

# Two Ministries Two Priesthoods

by David Wilkerson

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*David Wilkerson's sermon contrasts the Eli and Zadok priesthoods, emphasizing the need for a faithful ministry aligned with God's heart.*

**Duration:** 56:53

**Scripture:** 1 Samuel 2:27, 1 Kings 2:26-27, 1 Kings 2:35, Ezekiel 44:5

**Topics:** "Pure Ministry", "Priestly Service"

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## Description

In this sermon, the preacher discusses four stages of the preaching of the word of God. The first stage involves God breaking the strength of the preacher and his family, resulting in the absence of old men in their house. The second stage is characterized by the distress of God's dwelling, despite the preacher's efforts to do good for Israel. In the third stage, God cuts off every man from the preacher's family from His altar, causing their eyes to fail from weeping and their souls to grieve. The final stage is marked by the death of all the increase of the preacher's house in the prime of life. The preacher also emphasizes the importance of maintaining a pure ministry and warns against allowing foreigners and those uncircumcised in heart to enter God's sanctuary.

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## Transcript

Walk in a life of repentance, and that's what this meeting is all about. There's going to be reproof coming from the pulpit. There'll be encouragement.

And you'll be surprised before this day is over, even. I really believe that by tomorrow morning, in this session, tomorrow morning, before the session is over, God will have broken many hearts and shown us things we have not seen before. I stood for years preaching to multitudes, but I was not a man of the word.

I preached sermons. It's been about six years since I started seeking God with all my heart and laid down my crusade ministry, laid down my ministry completely. I took time off and began to seek His face.

I got so hungry. And the Lord began to deal with me about many things I'd seen in my life. There was a time I'd listen to no man unless he had a bigger ministry than mine.

The only one who could talk to me would be an Oral Roberts, James Robinson, some evangelist, or Jimmy Swaggart. Because if someone who had a small church had come up to me and said, Brother Wilson, I've got a word for you from the Lord. I've got something from the Scripture.

I'd say, How many do you have in your church? He'd say, Eighty. I'd say, You're going to tell me? You're going to give me a word of God? I wouldn't listen. I do now.

I listen to even young people who have a word from God. Because if you're beyond that, you know, there's an arrogance in the ministry today. An arrogance that says, I know it all.

And if you're here that well, I pray God strip it. I pray God humble you. He's sure been stripping away.

First thing He does is strip the outside, then He gets to stripping on the inside. I want to talk to you about the Zadok priesthood. The Zadok priesthood.

Go to 1 Samuel, if you will, please. 1 Samuel. Now, if you don't have your Bible with you, I don't know what in the world you're going to do here.

Look at someone else. I can't conceive anybody coming to this meeting without your Bible. If you don't have it, I will not put you to shame, but try to look in on somebody.

1 Samuel 2, 27, 36. Folks, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel. I'll just leave it there, open this way, if you will, for just a moment.

I believe with all my heart there are two ministries in the church today. Two established ministries from the very beginning. They're still with us.

It's the Eli ministry and the Zadok priesthood. And you're one or the other. You're either from the stream of Eli or the stream of Zadok.

And before we're finished this morning, we want to find out what is coming out and taking preeminence in your life. If there's an Eli spirit in you, it's going to come out one day or another. It's going to surface.

If you're the Zadok priesthood, that's going to surface. If you've been in the ministry like I have, I started preaching when I was 11 years old. I'm 54 now.

And if you've been preaching as long as I do, you've been preaching 20 years at least. One of these ministries is so established in you, outside of a miracle, you'll never change. You don't want to change if you're in the Zadok priesthood.

But we're going to see if you are in the Eli priesthood or in the Zadok priesthood. Heavenly Father, bring forth a pure word this morning. Open our hearts to receive.

This is emphasis on the Word of God. We've come to hear the Word, not a man. Lord, as I minister and as Brother Phillips ministers, bring forth that Word strong and pure.

Sanctify us that we may give you glory. In Jesus' name, Amen. Let's begin with verse 27.

I told you I'm reading from the New American Standard. Now, this is an unnamed prophet that comes to Eli. I wish I knew his name.

He just suddenly appears. The Bible doesn't even name him. This unnamed prophet comes to Eli.

Listen to the prophecy he gives. Then a man of God, he's unnamed, came to Eli and said to him, Thus says the Lord, Did I not indeed reveal myself to the house of your father when they were in Egypt in

bondage to Pharaoh's house? Did I not choose them from all the tribes of Israel to be my priests, to go up to my altar to burn incense, to carry an ephod before me? And did I not give to the house of your father all the fire offerings of the sons of Israel? Why do you kick at my sacrifice, at my offering, which I have commanded in my dwelling, and honor your sons above me, by making yourselves fat with the choices of every offering of my people Israel? Therefore, the Lord God of Israel declares, I did indeed say that your house and the house of your father should walk before me forever. See, this Eli priesthood was to be an everlasting priesthood.

