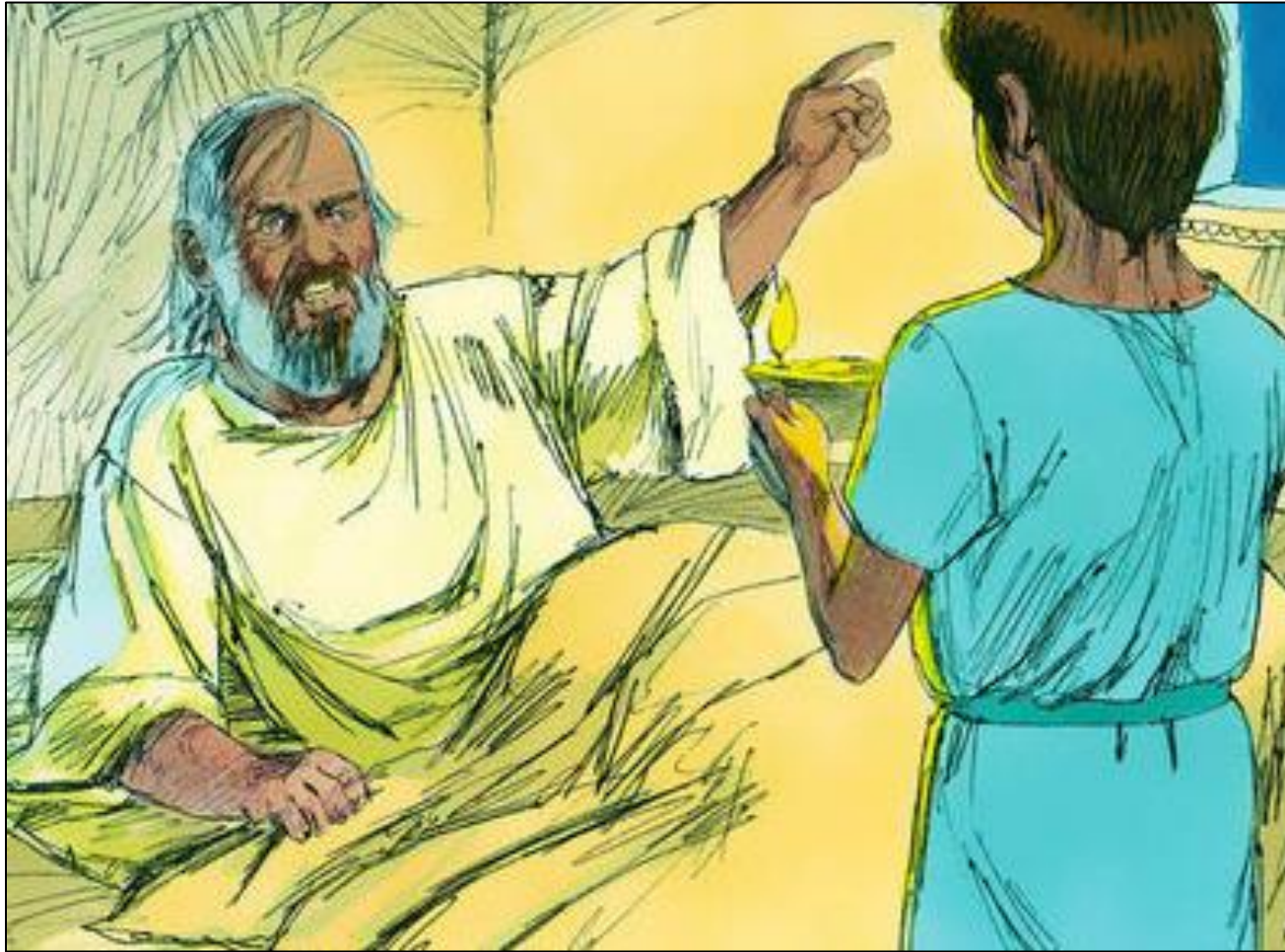
1Sa 3:3-4 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!"



1Sa 3:5 and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me."
But he said, "I did not call; lie down again."



