Turn on the lights

I. 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (KJV)
And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision.

1. Vs 1

   **spiritual climate:**

   1. "word of the Lord precious in those days"

   a. **Def Precious:** rare

      (1) there was no prophetic flow..... **It was an uncommon season**

      (a) 1Chron 20:20Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.

      (1) **Def Prosper:** to break out, to go over, to push forward

      (2) **Def Established:** to. Build up, support, become steadfast and faithful

   b. When there word of the Lord becomes rare, when prophetic Ministry is absent
(1) many times God's people are not established and are not steadfast in their walk with God and ministry
(a) with no prophetic word giving them confirmation
(b) people do not receive the edification, exhortation and comfort Needed for taking steps of faith 1 Cor 14:3
(c) with no prophetic ministry people will not be equipped with Spiritual weapons to overcome while in the midst of spiritual Warfare 1 Tim 1:18

(2) and find themselves unable to
(a) break out of what holds them bound
(b) not able to go over into their divine destiny
(c) and become spiritually stagnant instead of pushing forward Into God's destiny for their life

B. 1 Sam 3:1 "there was no open vision"
   1. Prv 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish
      a. Def Perish: naked, expose, uncover
         (1) when people lack vision they have a tendency to come out From under spiritual covering becoming spiritually naked
         (a) one translation states; "they will cast off restraint"
         (2) when people have no vision they have a tendency to go off In their own direction And desires thus coming out from under
         (a) the spiritual covering of their Heavenly Father
         (b) or the spiritual covering of the local church & spiritual father
            God desires to set them in
   2. In this season uncommon of Israel
      a. It's spiritual leaders were not casting vision
      b. they had no direction for life, serving God & ministry
      c. Could you imagine coming to temple and the priests have no Open no vision, no direction
         (1) that is called a wilderness mentality and it is the very mentality ministers and Christians have when they have No vision
         (2) Having a vision is vital during uncommon seasons
(a) vision helps you chart your course out of the wilderness
(b) God’s plan, purpose, vision, prophetic word does not change for your life just because it is an uncommon season

3. Apostle Paul ran into an uncommon season when Arrested and put in jail
   a. Jesus comes to Paul and told him your going to Rome to Preach the Gospel
   b. next Paul finds himself on a ship in the midst of a hurricane Then an angel came to Paul reminding him that God’ plan Had not changed just because he is in the midst of the storm
(1) Acts 27:23For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,
   24[Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Cæsar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.]
(a) during uncommon seasons we must stand upon the last Rhema God spoke to us from His word
(b) we must continue to stand upon and do warfare with the last prophetic word we
(c) we must continue to do the last thing God instructed us to
In ministry

C. We discover the **spiritual condition** of the leadership in the life Of Eli in vs 2
1. "Eli..... His eyes began to wax dim ... He could not see"
   a. A description the condition of his spiritual insight & spiritual vision

2. We assee that Eli was negligent in his spiritual responsibilities of his priestly ministry in regards to his sons in ministry:
   a. **Failed to deal with the sin of his sons**
      (1) 1 Samuel 3:12In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end.
1 Samuel 13: For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the *iniquity which he knoweth*; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.

(a) if Born Again we are priests of God Rev 1:6 & 5:10 .... What Are you turning a blind eye to in your house?

(b) **Eli is a prophetic picture of Spiritual fathers**, Five Fold Ministry Gifts who fail to deal with:

(1) the sin in the lives of their *spiritual sons* whom they have Raised up in ministry

(2) as well as the sin in lives of the members of their congregation whom they pastor

(c) as well as a prophetic pictures of *fathers* who have failed To assume the spiritual responsibilities in their homes

And lives of their children

b. **Eli was a spiritual leader who lost his spiritual discernment**

(1) in 1 Sam 1 we find a woman named Hannah who was barren

(a) vs 10 informs us she was praying in the temple with Bitterness in soul, pouring her heart out to God

(b) 1 Samuel 1:12 And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the Lord, that Eli marked her mouth.

13[Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken.]

14[And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.]

15[And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I ] am[ a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the ] Lord[.]

(1) not only has Eli’s natural eyes gone dim in seeing

(2) so had his spiritual discernment gone dim, he could not Tell the Difference from a drunk than from someone in
deep Intersession pouring their hear out to God
c. vs 3 "lamp of God went out in the temple"
(1) type of the life of Holy Spirit ..... Fire of God
(a) in the life of a Born Again believer
(b) in the life of a local church
(c) also this lamp in the temple is a type of the Word of God
(1) that is a lamp to our feet & light to our path
(2) lamp no longer burning in many churches ... Not preaching truth
(a) rather preaching the traditions of man
(b) and doctrines of devils
(2) lamp of God went out due to Eli neglecting his priestly Responsibilities
(a) while the lamp of God went out in the sanctuary & while God was speaking to Samuel in vs 2 tells us that Eli was sleeping
(3) Rev 2:4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.
5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.
(a) this is where many believers and churches are today
(1) life, light, & fire of God gone out ..... Unless they repent The Lord will remove the candle stick from their midst In the spirit realm
(2) in the temple / in church ..... Doing ministry ..... But the Lights have gone .... But the lights have gone out
(a) Matthew 5:14Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
(1) someone needs to turn on the lights
(a) in the local church
(b) in the life of the believer
(1) letting the light of Jesus, life of Holy Spirit, power of God, shining in the midst of darkness
(2) proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ
(3) prophesying the Word of the Lord
(4) someone needs to turn on the lights