But now, the Lord declares, Far be it from me, for those who honor me, I will honor. And pastor, listen to this, And those who despise me will be lightly esteemed. Behold, the days are coming.

Now here's the curse of the Eli priesthood. It's four stages. I will break your strength and the strength of your father's house, so that there will not be an old man in your house.

Number two, you will see the distress of my dwelling, in spite of all that I do good for Israel. And an old man shall not be in your house forever. Number three, then I will cut off every man of yours from my altar, that your eyes may fail from weeping and your soul grieve.

And all the increase, I will not cut off every man of yours from my altar, so that your eyes will not fail from weeping and your soul grieve. And all the increase of your house will die in the prime of life. This will be the sign to you which shall come concerning your two sons, Hosna and Phinehas, on the same day both of them shall die.

Now here's the promise of another priesthood that will be established. An eternal priesthood. But I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in my heart and in my soul.

And what's he say? I will build him an enduring house, and he will walk before my anointed always. You see, God says I'm going to build an eternal, everlasting priesthood, of men who will do after my bidding. Now you find here the prophetic raising up of two kinds of priests.

Eli is a cursed priesthood. In four different ways. First of all, a weak priesthood would develop because of sin.

I will break your strength and the strength of your father's house. That's verse 31. I'll break your strength.

Number two, you'll continually fall short of God's fullness. Even when God is pouring out His Spirit, He said when I'm blessing Israel, you'll not be a part of it. You will see distress of my dwelling in spite of all the good that I'm going to do for Israel.

You will not be a part of the new thing that God does, the fresh work of the Spirit in any generation. This priesthood will fall short of the fullness. There will be men that go so far and will drop out, will never come into the fullness of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Never in the fullness. I heard a great man of God in his seventies. Well known.

You would know his name if I mentioned it. I almost wept when I heard him say it. He said, David, I spent all my life preaching in the outer courts.

I've never been in the Holy of Holies. I've not preached from the Holy of Holies. He'd never come into the fullness.

I wanted to weep. There are many men like that. Preaching the same thing they've preached for 25 years.

They don't study. They don't seek the face of God. They're not in to the Word of God in fullness.

They never come into the fullness of Jesus Christ. They're shallow. There's nothing grieves my heart more than to meet men in their fifties and sixties and see the same spirit they had when they were 20 and 30 years old.

They're still shallow. There's no growth. There's no life.

This was Eli. A lazy priesthood. Fast, self-centered priesthood.

Continually falling short. Number three, those in this kind of priesthood would die in the prime of life. All the increase of your house will die in the prime of life.

That's a spiritual death. Just when God's about to use you. Just when you're at that age when God should really be doing something in your ministry, there's going to be a spiritual death.

You're going to die because you don't have the life of God moving in you, as the Scripture says. I see men dying all around. I see ministers dying in the pulpit.

I see them turning aside to all kinds of things. Fourth, this weak, flawed, self-centered priesthood would continue on until Jesus comes. Yet I will not cut off every man of yours from My altar.

Do you understand what that means? Until Jesus comes, there will always be men at the altar. There will always be men ministering before God with the Eli spirit. This self-centered thing is going to die in the prime of life.

This thing that never comes into fullness. This thing that always comes short of the fullness of God. It will always be at My altar.

I will not cut it off. Ladies and gentlemen, that priesthood is still in the church of Jesus Christ. That Eli priesthood is still among us.

But you see, there's another kind of priesthood. It's in verse 35. I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who will do according to what is in My heart.

And he will walk before My anointed always. Now that's an amazing prophecy that God is going to have at all times. In the worst spiritual declensions.

In the worst time of backsliding. God is going to have a holy remnant priesthood after Zadok. Now I'm going to show you a dual priesthood that starts under David's ministering.

Goes off to the Word and fulfills the prophecy of this unnamed prophet who stood before Eli. Go to 2 Samuel, if you will. 2 Samuel 15.

2 Samuel 15. I want you to just read verse 35 with me. 2 Samuel 15 verse 35.

Are not Zadok and Abiathar the priests with you there? So it shall be that whatever you bear here from the king's house, you shall report to Zadok and Abiathar the priests. You see two priests there. Zadok and Abiathar.

Now remember that Zadok is from the Aaron priesthood. Abiathar is from the Eli remnant. He's the remnant of Eli.

Now look at the word Zadok. In Hebrew means Zadok. One who's proved righteous.

Abiathar in Hebrew is Ebithar which means one who's prosperous and successful. His very name means prosperity and success. I'm going to show you why true men of God have a wrath in their soul against the modern preaching of prosperity and wealth.

You cannot be a man of God and not despise that teaching. I'm going to prove it to you this morning. I feel God's wrath against that ministry.

It's the Abiathar priesthood. It's from the house of Eli. It's a cursed ministry.

