

LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY

PROGRAM 1 (#912116)

WEEK 1 (#912325)

©2012 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL



PRECEPTS FOR LIFE

a Production of

Precept Ministries International

P.O. Box 182218, Chattanooga, TN 37422-7218

1-888-734-7707/ www.preceptsforlife.com

The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: Living For God's Glory

TITLE: Program 1 – Guarding The Glory Of God

MONDAY

OPEN

Why are these such critical times in America? Why are we having so much trouble as a nation? Listen carefully: I believe that it is because the church collectively is not longing for truth. I believe it's because the church collectively is not guarding the glory of God and therefore it's impacted our society. What does that mean to you? We'll talk about it today.

PART ONE

Hello, Beloved. I am so excited about this three-week series on guarding the glory of God. You know I could title it "Guarding Your Glory." And you're gonna see why in just a few minutes. But I want to tell you why I opened the program this way: talking about our nation being in trouble, talking about what's happening, these times of distress that America is experiencing and the why of it all. I told you that the why of it all is really what is happening in the church. And I believe it's because as it says in Isaiah, "...**Truth has stumbled in the street, and uprightness cannot enter.**" (Isaiah 59:14)

LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY

PROGRAM 1 (#912116)

WEEK 1 (#912325)

©2012 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL



[Those who hold to truth make themselves a prey.] (PARAPHRASE Isaiah 59:15) What has happened? We have neglected the Word of God. And when you neglect the Word of God then the glory of God, in your mind, diminishes. As I wrote the new Precept course on the book of Jeremiah, I was struck by Jeremiah chapter 2 and I want to take you there for just a minute. In Jeremiah chapter 2, verse 11 it says this. **“Has a nation changed gods when they were not gods? But My people...,”** listen carefully to the way He says it, **“...[But] My people have changed their glory for that which does not profit.” (Jeremiah 2:11)** When I read that I thought, “God, what do You mean, ‘My people have changed their glory for that which does not profit’”? I thought all glory belonged to God. And as I began to study it, and we’re going to do a study of Jeremiah later because I want to talk to you this week about what happens when a nation lets go of the glory of God; what happens when the glory of God departs from a nation. And we’re going to see that in the Old Testament. And it says, **“...My people have changed their glory for that which does not profit.” (Jeremiah 2:11)** What is our glory as a child of God? Our glory is who God is. And when you and I glorify Him that means that I live in such a way that people can see who God is because I’m living differently than the world. And this is why I believe that what is happening in our nation is happening because the church collectively has, in a sense, changed their glory, which is who God is, for that which does not profit. These three weeks on the glory of God can become absolutely revolutionary in your life. Now I know that we hear a lot of stuff when we turn on the television, especially of how “this is just the most incredible message and it’s gonna change your life.” But listen, any message that takes you to the Word of God, any message that puts up in truth—not manipulating, not distorting the Word of God, but in truth—Who God is, so that you can really see who He is, and it causes you, in a sense, to look into the mirror of who God is and see hey, how am I doing in reflecting His glory? Any message that does that, if you take the principles and the

LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY

PROGRAM 1 (#912116)

WEEK 1 (#912325)

©2012 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL



precepts that are taught from the Word of God and you apply them in your life, then you are changed, as 2 Corinthians says, [from glory to glory into the image of God.] (PARAPHRASE, 2 Corinthians 3:18) And then when you move in your world, in your society, and people see the difference in your lifestyle in the way that you dress, in the way that you act, in the way that you have your relationships, in the way that you do business, in your integrity, they see the contrasts. And what they see is it is possible to live life on a different plane. And they will do one of two things: They will look at it and they will say, “Hey, I don’t want that around because it makes me look bad.” They’ll look in the mirror, see what you can be—because you’re reflecting His glory—and they’ll say, “I don’t like it.” They’ll turn their back on it and then they will walk away because they don’t want that. And that’s what it means in Isaiah 59 when he says, “**...Truth has stumbled in the street, and uprightness cannot enter.**” (Isaiah 59:14) Those that hold to truth make themselves a prey because it is truth and beholding truth and the Word of God that changes you and me. Or there will be those that will look in the mirror of your life and they will say “Hey, I know now that life can be lived on a higher plain and I want to live that way.” And they will be drawn to you, because you know where the glory comes from and you know that it’s His glory, you in turn, Precious One, will draw them to God and be used in an incredible way that will have eternal ramifications. You know in 1 Thessalonians, in the second chapter, Paul says [Who is our joy or our crown of rejoicing at the appearing of Jesus Christ? Is it not you?] (PARAPHRASE, 1 Thessalonians 2:19) So as you reflect the glory of God, then what’s going to happen is, those that are drawn to you because of your different lifestyle and consequently are drawn to God, they become your joy. They become your crown of rejoicing. They become your glory, a trophy, so to speak, a trophy that is given to you because you have glorified God. So what are we going to do? We’re going to open the Word of God and we’re going to look at what happens when the glory of God departs from a nation.

