

## **“Getting An Earful From God” 1 Sam. 3**

Little Samuel was born with God’s help (1:19). He was later dedicated to the LORD (1:28) and began to minister at Shiloh as a young boy under old Eli. One day everything changed--the day he heard God’s voice. From then on he would be God’s voice to His people, and his very first words were the hardest, as they condemned his foster parent and master, Eli.

### ***Samuel hears God call (3:1-9)--Samuel and Eli are confused.***

\*“Word of the Lord was rare” (NIV, NASV). Not a lot of revelation during these 350 years, Jdg. 4:4, 6:8, 11, 13:3, 1 Sam. 2:27.  
Why? (Amos 8:11, Ps. 74:9, Lam. 2:9, Mic. 3:6)

\*What do we learn about young Samuel here?

\*Third time is a charm. Why 3x? See repetition in Jn. 21:15-17.

### ***Samuel hears of Eli’s judgment (3:10-14)--Eli is condemned.***

\*This is clearly bad news. . . a \_\_\_\_\_ oracle (“tingling ears“ isn’t good--2 Kgs. 21:12, Jer. 19:3). Same message as prophet in 2:27-36!  
\*Why would it be helpful to simply repeat the earlier prophet’s message?

### ***Eli hears of his judgment (3:15-19)--Eli is convinced.***

\*How does Samuel change toward Eli after this event?  
\*Eli is naturally filled with curiosity and threatens Samuel for information (“may God do so. . .” in 14:44, 20:13, 25:22, 2 Sam. 3:9, 19:13)  
\*Note the incredible irony here.

### ***All Israel hears Samuel’s words (3:19-21)--Samuel is confirmed.***

\*Samuel continues to grow up, 1:24, 2:26.  
\*Samuel will become an undisputed prophet of God to ALL the tribes.  
\*What confirms Samuel as a prophet? See Deut. 13:1-5, 18:19-22

### **What might we gather for ourselves from this night episode?**