His very name Ebithar, Abiathar, one who is prosperous and wealthy, successful. Let's look first at the priesthood of Zadok. First Chronicles 12.

First Chronicles. The 12th chapter. Verse 1. Beginning with verse 1. First Chronicles 12.

Verse 1. Now these are the ones who came to David at Ziglag while he was still restricted because of Saul. You remember the story. He's being chased.

He's being restricted by the son of Jish. Alright, would you skip over then to verse 22. For day by day men came to David to help him.

Remember David is running. But an army is gathering around him. Day by day men came to David to help him until there was a great army like the army of God.

Now these are the members of the divisions, numbers of the divisions equipped for war who came to David at Hebron to turn the kingdom of Saul to him according to the word of the Lord. Now look at verse 27. Now Jehoiad was the leader of the house of Aaron and with him were 3,700.

Verse 28. Also Zadok, a young man, mighty of valor, and his father's house, 22 captains. You see, this mighty young priest, Zadok, joins David at Hebron.

And Zadok from that day on never once wavered under the lordship of David, the kingship of David. You're going to see how Biathar's faith overwhelmed and falls away. Here's the entire house of Saul.

And he walks away from Saul's household. He's giving his heart and allegiance to David. Never once does he look back.

He's there when David needs him. You remember when David went over the brook Kidron and he went weeping as he did? He's running from Absalom? You can find that in 2 Samuel. In fact, I'd like you to turn to 2 Samuel.

I want to just show you Zadok for a moment before we go any further. 2 Samuel 15. Go to verse 23.

2 Samuel 15. Remember now, David is running from Absalom, his son, who has rebelled. Verse 23, Now behold, Zadok also came.

Look there. Zadok came. And all the Levites with him, carrying the Ark of the Covenant of God, they set down the Ark of God, and a biathlark came up until all the people had finished passing from the city.

And the king said to Zadok, Return the Ark of God to the city. If I find favor in the sight of the Lord, then he'll bring me back again and show me both it and the habitation. Verse 27.

The king also said to Zadok, the priest, Are you not a seer? Return to the city in peace. Are your two sons with you? Your son, Behemoth, and Jonathan, the son of a biathlark. See, I'm going to wait at the fjords of the wilderness until word comes from you to inform me.

Verse 35. Are not Zadok and the biathlark of the priest with you there? All right, look this way now, please. Absalom, right now, has taken over Jerusalem.

He's on the rooftop, laying on the rooftop in the tent, committing adultery. With all of David's harem and all of his concubines. And before all of Israel, this ungodly son Absalom is bringing corruption to the house of God.

But at the same time, while this corruption is going through all the land, Hushaiah is at the court, a man of God. And now, at the temple, at the house of God, David says to Zadok, You go back. He said, You're a man I can trust.

I can trust in the midst of all of this sinfulness. I know that there's going to be a holy man at the altar. You go back to the house of God.

You watch. You're a seer. You know what a seer is? One who sees.

He sees something no one else sees. Are you not a seer? You see things that nobody else sees. You have discernment.

You can understand what's going on. Now think about that for a minute. This is a time of absolute backsliding.

Here's a time when the leaders of the country have gone berserk and mad. Absolute adultery, flaunted in the open. But thank God at the altar there's a man of God.

There's a holy man by the name of Zadok who said, My Lord is not here. My Lord's out there. My Lord's out there.

Thank God we have a man in glory. Our Lord is not here. Our Lord is there.

Now He abides in us, yes. But He's the man in glory. This is what the Plymouth brethren saw.

Darby saw it. And G.B. Stoney. And Sparks.

And Watchman Nee. They all drank from the same well. It was the vision that we have a man in glory.

The man who was glorified is a man just like me. And if you saw him, you could touch him, you could feel him. We have not a spirit in heaven, but we have a man just like us.

A man in glory. He's not here. He's out there.

Zadok maintained the testimony in Jerusalem and Judah, or rather in the Holy City. While there was corruption on all sides, there was a Zadok priesthood. Thank God that Zadok priesthood remains until Jesus comes at the altar.

Are you not a seer? You've got discernment. You'll be able to read the times for me. You return to the city.

The whole nation's in rebellion, but you'll be faithful to me. I know. Remember what the prophet said to Eli? I'll raise up a faithful priest who'll do according to what is in my heart and my soul.

That's what David's saying to Zadok. You're a priest who'll do according to my deeds. According to my word and according to the word of the Lord.

You're a faithful man. You'll go. You stay at the altar.

Hallelujah. Ezekiel had a vision of a temple. It's in Ezekiel.

I want you to go to Ezekiel 43 with me, please. Ezekiel 43. Do you remember the vision temple, the spiritual temple that Ezekiel saw? Ezekiel 43, verse 19.

If you're a minister of the gospel, certainly you've preached from Ezekiel's vision tabernacle. This is the vision temple he saw. It's never been fulfilled and it'll never be built.