LIVING FOR GOD'S GLORY

PROGRAM 1 (#912116)

WEEK 1 (#912325)

©2012 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL



And what I want to tell you I love you, and I love teaching you, and I love hearing from you, and I love your emails. And I want to answer each one of you. I want to respond to each one of you, but if I did, we wouldn't have a program. But I just want you to know that you can contact me by going to preceptsforlife.com, preceptsforlife, all—just make it one word, preceptsforlife.com. And when you go there, you want to download your free study guide for this series so that you can study along with us. Now you know that Precept Ministries International exists to help you discover truth for yourself, to discover truth, to go deeper and then to disciple others. And that's what we're here for. And if at any time in history this Ministry was needed it is needed now, because the days ahead are going to be very challenging days. Well, I want you to go to 1 Samuel, okay. And when we go to 1 Samuel, we're going to go to the fourth chapter of 1 Samuel. Now I've got to bring you up to date. I've got to put you into context, because remember when we study the Word of God, and this is what this program is all about, and all the tools that we offer you. And you can get introduced to those tools when you go on line. But all of this is designed to help you know truth. Because when you know the truth the truth sets you free. (See John 8:32) So when we study the Bible we always need to look at things in their context. The context is the setting. First Samuel is the last book in the Old Testament that tells you about the days of the Judges. The Judges ruled over Israel after they came out of the land of Canaan and they came over under Joshua and they took the land. Then after Joshua died and the elders died the children of Israel got into trouble because [every man was doing what was right in their own eyes.] (PARAPHRASE, Judges 21:25) And God had to judge them. So God raised up judges and He raised up those judges to rule over Israel. When you get to 1 Samuel you're in the last book that talks about the last judge of Israel. And the last judge of Israel is Samuel. So 1 Samuel opens up telling you how Samuel is born. He's an answer to prayer. He is a gift from God to a woman, who is barren, by the name of Hannah.

And Hannah just cries out to God for a son, and she says “God, if you will give me a child, I will give the child back to You.” (See 1 Samuel 1: 11) And so in 1 Samuel, you see her crying to God. In 2 Samuel you, I mean in 1 Samuel chapter 2, you see her rejoicing because God has given her this son and she has this fantastic prayer about God. Then we see Samuel growing up. But now the ones that are ruling as a judge before Samuel, as Samuel grows up, is Eli, the priest. And I want to tell you something; it’s in his life that we see the glory of God depart. So there are lessons for us and we’ll look at them in just a minute.

PART TWO

Welcome back. And I have to say it again; I am so sorry. But Beloved of God, you know, some men think: Beloved; she’s calling me “Beloved.” Well, that’s what God calls you. And if you read through the New Testament, especially the letters, you will see Paul and Peter and calling them “Beloved, Beloved, Beloved.” And you are Beloved. Thank you for studying. Well, I left you talking about Eli; Eli, who was the judge before Samuel. You almost don’t know it until you read the text. And I told you that it is because of Eli and the children of Israel, it’s because of them that the glory of God departed from Israel. Let’s look at it and let’s learn the Word, ’cause you need to know the Word. But in knowing the Word, then we get to know God. And when we get to know God, then we know and have a true opinion, or estimate of Him, we see His glory, and we understand His glory. And then in understanding His glory we know how to live so that we glorify Him. Well, I told you that Eli was a bad guy. And I want to show you this in 1 Samuel chapter 2. And it’s telling you a story of what would happen. Now Samuel’s a young boy. He’s growing up. Eli, the priest is taking care of him so he lives in the Temple area. And by the way, it’s at Shiloh and I’ve been to Shiloh; and you can’t go there right now because it’s not the safest place to be, and so when we go to Israel every

