

Intro:

WLC 145: “neglecting such things as are of good report ... hindering what we can ... procure an ill name.”

Main Point of Text: Eli’s sons wouldn’t hear his appeal to stop sinning, because they didn’t care about their noble office.

Sermon Point: *Live a good report.*

Move 1: *Live carefully to preserve your good reputation.*

LC: “practicing or not avoiding ourselves ... such as procure an ill name”:

- Prov. 5:8-9: *Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house: Lest thou give thine honour unto others, and thy years unto the cruel.*
- Tamar to Amnon: *And she answered him, Nay, my brother, do not force me; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel: do not thou this folly. And I, whither shall I cause my shame to go? and as for thee, thou shalt be as one of the fools in Israel ...* (2 Sam. 13:12-13) Father wroth (vs. 21). Brother killed (28-29).

Move 2: *Help others live carefully to preserve their good reputations.*

LC: “not hindering what we can in others, such things as procure an ill name”:

- Prov. 6:32-33: *... whoso committeth adultery with a woman ... destroyeth his own soul. A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away.* (Pro 6:32-33) Notice how often the Scriptures bring up a dishonorable reputation with adulterers? Keep a chaste culture.
- 1 Sam. 3:11-14 (esp. 13) Lack of correction (forced discipline due to his superior office).

Move 3: *Purposely live out your chief end.*

LC: “neglecting such things as are of good report”: Eli’s lack of action spoke volumes about his leadership, caused end of for his sons/him. 1 Sam. 2:22-25 (esp. 24): “report”, news, revelation, hearing. Notice all “hear/heard”. Lack of discipline by superior brings reputation of coward, weak, hypocrite. Instead, **1 Pet. 2:12** *Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.* WSC 1.

Conclusion:

Acts 10:22; 22:12; 3 John:3-4, 12; 1 Tim. 3:7; Heb. 11:2, 39; Prov. 15:30.

Live a good report.