This is a spiritual house that he's talking about. And he sees in this spiritual temple a certain kind of priesthood. Look at verse 19.

You shall give to the Levitical priests who are from the offspring of Zadok, who draw near to me to minister to me, declares the Lord God, you shall give them a young bull for a sin offering. Look at me, please. In Ezekiel's spiritual temple of the last days before the Lord returns, there's a man at the altar.

And what is he? He's the offspring of Zadok. That holy, faithful priest that would do after God's own heart. He's at the altar.

Ezekiel saw it in a vision. He said, he understood this prophecy of this man. Every prophet in the Bible knew this unknown man.

They didn't know his name, but they knew the prophecy. I'm going to prove to you that Solomon especially understood it. Now, Abiathar.

Abiathar is a dedicated man because he's there when David goes over to Kidron. He's faithful. David says to him, you go back.

And up to this point, Abiathar is just as faithful as Zadok outwardly. You couldn't tell that he was a driven man. You couldn't tell that he wanted acceptance among his brethren so much that he'd go along with every new thing that came down the turnpike.

Have you ever met men like that? They're always looking for something to build the church. Church growth seems to be working, so they flock to church growth seminars. People are buying buses, so they buy buses.

They sell groups, so they have sell groups. They praise, so they go to seminars on praise, and they bring the latest thing. And if it's doing something for somebody else, maybe it'll work for me.

They're always trying to find the formula, something to make it tick, make it work. Brethren, there are no shortcuts. It's what you are inside that makes the church, not anything you can bring from the outside.

It's what's in your heart. Remember it said in 2 Timothy 15 that Abiathar came up also? You see, this man, when Absalom rebels, he wants nothing to do with it. You know why he won't do anything with it? Because it's so openly, blatantly sin.

He knew that this young man Absalom was full of Satan's power. It was so blatantly open, he said, If I go with that, I know that's wrong. He stepped aside, he said, No, this is supposed to be a new move of God.

I want nothing to do with it. And up to this point, Abiathar is still with David. He's with Zadok in Jerusalem.

But you see, Abiathar has in him the seed of Eli. Remember what it was said of the house of Eli? That you'll never come into fullness? It said of Eli that at the prime of your life, your spiritual life, there'll be a spiritual death. But I'll not cut you off.

I'll let you stay there ministering in the flesh. And boy, this is so important. Go with me, if you will, to 1 Kings.

I want to show you something. 1 Kings. First chapter, 1 Kings.

We're going to see the spirit of Eli come out in Abiathar. Now, do you remember that Abiathar would have nothing to do with the rebellion of Absalom? Because it was so blatantly flaunted, open sin. But now I want you to see the seed of Eli coming to surface.

Here's what's really in this man. If you'd have seen up to this time, Abiathar and Zadok, both of them, ministering in the temple at the altar, outwardly you could tell no difference. Because, in fact, Abiathar, one of the meanings, one of the contextual meanings of his name, also means one who is pious before God.

He's a very pious man. Outwardly holy. He looks devoted.

I see men like that that look very devoted. They look very sanctified on the outside. You can't tell at first, but there's a seed in them that eventually is going to surface.

And you're going to see Abiathar come now into the Eli seed. Look at verse 5. Now, Adonijah, the son of Haggath, now this is another son of David, exalted himself. Now, remember, this is a new ministry that's coming out in the land now.

But what's it based on? Self-exaltation. He exalted himself. Do you know some ministries that are called the move of God these days that are based and born out of self-exaltation? Everything is focused on man rather than God.

Self-centered. Haggath exalted himself, saying, I will be king. So he prepared for himself chariots and horsemen with fifty men to run before him.

And his father had never crossed him at any time by asking, why have you done so? Now, David never once said to his boy when he was going along, why are you doing this? Why? He never once crossed him. And he was also a very handsome man. He was born after Absalom.

And he had conferred with Joab, the son of Zerah, and with Abiathar the priest. He started holding meetings with Abiathar the priest. And following Adonijah, they helped him.

But Zadok the priest, Ben-Aniah the son of Jehoiad and Nathan the prophet, Shimei-Ariah, and the mighty men who belonged to David were not with Adonijah. And Adonijah sacrificed sheep and oxen and fatlings. Now take, remember this name, the stone of Zohelah.

Look at it. I'm going to tell you what that means. Which is beside En-Rogel.

And he invited all his brothers, the king's sons, and all the men of Judah, the king's servants. But he did not invite Nathan the prophet, Ben-Aniah the mighty man, and Solomon his brother. Now go to verse 24.

Then Nathan said, My lord, the king, have you said, Adonijah shall be king after me, and he shall sit on my throne? Well, for he's gone down today and he sacrificed oxen and fatlings and sheep in abundance and has invited all the king's sons and the commanders of the army and Abiathar the priest. And who? And Abiathar the priest. See, something's happening in this man now.