year, we only take you the safest places. But I was teaching one day in Shiloh and I was teaching on what happened, what I'm telling you here, and I said to those people, "You're sitting where the Holy of Holies went." They went "Oh, oh, oh, oh!" This is where the tabernacle was put up. This is where the tent of meeting was. This is where Eli would go about his business. But what was happening? In 1 Samuel chapter 2, verse 22 it says this: **"Now Eli was very old; and he heard all that his sons were doing to all [of] Israel, and how they lay with the women who served at the doorway of the tent of meeting."** (1 Samuel 2:22) Listen, Eli was the priest. His sons therefore, by their birthright, were to work in the tabernacle. They were to service the tabernacle. And what are these guys doing? The women are coming to minister and bring their sacrifices and that, and those guys, those sons of Eli are sleeping with those women. I want to ask you a question. How does it feel when you hear about someone who is in a prominent position, especially who claims to be a Christian and you find out that they're fornicating? You find out that they're committing adultery. You find out that they're immoral. You know what it does to the nation when we see immorality in our leadership—or it should do something to the nation. It gives a poor opinion, a terrible estimate of our leaders. And yes, excuse me, but their morals have everything to do with their carrying out their office, because it is a lack of integrity that causes them to be immoral. And if they can cheat there, they can cheat other places. So this is what was happening. It says, **"...and how they lay with the women who served at the doorway of the tent of meeting. [And] he said to them...."** Eli said to his sons, now listen, **"...‘Why do you do such things, the evil things that I hear from all these people? No, my sons; for the report is not good which I hear the LORD'S people circulating.’"** (1 Samuel 2:22-24) In other words, they were talking and that's the way people do. And so if you start sinning, or if you do something good, it will be talked about. And he says, **"If one man sins against another, God will mediate for him; but if a man sins**

against the LORD, who can intercede for him?” (1 Samuel 2:25) In other words, you’re sinning against God. It’s not just a sin against someone else. You are sinning against a holy God. You are not guarding your glory. You are not guarding the glory of God, in the way that you’re carrying out your responsibilities as a priest, you are not giving people a proper estimate of who God is. Now watch what he says. **“...But they would not listen to the voice of their father, for the LORD desired to put them to death.” (1 Samuel 2:25)** God had had it. He had it up to here. In His holiness, in His righteousness, and don’t ever forget this Beloved: God is a God of love. God first loved us. And here, in His love that God laid down His Son’s life for you and me so that He could be the payment for our sins. But you and I are not to trample under foot the blood of Jesus Christ. We’re not to say, “Oh, well, I’m saved. It doesn’t matter. I can get away with it.” No you can’t, because judgment begins; now listen carefully, at the house of the Lord. (See 1 Peter 4:17) So God desires to put him to death. And now we come to 1 Samuel chapter 2, verse 27. And it says, **“Then a man of God came to Eli and said to him, ‘Thus says the LORD....’” (1 Samuel 2:27)** When we are not honoring God as we should, God usually sends some kind of a message to us as a warning, as a chance for you and me to hear what God says and then to repent, to have a change of mind that results in a change of behavior. I always do repent this way. It’s a change of mind that leads to a change in your behavior, a change in the way you’re living. And the man said to Eli, **“... ‘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 for 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 and at My offering which I have commanded in My dwelling, and honor your sons above Me, by making yourselves fat with the choicest of every**

offering of My people...?” 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....”” He says, “...‘But now the LORD declares, ‘Far be it from Me—for those who honor Me I will honor....’” (1 Samuel 2:27-30) When you honor someone, you respond to their position. It is to give glory; honor is another word for glory, not necessarily here, but I’m just saying that glorifying someone and honoring someone, in essence are the same. What is going to happen as a result of this? And what’s gonna happen to America when we disregard the Word of God, the commandments of God, the statutes, the precepts of God and we don’t raise our children in the knowledge of God and we let them run morally amuck? What happens to a nation? Look at America and you and I are going to see what happens when the glory of God departs from a nation, from a people.