

Intro:

1 Sam. 2:25: *If one man sin against another, the judge shall judge him: but if a man sin against the LORD, who shall intreat for him? ...*

READ WLC Q&A 151:2: “from the persons offended”. Worse one to offend is God: especially in worship.

Main Point of Text: Earthly judges will discipline you for disrespecting their rule; God will destroy you for defying His reign.

Sermon Point: *Don't Disrespect God in His Own House.*

Move 1: Don't disrespect anyone in life.

LC: “against any of the saints, particularly weak brethren, the souls of them, or any other, and the common good of all or many”:

- Josh. 22:20: Achan's sin: *wrath fell on all the congregation of Israel? and that man perished not alone in his iniquity.* Not just sins that directly offend, but indirectly affect.
- Persecutions and martyrdoms of Christians. Shall be severely punished: Rev. 17:6ff.

LC: “particularly weak brethren”:

- Children. Matt. 18:6. Last time, context: greater sin of pride of position/influence. Here, those hurt.
- Young in faith: 1 Cor. 8:11-12: *... through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ.*

Move 2: Show special respect for those God puts over you in all spheres of life.

LC: “against superiors”: 5th Commandment. 1 Sam. 2:25, “judge” is “Elohim” (Ex. 21; 22).

- “men of eminency”: level of respect in society, especially higher rank.
 - Jude 8: compared to Sodom and Gomorrha ... suffering the vengeance of eternal fire: *Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.*
 - Num. 12:8-9: Aaron/Miriam challenged Moses' authority: *... wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses? And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them ...*
- “such as we stand especially related and engaged unto”: Peter/Judas w/ Jesus. Children to parents.
 - Prov. 30:17: *The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.* Envision this image.
 - Prov. 6:16-17a. Especially in worship: more on this with WLC 160.

Move 3: Most importantly, respect God, particularly in worship.

LC: “if immediately against God ...”: Third Commandment. Vain: “empty”. All sins are. Psalm 51:4: *Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight ...*

Take heed of the ways you sin against God by sinning against:

- LC: “attributes”: Rom. 2:4
- “worship”: Mal 1:8, 14. Heb. 13:15: offer thankful sacrifices of praise.
- “Christ by His grace ... Holy Spirit, his witness and workings”: Warnings from Hebrews:
 - 2:1-4; 10:29; 12:25.
 - Jesus speaks here as Son over Father’s House: Hebrews 3:6. Be careful how you act here.

Conclusion:

1 Sam. 2:25:

- ... *if a man sin against the LORD, who shall intreat for him? ...*
- Rhetorical: offend God, the Alpha and Omega, Beginning and the End, it will be your utter end.
- Sins of Eli’s sons were as priests and done in God’s temple. 1 Sam. 2:12-17, 22
- God judged them and Eli (a poor Judge over Israel in this respect) with immediate death and final annihilation of their house: 1 Sam. 3:13-14; 4:1, 17, 18; 1 Kings 2:27.

Reason annexed to 3rd Commandment: ... *the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain:*

- WSC 53: *The reason annexed to the third commandment is, That however the breakers of this commandment may escape punishment from men, yet the Lord our God will not suffer them to escape his righteous judgment.*
- Acts 5:4: ... *thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.* In Christian gathering: God’s house (Eph. 2:19).

Don’t Disrespect God in His Own House.