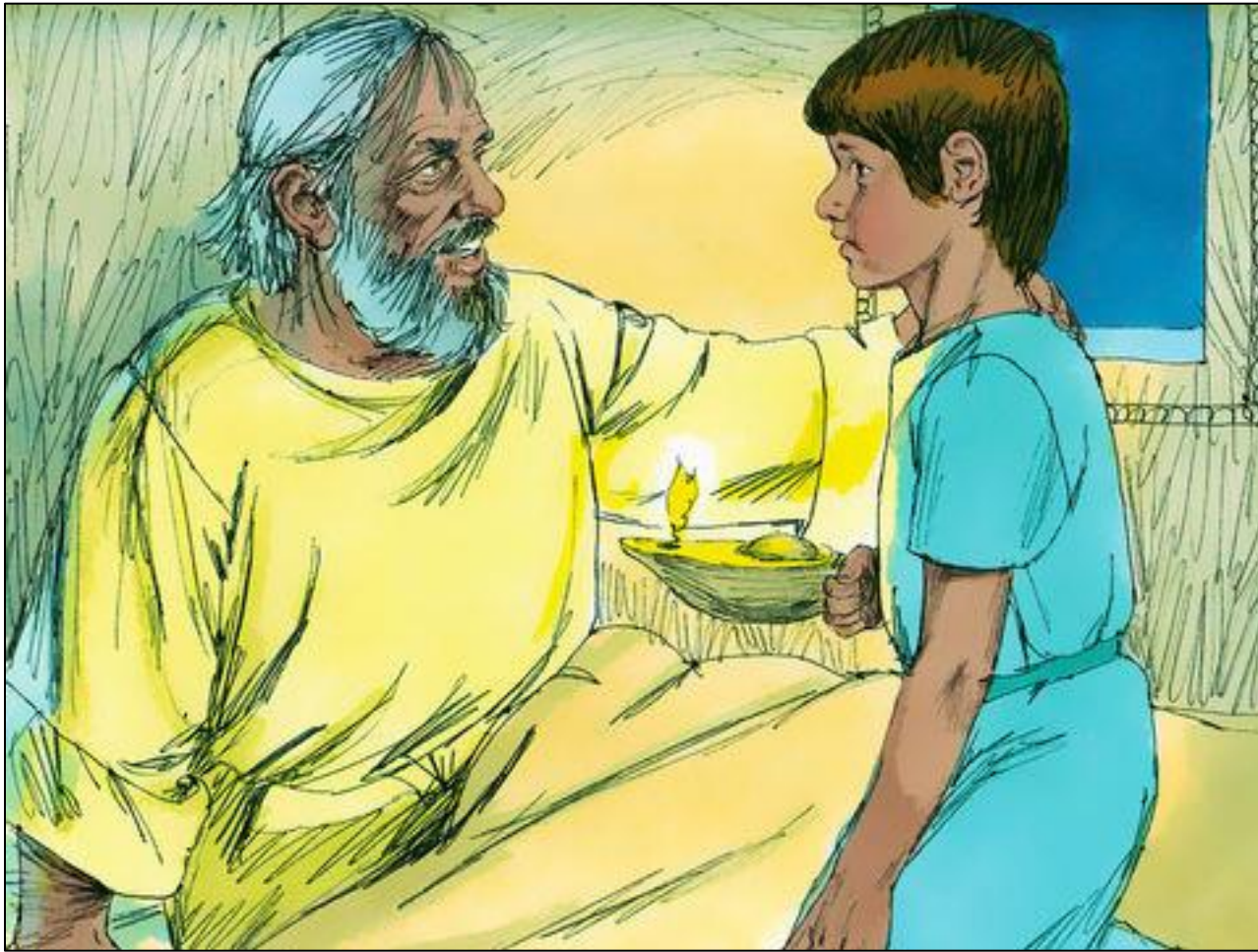
1Sa 3:6 And the LORD called again, "Samuel!"



Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.”



1Sa 3:7-8 Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. And the LORD called Samuel again the third time.



1Sa 3:8-9 And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.



1Sa 3:10 And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times,
“Samuel! Samuel!”

