

1 (1814) God Calls Samuel

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Series: When God Calls

1 Samuel 1-3 (1814)

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Ecclesiastes 1:9 NLT⁹ History merely repeats itself. It has all been done before. Nothing under the sun is truly new.

I. God often raises up his servants in the midst of troubled times

a. Dysfunctional family

b. Corrupt or neglectful leaders

c. Loss of national identity

d. Perhaps even questioning if God still cares

1 Samuel 3:1 NIV The boy Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli. In those days the word of the Lord was rare; there were not many visions.

II. Common elements regarding God's call

a. God refuses to give up on his creation

1 Samuel 2:35 NIV I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in my heart and mind. I will firmly establish his priestly house, and they will minister before my anointed one always.

b. God still works ultimately through individual people

c. God's call is ultimately personal and intimate in nature

1 Samuel 3:7 NIV Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

Matthew Henry Samuel knew the written word, and was acquainted with the mind of God in that, but he did not yet apprehend the way in which God reveals himself to his servants the prophets, especially by a still small voice; this was altogether new and strange to him.

Joel 2:28-29 NIV I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.²⁹ Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

d. When God's hand is on a faithful man or woman, the world takes notice

1 Samuel 3:19-21 NIV ¹⁹ *The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of Samuel's words fall to the ground.* ²⁰ *And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba recognized that Samuel was attested as a prophet of the Lord.* ²¹ *The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh, and there he revealed himself to Samuel through his word.*

1. Listen carefully

2. Obey faithfully