He sees something coming down the turnpike now that really attracts him. Salt is coming to the surface. They're eating and drinking before him.

They say, Long live king Adonijah. But me, even me, your servant, and Zedok the priest, and Ben-Aniah the son of Jehoiad and your servant Solomon, he has not invited. Thank God they weren't invited.

All right, now let me show you what's happening here. It happens when Abiathar, as at the peak of his ministry, this pious man of God, whose name means success and prosperity and wealth and piety, begins to get very curious about this young man. This young man's talking about doing some new thing.

He said, This old-fashioned way of my father David, that's outdated. It's the old way, and God's doing a new thing in the land, and I'm the one God's anointed. I want you to be a part of it.

I don't know what kind of promises Adonijah made. By the way, Adonijah means, My Lord is Yahweh. And his name, the last three letters, Jah, is Jehovah's name.

He took to himself the name of Yahweh. He says, My Lord is God, My Lord is Yahweh. You see, this all comes under the name of some work of God, some work of Jehovah.

Brother and sister, the one thing we need more than anything else today is discernment, to discern the new things that are coming along, whether it's of the flesh or of God. And if you're not walking in the Spirit holy before the Lord, you're going to be diseased. Because any man of God that has sin in his life has no discernment whatsoever.

He has no discernment. You have secret sin in your life, you cannot discern what is right or what is wrong. You'll call wrong right, you'll call evil good, you'll call black white.

But you see, they go down to the stone of Zohelith. The stone of Zohelith means the stone of the serpent. Can you imagine a man of God eating, drinking, and offering sacrifices at the stone of the serpent? And they're not a holy man in their midst? There's not one godly man there.

Nathan the prophet's not there. Solomon's not there. Not a holy man is in their midst.

They're all of a particular kind. Do you realize that most prosperity preachers stick together? Do you know why they do? Because I believe it may not be now, but for a while there was a hounding sense inside, this may not be right. And they have to completely, constantly encourage one another.

They have to draw strength from each other, borrow messages from one another to support themselves because they're down at the stone of Zohelith. This is an adonis of ministry. He's following the man of wealth and success and prosperity.

He's following them now, down to the stone of Zohelith. What a boastful bunch this is. They're mocking the old and worn out ways of David.

They're crying for a new world, a new kind of priesthood. Do you know the whole time, the entire time that Adonijah is consulting with the Biathar, was the man either stupid or had he lost his sermon? Did he not see this man, Adonijah, lusting after Abishag, the most beautiful one in the kingdom, one of David's young concubines? Can you imagine? Here's a leader who's lusting after a woman. He's got adultery in his mind, foremost in his mind.

He has a ministry of self-exaltation. He exalted himself to be king. And here is a Biathar following that man.

Why? Because the prophecy is being fulfilled. He's at the seat of Eli. Self-centered, driven for success, acceptance.

The Biathar gets caught up in it now. Unwittingly, he thinks he's doing God's will, but now he's spiritually blind. Look at the difference between these two priesthoods.

A Biathar is now slowly coming into the curse of Eli. Little by little, these things that were there all the time are beginning to surface in his heart. There's pride, there's sin, there's lust, there's rebellion springing up like a wildfire.

But the whole time, if you'll turn over, you're still 1 Kings 1, go to verse 32. Look what David does in the midst of this rebellion. Then King David said, Call to me Zadok.

Call Zadok. This rebellion, this sin, this corruption. Call Zadok.

Go get Zadok for me. The first man that David calls. Is that in your Bible? Then King David said, Call to me Zadok the priest, Nathan the prophet, and Benana the son of Jehoiad.

And they came to the king's presence. The king said to them, Take with you the servant of your lord and have my son Solomon ride on my mule and bring him to Gion. And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him there as king over Israel.

And blow the trumpet and say, Long live King Solomon. Then you shall come up after him and he shall come and sit on my throne and be king in my place where I have appointed him to rule over Judah. Over Israel and Judah.

Look at verse 43. But Jonathan said, Answered and said to Adonijah, No, our lord King David has made Solomon king. The king has also sent with him Zadok the priest.

Alright, here's Adonijah now. Here's Abiathar. They're eating and drinking and suddenly there's a roaring sound comes from the city.

And someone comes running and Adonijah and Abiathar are thinking, The whole city is awaiting Adonijah. He's going to come marching triumphantly in. And here comes a messenger who said, No, you've got it wrong.

No, King David has just made Solomon king. And the king also sent with him Zadok the priest. Verse 45, And Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet have anointed him king in Gihon.

46, Besides Solomon has even taken a seat on the throne of the kingdom. Then verse 49, Then all the guests of Adonijah, this includes Abiathar, They were terrified and they arose each one to his own way. And Adonijah was afraid of Solomon.

He rose and went and took hold of the horns of the altar. Look at me, please. There's only so long God will put up with rebellion.