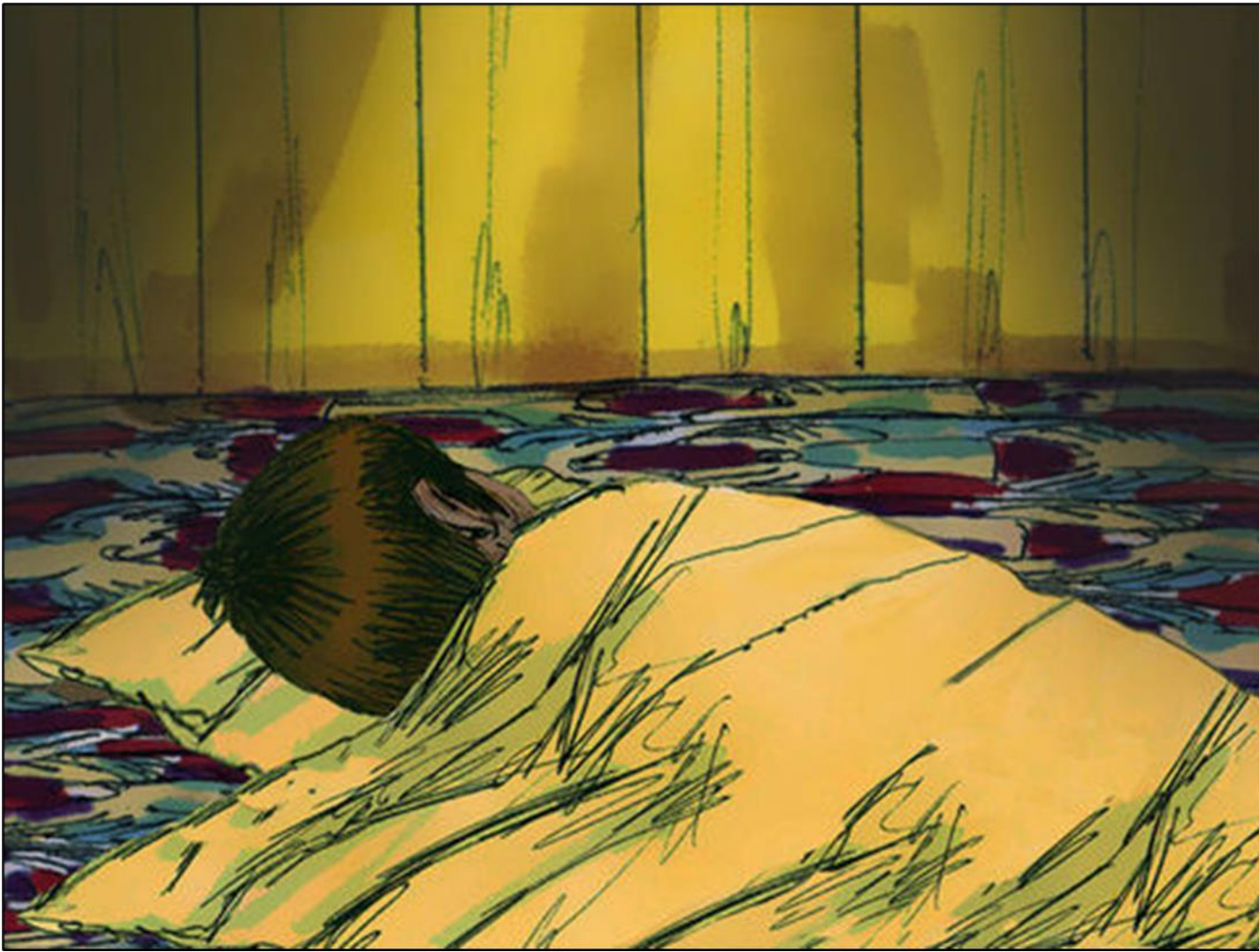


1Sa 3:10 And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant hears."



1Sa 3:11-13 Then the LORD said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. On that day I will fulfil against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them.”

It's over. No more warnings.



1Sa 3:15 Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli.



1Sa 3:16-17 But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said, “Here I am.” And Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.”

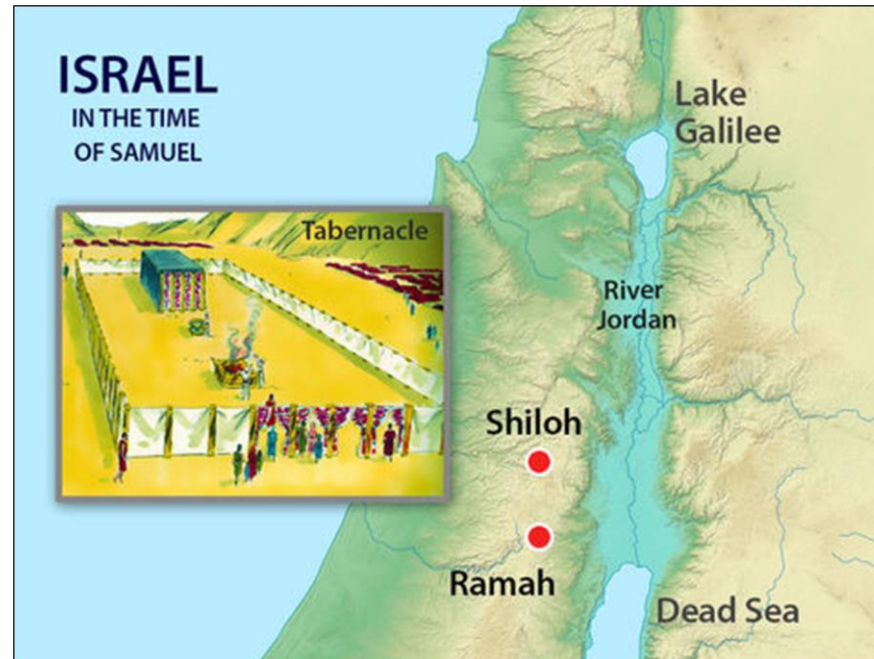


1Sa 3:18 So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him.”

The ultimate test for God’s messenger

What do you think of Eli’s response ?

1Sa 3:19-21 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD. And the LORD appeared again at Shiloh, for the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the LORD.





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