

The Purpose of our Children's Dedication

1 Sam 1:27-28 — Our children who are prayed for, our Father grants to us. Children are a gift from Yahweh, and so we parents who have prayed for them to be born now grant them back to Him to be used for His purpose only — dedicated to Yahweh. Verse 20 — Conceived from a billion sperm cells — one made it to the ovum and was accepted. This was Shemuel, whom she had prayed for in verse 11.

For the sake of the Male Child our generations must have the heart of Hannah in order to fulfill all that the prophets have spoken (Rev 14:1-5; 6:9-11). Not that they would take the Old Covenant vow to never cut their hair, etc., but that they would have the heart that is dedicated to Yahweh (1 Sam 1:17-28; 2:1-11).

Then we see Eli and his sons (1 Sam 2:12-17), and we see Shemuel (verse 18), and again Eli's sons (verses 22-31).

Shemuel was a child dedicated to Yahweh. His whole life was devoted to serving Yahweh. He was led by the Spirit of Yahweh to free the nation from Philistine dominion and bring together the twelve tribes in preparation for a united kingdom under the reign of David.

So our personal consecration from our being dedicated all the days of our lives, or until Messiah returns, is to bring the Kingdom to earth. Our children's dedication is vital to fulfilling the will of our Father by the Gospel of the Kingdom being preached as a witness, to bring about Mt 21:43 and 24:14. That can only come about in the last days, at the very end of the age (Mt 24:14).

Parents train up their children to be great in sports, in scholarship, in professional fields in their degrees, to become famous, to leave a legacy. But when the sun sets and the moon rises and the stars come out, those parents make no big deal about the fact that they were born to rule over galaxies. This is what dedication meant, unless it was a meaningless ceremony.

The foundation of Shemuel's dedication is still in effect through us (Mt 21:43). The fruit of the Kingdom is the unity of the twelve tribes as a witness — what our Master prayed for in Jn 17:21-23 — a united kingdom of twelve tribes, the foretaste of the coming kingdom, which we pray for at every morning and evening sacrifice (Mt 6:9-11; Mal 1:11; 1 Pet 2:9-10). The united kingdom of twelve tribes under David was a type of this coming kingdom, and Shemuel's dedication that made it possible was a type of our children's dedication.

Unless there is a witness, the Kingdom won't come. We are here to bring about Mt 24:14 through bearing the fruit of Mt 21:43. *Edah* (#5712) in Jer 30:20 means *witness, swarm, community* (NIV). This is the kingdom we pray for as one man as Rom 12:1-2.

It takes a community, and a community takes love. Without love there is no community, and without community there is no Kingdom. Jn 13:35 and 17:23 go together, just like love and marriage. It still takes love to live together in community. Without love there is no trusting, no belief. Acts 2:44 and Jn 3:16 go together, showing what it means to *believe*.

1 Jn 3:16 defines love in community. 1 Jn 3:16 takes a community, and the very same belief (Jn 3:16) as in the first century (Acts 2:44). The love of 1 Jn 3:16 creates a community. Without this love no one has passed out of death and into life (1 Jn 3:14,23). That is the litmus test of 1 Jn 5:12-13.

And all this cannot come about through *strange fire*¹ (Lev 10:1), but only by the Flame of our God, from His censer.

¹ See also *Strange Fire* (2005.01.12-T01).