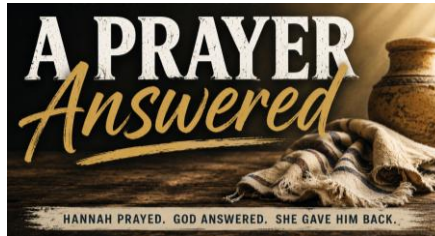


Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible

Scriptures for Today: 1 Samuel 1:10- 28 – God answers Hannah’s prayer; she gives him back!

Today’s Message:

“A Prayer Answered”



## INTRODUCTION

Last week, we introduced 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel with an overview and a high-level look at the context from Judges. There was no king in Israel, and every man did that which was right in his own eyes. Hannah had endured disappointment in life, evil provoking (the other wife and adversary), misunderstanding (from husband and priest), and helplessness ... and she was exactly where God needed her to be! Israel desperately needed to hear God, so He quietly began His work through one praying woman. God’s people needed a Samuel. So, God gave them a Hannah. What a God! This is God’s message to you.

## LEARNING TOGETHER

❖ The Text 1 Samuel 1:10-28

### A. Prayers Offered 1:10-18

1. Hannah prayed unto the Lord and made a **VOW** to Him.

**1Samuel 1:9** – So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh...

**1Samuel 1:10** – ...she was **in bitterness of soul**... PRAYED unto the LORD... **wept sore**.

**1Samuel 1:11** – And she **vowed a vow**, and said, O LORD of hosts, **IF** thou wilt indeed **look on the affliction** of thine handmaid, remember me... **not forget** ...handmaid, but wilt **give unto thine handmaid a man child**, **THEN I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life**, and there shall no razor... his head.

**1Samuel 1:12** – And it came to pass, **as she continued praying before the LORD**...

“Bitterness of soul... wept sore” – not bitter; hurting deeply; she took it to the Lord!

“Vowed a vow... IF...THEN” – not just a son... a son God can use for His **PURPOSES**!

“No razor... come upon his head” – connects to a Nazarite dedication (**Num 6:1-21**)

#### LORD of hosts

She is taking her request to the God of heavenly armies! The One who is all-powerful and ABLE.

#### God’s Plan

Hannah thinks she is asking God for a son.

However, God is preparing a prophet! God had a greater purpose for her suffering... and yours.

#### Philippians 4:6-7

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

#### Vows

Gen 31:13  
Jdg 11:30  
Ps 65:1  
Ecc 5:4-5

### KEY TRUTHS

- Hannah is praying to herself unto the Lord. God hears the prayer of her heart!
- Eli completely misunderstood her situation. God did not misunderstand her!
- Hannah was very gracious with her response. She was pouring out her soul!
- Eli does not give her a guarantee... yet, her **countenance** completely **CHANGES**!
- Nothing has changed, but Hannah has changed. She LEFT her **burden** with God!

“... and her countenance was no more sad.”

Prayers do not always immediately change the circumstance.  
Sometimes prayer changes the person facing the circumstance.  
Hannah went into prayer with a heavy heart; she walked away with peace!

**B. Promise Fulfilled 1:19-23**

2. God answered Hannah's prayer; she prepared to fulfil her **PROMISE** to Him.

**God Remembered**

**Noah** – Gen 8:1  
**Abraham** – Gen 19:29  
**Rachel** – Gen 30:22

**Answered Prayer**

God's answer created a new **responsibility**. God does not simply give us gifts for our enjoyment. He gives gifts that we are **responsible** to **STEWARDSHIP** for Him.

**Application**

What has God given you?  
 What are you doing with His gift?

**1Samuel 1:19** – ... *they rose up in the morning...* and **WORSHIPPED** before the LORD, ... and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and **the LORD remembered her**.

**1Samuel 1:20** – ... Hannah... **conceived**... she **bare a son**... called his name Samuel...

**1Samuel 1:21** – ...Elkanah... went up to offer unto the LORD the yearly sacrifice...

**1Samuel 1:22** – But Hannah went not up... I will not go up **until** the child be weaned, and **THEN I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD,** and **THERE ABIDE FOR EVER**.

**1Samuel 1:23** – ... Elkanah... said... **Do what seemeth thee good;** tarry until thou have weaned him; only the LORD establish his word. So the woman abode, and gave her son suck **UNTIL SHE HAD WEANED HIM**.

"The LORD remember her" – she was not forgotten; it was time for God to intervene!

"Then I will bring him... there abide for ever." – God did His part; she must do hers.

"Only the LORD establish his word." – answered prayer brings **stewardship**. **Ps 127:3**

**KEY TRUTHS**

- Hannah understood that God was faithful to give her what she had asked for.
- Hannah could not see all that God was doing – He had bigger plans! **Isa 55:8-9**
- Hannah is going to fulfil her vow. First she waits, cares, and **PREPARES** Samuel.

**C. Prophet Given 1:24-28**

3. Hannah was faithful to bring her son to God to fulfill His **PURPOSE** for his life!

**The True Test**

Hannah received her answer. She now had to choose whether to keep her word to God.

**1Samuel 1:24** – ... *when she had weaned him, she took him...* the child was young.

**1Samuel 1:25** – And **THEY** slew a bullock, and **brought the child to Eli**.

**1Samuel 1:26** – ... she said, Oh my lord, ... **I am the woman...** praying unto the LORD.

**1Samuel 1:27** – For **THIS CHILD I prayed;** and the LORD hath given me my petition...

**1Samuel 1:28** – **THEREFORE** also I have lent him to the LORD;

**as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD.**

And he **WORSHIPPED** the LORD there.

"Three bullocks... one ephah..." – she is coming prepared to worship and **SACRIFICE**.

"For this child I prayed" – Samuel was a gift from God – she prayed, God heard, God gave.

"And he **WORSHIPPED** the LORD there" – Who is the he? Samuel? Elkanah? Eli?

**KEY TRUTHS**

- If the "he" is Samuel – it is his first recorded response to this incredible story.
- Hannah's story is not ultimately about getting what **she wanted**.
- It is about **trusting God** with what mattered most to her in life. True **WORSHIP**!

**Spiritual Tension**

Hannah is giving her precious son into the care of Eli. The environment was not perfect!

**"... but the LORD had shut up her womb."**

God knew that His plan was going to hurt Hannah for a season.

She was going to have real pain and hurt and would not understand.

And we now see that it was worth it all! It will be worth it all when we see Jesus Christ!