

SERIES GRAPHIC w/email

God/In Christ + \_\_\_\_\_ = Happiness; Identity; Security

{use larger letters on the slide}

## S-I-N

Everyone has a tendency (sometimes even a strategy) to **minimize their sin**.

{see if we can put the image below and the quote below on the same slide and it still be readable; if not, use 2 slides.}

**Hannibal Lector image**

<https://houseofgeekery.files.wordpress.com/2020/07/sil2.jpg?w=620>

*“Nothing happened to me, Officer Starling ... I happened. You can’t reduce me to a set of influences. You’ve given up good and evil for behaviorism ... Look at me. Can you stand to say I’m evil?”*

{Put this quote on one slide by itself}

*“A gulf has opened up in our culture between the visibility of evil and the intellectual resources for coping with it. We have jettisoned the idea of cosmic evil or transcendent evil or supernatural evil. We don’t believe in it. In fact, we don’t like to use the word evil because it implies moral absolutes and value judgements. So we use medical terms. We talk about dysfunction. We talk about pathology. We don’t use moral terminology ...”* {Andrew Delbanco}

### **I Samuel 2:12**

Eli’s sons were **wicked** men; they **did not respect** the Lord ...

### **I Samuel 2:13-17**

... or the priests’ share of the sacrifices from the people. When anyone offered a sacrifice, the priest’s servant would come with a three-pronged meat fork while the meat was boiling and plunge it into the container, kettle, cauldron, or cooking pot. The priest would claim for himself whatever the meat fork brought up. This is the way they treated all the Israelites who came there to Shiloh. Even before the fat was burned, the priest’s servant would come and say to the one who was sacrificing, “Give the priest some meat to roast, because he won’t accept boiled meat from you—only raw.” If that person said to him, “The fat must be burned first; then you can take whatever you want for yourself,” the servant would reply, “No, I insist that you hand it over right now. If you don’t, I’ll take it by force!” So the servants’ sin was very **severe** in the **presence of the Lord**, because the men treated the Lord’s offering with **contempt**.

### Sins of Eli:

- Taking more than the priestly share of the offering
- Taking the Lord's portion of the offering

1) Before we think of sin as **behavioral**—which we can always excuse and justify—we must see sin as primarily **relational**.

*{come up one at a time ... one slide}*

Relational: Between God and us

Relational: It's always been about presence

Relational: Who defines the relationship?

### A Different Definition of Sin:

*Anything offensive, hurtful, and defiling to the gloriously holy presence of God ... and that simultaneously or subsequently negatively affects us and often others more than we think or realize*

### I Samuel 2:18-21

**Samuel served in the Lord's presence**—this mere boy was dressed in the linen ephod. Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife: “May the Lord give you children by this woman in place of the one she has given to the Lord.” Then they would go home. The Lord paid attention to Hannah's need, and she conceived and gave birth to three sons and two daughters. Meanwhile, the boy **Samuel grew up in the presence** of the Lord.

2) Sin—no matter how pervasive—never **nullifies, stops, or prevents** God from being God in all His glorious attributes.

Do not overlook the small and the quiet, even unnoticed, work of the Lord.

Do not underestimate or hijack the vision of God for our lives.

### OPTION A: Vision for my life

- Pursue hopes and dreams
- American dream of material prosperity & long-life
- God (?) is here to help

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*{one slide; keep formatting}*

**OPTION B: Vision for my life**

- **My sin is my greatest problem and challenge**
- **I need help from the inside out**
- **I need a Savior and a better King than myself & what the world offers**

**I Samuel 2:22-26**

Now Eli was very old. He heard about everything his sons were doing to all Israel and how they were sleeping with the women who served at the entrance to the tent of meeting. He said to them, “Why are you doing these things? I have heard about your **evil actions** from all these people. No, my sons, the news I hear the Lord’s people spreading is not good. If one person sins against another, God can intercede for him, but if a person sins against the Lord, **who can intercede for him?**” But they would not listen to their father, since the Lord intended to kill them. **By contrast**, the boy Samuel grew in stature and in favor **with the Lord** and with people.

**3) Take **sin—any and all sin—seriously.****

*{come up one at a time}*

- a) Warning: a hard heart**
- b) The blessing of a rebuke**
- c) A Question and a Call to Fight**

**I John1:6-10**

If we say, “We have **fellowship** with Him,” and yet we walk in darkness, we are lying and are not practicing the truth. If we walk in the light as He himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the **blood of Jesus His Son** cleanses us from all sin. If we say, “We have no sin,” we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we **confess** our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say, “We have not sinned,” we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

### I Samuel 2:27-30

A **man of God** came to Eli and said to him, “This is what the Lord says: ‘Didn’t I reveal myself to your forefather’s family when they were in Egypt and belonged to Pharaoh’s palace? Out of all the tribes of Israel, I chose your house to be my priests, to offer sacrifices on my altar, to burn incense, and to wear an ephod in my presence. I also gave your forefather’s family all the Israelite food offerings. Why, then, do all of you despise my sacrifices and offerings that I require at the place of worship? You have **honored your sons more than Me**, by making yourselves fat with the best part of all of the offerings of my people Israel.’

“Therefore, this is the declaration of the Lord, the God of Israel: ‘I did say that your family and your forefather’s family would walk before Me forever. But now,’ this is the Lord’s declaration, ‘no longer! For **those who honor Me I will honor**, but those who despise Me will be disgraced.

- a) **Warning: a hard heart**
- b) **The blessing of a rebuke**
- c) **A Question and a Call to Fight**
- d) **Merciful Invasion of the Word of God**

### I Samuel 2:31-34

Look, the days are coming when I will cut off your strength and the strength of your forefather’s family, so that none in your family will reach old age. You will see distress in the place of worship, in spite of all that is good in Israel, and no one in your family will ever again reach old age. Any man from your family I do not cut off from my altar will bring grief and sadness to you. All your descendants will die violently. This will be the sign that will come to you concerning your two sons Hophni and Phinehas: both of them will die on the same day.

When we **minimize sin**, we misunderstand **Jesus** and what His **cross** means.  
Insufficient view of sin = Cheap view of Jesus

*{come up one a time; same slide}*

**Life-Coach Jesus**

**Housekeeper Jesus**

**Kumbaya Jesus**

4) The solution to seeing sin **clearly** and fighting sin **victoriously** is in **Christ**.

### I Samuel 2:35-36

'Then I will raise up a **faithful priest for Myself**. He will do whatever is in My heart and mind. I will establish a **lasting dynasty** for him, and he will walk before my anointed one for all time. Anyone who is left in your family will come and bow down to him for a piece of silver or a loaf of bread. He will say: Please appoint me to some priestly office so I can have a piece of bread to eat.'"

### **Hebrews 7:27**

He doesn't need to offer sacrifices every day, as high priests do—first for their own sins, then for those of the people. He did this **once for all** time when He offered Himself.

*{come up one at a time}*

**A perfect, once for all and for all time **SACRIFICE****

**Propitiation**: satisfaction of God's righteous anger & justice

**Redemption**: to buy back; to purchase

**Justification**: forgiveness of sin; receiving Christ's right-ness

**Reconciliation**: restored relationship

*{one slide; keep formatting}*

### **2 Satisfactions in Salvation:**

- God is now satisfied with us **IN** Christ
- We are now satisfied with God **BECAUSE OF** Christ: in, with, for

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