There's only so long he'll put up with these false things. And there's a time comes when he calls for the Zadok priesthood. He said, this thing's gone far enough.

And God begins to move. Now the amazing thing is that Solomon is king now. And he calls Abiathar before his throne.

Do you know that Solomon knew his word? He knew the prophecy of this unknown prophet who came to Elah. I want to prove it to you. I want to show you something amazing.

1 Kings 2. Let's go over to 1 Kings 2. Verse 26. Now remember, Solomon's reigning now. He's king.

And he calls Abiathar to his throne. Then to Abiathar the priest the king said, Go to Anathoth to your own field. For you deserve to die.

But I'll not put you to death at this time. Because you carried the ark of the Lord before my father David. And because you were afflicted in everything with which your father was afflicted.

So Solomon dismissed Abiathar from being priest to the Lord. Why? Look at it. In order to fulfill the word of the Lord which he had spoken concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh.

You see it. Solomon knew that prophecy. He said, according to the prophecy of Eli, There will always be a man like you that remains.

I'm not to cut you off. But Abiathar was a dead man already. He was dead.

He had missed the fullness. According, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord which he had spoken concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh. This man is now put on the shelf.

You know there's nothing worse. Nothing could happen worse to a man of God than to be put on the shelf and lose his anointing. Do you believe that? To lose the touch of God.

Now Ezekiel understood this same thing. Remember when he was... In fact, go to Ezekiel. The rest of my message will be in Ezekiel anyhow.

Go to Ezekiel. The 43rd chapter of Ezekiel. Ezekiel understood this same principle.

We read it before. I want you to read it again. Verse 19.

You shall give to the Levitical priests who are from the offsprings of Zadok, who draw near to me to minister to me. Alright. I want you to notice that verse.

Look at it. This describes the ministry of Zadok. It's not a ministry to man.

It's a ministry to the Lord. The thing that characterizes the Zadok priesthood is a ministry unto the heart of God. It's not directed to man.

It's not man-centered. It's centered on God. It's centered on the Lord.

This is a priesthood out of a priesthood. Who out of the sons. It's come out of the other priesthoods.

This has come out of the Eli priesthood. This is a separated priesthood. This is a ministry unto God Himself, unto His heart.

Now, I'm going to take you into Ezekiel 44. And friends, I tremble when I see this. But look at verse, in 44, verse 15 and 16.

Verse 15. But the Levitical priests, Ezekiel 44, verse 15. The Levitical priests, the who? Who is it? Sons of Zadok who kept charge of my sanctuary.

The sons of Israel went astray from me. They shall come near to me. And what is the ministry of the Zadok priesthood? To minister to me.

They shall stand before me to offer me the fat and the blood declares the Lord God. Verse 16. They shall enter my sanctuary.

They shall come near to my table to minister to me. And keep my charge. That means these are men of prayer.

These are holy sanctified men who minister to my heart. Let me show you one of the characteristics. Verse 23.

Moreover, they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and the profane. And cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. You know, a man who waits on God.

A man that's holy and pure. That is the ministry, the characteristic of his ministry. He can show the difference between the clean and the unclean.

The pure and the profane. He said this priesthood that ministers unto me will show my people the difference. Look at verse 28.

And it shall be with regard to an inheritance for them. These are the sons of Zadok. That I am their inheritance.

You shall give them no possession in Israel. For I am their possession. These men have nothing else on their mind but the glory of God.

They're not materialistic minded. Now it doesn't mean that you can't own things. But you don't abuse those things.

You don't become attracted to those things. You're willing to walk away from them at any time. These are men who are not tied to this world.

This is a holy Zadok priesthood who ministered to the Lord. Now I want to show you how the curse of Eli fell during the time of Ezekiel. Ezekiel prophesied of a priesthood that's coming in these last days that's very frightening.

You know, Jimmy Swaggart asked me a question once. I was preaching for him there for a few days at his Bible school and also to dedicate his new church. He said, David, why is it that God keeps letting some of these ministries go on and on? They never seem to be judged.

Why didn't God bring them down? And I know what he's talking about. He's talking about certain television ministries that are corrupt. If you have any discernment here, you know who they are.

You know who they are. You know whether it's self. You know whether Christ is exalted.

You know, I don't have television, but back when I did and I was watching some of those interview type shows, I would weep and cry and say, oh my God, is this what we're showing the world as representative of what Jesus is? Is this what Jesus is supposed to be? This is abominable. And you know, the scripture says that my prophets have become bags of wind and my people love to have it so. My people love it that way.

People send money. Dear little, precious little old ladies, little elderly women send their last dollar to these ministries. These ministries that are of a biathar, of an Eli priesthood, that are worshiping at the stone of Zahelith.

There's not a Zadok man among them. But he said, why do they continue? And I used to think that if a man had sin in his life, he couldn't build a big church, a great church. I thought if a man had sin in his life, that God would come along and expose him and he'd fall in front of everybody.