D. Look where Samuel was spiritually as God was calling him:
   1. 1 Samuel 3: 7Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, neither was the word of the Lord yet revealed unto him.
      a. Samuel did not know the Lord nor was the word of the Lord Revealed to Samuel
         (1) and Samuel grew up in the temple
         (2) and was actively serving in the temple
   2. How many have grown up in church today, yet do not know God
      a. Not had a personal encounter with presence of God, power of God, not exposed to word of the Lord
         (1) judges 2:10 And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.
          (a) each generation must have their own encounter with God
          (b) each generation must have fresh fire in their lamp

E. Each generation must personally respond the to voice of God & Call of God
   1. Eli tells Samuel to respond to the voice & call Of God
      a. 1 Samuel 3:9Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, Speak, Lord; for servant heareth.
         (1) "speak, Lord for thy servant hearth"
         (a) Def hearth: to give ear, discern and to obey
         (1) like Samuel this generation in the church today must develop a Servants Heart
(2) like Samuel we need to develop our spiritual ear so we can Discern the voice of God
(3) like Samuel we need to step out in obedience in regards To the word of God & word of the Lord spoken over our Life
(4) Eli reveals to Samuel how to position himself in order to Develop an uncommon ear in an uncommon season so He may be able to hear Word of the Lord
(a) Speak Lord ..... Your servant hears
(b) or in other words "not my will, but thine be done"
(c) Samuel was saying: Lord whatever you have to say, Whatever you want me to do for your glory Whatever you want to do in my life
(1) Samuel said: I am listening, I will receive it, I will obey, I will do what you called me to do
(2) even though this is an uncommon season
(3) even though lights are gone out ..... I will obey and Be the one to relight the lamp in the temple / church

III. Let show you another uncommon season that also is in the Church today:
Judges 2:10And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.
Joshua 5:5Now all the people that came out were circumcised: but all the people that were born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt, them they had not circumcised.

A. This is where much of the church is today:
1. Pastors standing on the verge of there promise land
   a. But leading a generation that:
      a. Has not been circumcised / or not walking in Covenant Relationship with God
      b. a generation who has not personally experienced the power Of God
c. A generation not filled with the Holy Ghost and not seeking to be
   (1) you cannot take an uncircumcised generation into their Promise land .... Prophetic destiny
   (2) Philippians 3:3 For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.
   (a) **Def Worship**: to minister, to serve
   (b) the circumcised in heart have no confidence in flesh
   (c) they do not do ministry in the flesh
   (d) they do not worship in flesh
   (e) the circumcised in heart flow in the Holy Spirit life & Anointing
   (f) only the circumcised in heart walk in obedience, surrender And submission to The Lord & enter into their destiny

2. **What do we do in this uncommon season?**
   a. Joshua 5:7 And their children, whom he raised up in their stead, them Joshua circumcised: for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them by the way. 8[And it came to pass, when they had done circumcising all the people, that they abode in their places in the camp, till they were whole.]
   (1) In this uncommon season we do what Joshua did
      **Circumcise their hearts**
   (2) we do what Samuel did we position ourselves and say:
      (a) **Speak Lord ... Your servants hears**

III. Due to Samuel's response we discover there is hope for the next Generation .... There is hope in this uncommon season as we Develop an uncommon ear that can hear & respond to the Voice and call of God
   A. 1 Samuel 3:19 And Samuel **grew**, and **the Lord was with him**, and did let none of his words fall to the ground. 1 Samuel 3:20-21 (KJV)
20And all Israel from Dan even to Beer–sheba knew that Samuel was established to be a prophet of the Lord.
21[And the ] Lord[ appeared again in Shiloh: for the ] Lord[ revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the ] Lord[.]

1. Samuel come to know the Lord intimately
2. No longer was the word of the Lord rare
3. The lamp in the temple was burning again
   a. he turned on the lights in Israel in the midst of an uncommon Season

B. Will we be the ones to turn on the lights in America
   1. Will we be the ones to turn on the lights in the nations
   2. Will we be the ones to turn on the lights and keep the fire Of God burning
      a. In our local church
      b. in our home
      (1) do you have an uncommon ear in the midst of this uncommon Season
      (2) will we position ourselves as Samuel did and say
         (a) Speak Lord ... Your servant hears