Well, you remember what God said to a biathar, your ministry is going to be at the altar. I'm not going to cut it off. I won't cut it off.

It's going to be there. And I want to show you this. In fact, Bob Phillips was the first to show this to me.

And when I saw it, I bowed my head. I bowed my head on the table and cried like a baby. Go with me to verse 44, verse 5. Ezekiel 44, verse 5. And the Lord said to me, son of man, mark well, see with your eyes and hear with your ears all that I say to you concerning all the statutes of the house of the Lord and concerning all its laws.

And mark well the entrance of the house with all exits of the sanctuary. You see that? Mark well the entrance and the exit. This says that there are going to be men of God that pervert the entrance and hide the exits.

These are men of God called by God who are of the biathar Eli priesthood. They have idolatry in their heart. And they don't know how to bring people into the fullness of Jesus Christ.

It's a shallow kind of thing that they preach. Their people are shallow. They can't take them on because they're perverting the entrances and they're hiding the exits.

And when some of the people in the house of God get all involved in false doctrines and cults and new things come along, the poor man is hiding the exits. He can't get the people out of that bondage because he doesn't know how. He has no discernment.

He doesn't have the Word in him. He's perverting the entrances and hiding the exits. All right.

Now look at this. Verse 6, you shall say to the rebellious ones to the house of Israel, thus says the Lord God, enough of all your abominations to the house of Israel. Verse 8, you have not kept charge of my holy things yourselves.

You set foreigners to keep charge of my sanctuary. By the way, who do you think those foreigners are that we've set in the sanctuary? Rock and rollers, punkers, choreographers, music, entertainment. He said you have brought foreigners into my holy place.

You've not kept charge of my holy things. Verse 9, thus says the Lord God, no foreigner uncircumcised in heart and uncircumcised in faith of all the foreigners who are among the sons of Israel shall enter my sanctuary. Now look at verse 10.

This is frightening. Pastor, folks, look at me just a minute. Before we read this, don't get ahead of me.

If what I'm about to read to you doesn't make you weep and sigh, you don't know God. If you have a heart for a pure ministry, if you have a heart for men of God with a Zadok heart, this should tear your soul apart. The reason I wept because I've been there.

And having been there, I recognize it when I see it. And I see it everywhere I turn today. Look at verse 10.

But the Levites, who are the Levites? The ministers. The Levites who went far from me when Israel went astray, who went astray from me after their idols. Now what did they do? They've gone astray.

They've gone after idols. They shall bear the punishment for their iniquity. That means they're going to have to stay on it.

I'm not delivering them from this burden. It's a burden of shame. It's a burden of priesthood.

It's rebellious. He said, yep, they're going to stand before the people going through the motions, slaughtering to burn, offering their sacrifice to the people. Look at verse 12.

Because they ministered to them before their idols. This man is ministering to their idolatry. Listen.

Could you look this way for just a moment? I've got a dear friend in Los Angeles who called me last week. He's been on the church board there for years of a large Assembly of God church in Southern California. He was with me in Poland.

And he came home from Poland. Now it so happens that this Assembly of God church has as its pastor one of the godliest men I've ever met. But he's not a showboat.

He's kind of meek and slow. And he doesn't want to be known. He doesn't want to be accepted.

He's not a playboy. He's not a socializer. And when this brother came home from Poland, he called me back and he said, Bill Dave, I'm heartbroken.

We had 75 people in our church hand out a petition to remove the pastor. You know why? Because he doesn't fit the Southern California lifestyle. And every one of those people drink.

But you see, he doesn't fit the lifestyle. When I called my friend and said, You tell him right away to stand in or don't dare let him move. Let them leave, not him.

Let them leave. There are 600 others that stand with him. Let them come to the surface.

But you see, they didn't want him because they said, Well, we know he's a holy man. We know he knows the Word, but he doesn't fit us. Doesn't fit our style.

You ever heard anything? You've heard things like that, haven't you? You've been treated like that, haven't you, some time? But you see, if that church becomes corrupted like that, you know what will happen? God will remove this holy man and He'll bring somebody in the pulpit who will socialize with them and pat them on the back and send all their kids to hell. He'll send them a Biathar. He'll put a Biathar priest in their pulpit to minister to their idols.

Verse 12, Because they ministered to them before their idols and became a stumbling block of iniquity to the house of Israel, I am sworn against them, declares the Lord. They shall bear the punishment of their sins. They shall not come near to me to serve as a priest to me, nor will they come near to any of my holy things to the things that are most holy.

But they shall bear their shame and their abominations which they have committed. Now look at this shameful verse. Look at the next verse.

Yet I will appoint them to keep charge of the house of all its service and all that shall be done in it. I'm going to appoint them. I'm going to appoint them.

Do you know why we've got these ungodly television programs and our God's appointed them? The people have idolatry in their hearts. They don't want the truth. God will give them pastors and preachers and evangelists that will minister to their idols.

You show me a church that doesn't want to go on with God. Brother, if you're a praying man and your church won't go on with you, God will bring you to a church that does want to go on. You can pray for that or change the people and get them out.

If you'll quit thinking about numbers, I'd rather have a holy people. We have a Cho cult in America. I love Dr. Cho from Korea.

We've got a Cho cult in America. It's a cult. Big is better.

No it's not. You tell that to Gideon. I think I like what Brother Ravenhill says.

All these people concerned about abortion. That's good. But he said, I'm more concerned about the Evangelical Holocaust at our altars, the aborted babies at our altars.

I'll appoint them. Now that hit me. Especially when you've got a newspaper clipping this last week from Los Angeles.

One of the churches in Los Angeles, it's a Bible church. It's not a Pentecost, but it's a Bible church. 15,000 members, one of the biggest churches in America.

In fact, you can pick up any Christian magazine and you'll find a series on marriage there. How to have a happy marriage. And this pastor of one of the largest churches in Southern California just had a newspaper expose of his exploits of adultery.

Right on the front page. And I've got a friend who knows a deacon in the church and he said, why isn't your deacon board dealing with these documentations? Terrible documentations of repeated, repeated adultery over many years. You know what the deacon said? We don't care.

He's a good preacher. We don't care. He's a good preacher.

One woman called my friend and said, hey look, my husband didn't go to church for 15 years and he's going to church now because he likes that man. I'll tell you why he likes that man. Because the man doesn't preach against sin.

He goes to church in keeping his sin. I'll appoint him to keep charge of my house. When I see a man build some great thing, that doesn't impress me at all.

Because you don't even need God to build a big church. Nowadays, you could be a good businessman and you can do that. You'd be a good administrator and you can build a big church today.

I know a man who went to California and said, you know these things you do in California, you can build a church overnight. He went into Southern California, took an ad in all the papers, he and his crew stayed at the motel. First Sunday he had 400.

Then three months he had 1,000. But you see, those who are preaching the Zadok ministry, those who are showing the people their iniquities, are not drawing the big crowds. Because people are not ready for reproof nowadays.

People don't want the reproof. Do you know who the greatest men of God I know now? I didn't even know they existed until God got me off my high horse. I have men come up to me that only have 80 and 100 people in their church or less.

And these men know God. I'm not saying it's good to be little. Of course, I know some that have 5,000 in their church are great men of God.

You see, God doesn't want anything to do with that anymore. That's gone. God's looking for pure hearts.

He's looking for men whose hearts yearn after Him, who love their sin, who feel this grief against sin and stand before the congregation and say, I don't care what it costs me. If it costs me my pulpit, I'm going to go out and dig a ditch. I'm going to preach His Word.

You'll be holy before God. He said, these kind of men, they shall not come near to Me, nor to any of My holy things. They shall bear their shame.

God said, I'll let them preach to the house, but they'll not come near My table. I'll let them minister to the people, but they won't minister to Me because that belongs to Zadok. Hallelujah! The devoted man to the heart of Jesus.

And I want that more and I want life itself to be devoted completely to Him. Folks, my throat is about to give out. I've got a whole lot more on this one subject, but I'm going to ask Bob to come and pick up the rest of the service.

You're going to be... I would say, Bob, go to 1215. I'll give you an hour and ten minutes. And then this afternoon, Brother Bob... Brother Bob is such a dear, precious, righteous man of the Lord.

He went to seminary and his heart broke because at the seminary, those teachers didn't know God. Then, through his own study, the Lord showed him all the false doctrines of security. The false doctrines of false security that the church had ministered on.

Bob hasn't ministered to many, many gospels. He's ministered to a number of charismatics. But I said, Bob, you're going to enjoy because these men are prepared and there's open hearts.

You see, when he preached to Baptist ministers, the first thing he had to do was deal with the matter of false security. And you may be a Baptist here and we're not going to get into that doctrinal issue. All Bob's going to do is give you the Word.

He's truly a Spirit-filled man, truly baptized with the Holy Ghost, a man of God. And when you hear him, you'll know that God has touched him with the Word. There's a strong Word that's going to come forth.

Don't miss this afternoon. Boy, it's going to be powerful. Bob is probably going to take us into Zephaniah and some of the prophets.

We're prayer partners. We have one burden, singular burden now, to see the ministry purify. And I want you to know that both Bob and I have come under the refining fires of the Holy Ghost.

If you've been on my mailing list and followed my ministry, you know the refining fires. Cancer after cancer in my family. And all kinds of refining fires.

And God's not finished. He's just begun the work. I don't know about you, but I'm hungry.

I'm hungry for God. And I'll tell you what, you better have your Bible out. The Bible wants you to come and open your heart right now.

Go right on to 12.15 if you will.

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