

10/8/15

1Sam. 1

God has delivered His people from Egypt, made a covenant with them at Sinai and made them His people.

God gave them a land but they refused to enter in, so they wandered for forty years, the longest death march Israel has experienced.

Joshua brought them into the land but they compromised and the people followed the elder after the death of Joshua but the compromised.

They then went into the period the judges, 13, twelve men and one woman, no king was on the throne of Israel and every man was doing what was right in their own eyes, 300 plus years.

Now, God is ready to raise a King to establish His Kingdom and fulfill His promises through David's descendents.

This is a transitional period, as we have stated with an overlap of the period of judges, in fact Eli is the 14th judge and Samuel will be the 15th and the first prophet.

1:1-8 The house of Elkanah.

1:1-2 The geographical location and marriage condition of Elkanah. vs. 1-2

1) He was from Ramathaim Zophim, of the mountains of Ephraim, which means literally, the two high places of the watchman; it is believed that they were two contiguous hills, on which watchtowers were built, and in which watchmen kept continual guard for the safety of the country and which afterwards gave name to the place. vs.

1a-b

* Five miles, north-west of Jerusalem.

2) He was the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. vs. 1c-g

* The name Elkanah, which means "God has possessed" or "God has created"

3) Elkanah had two wives. vs. 2

a) Hannah means "grace" or "gratuitous gift, and she had no children.

1) Bareness was a mark of shame, a sign of disfavor with God.

2) Bareness was a tragedy for every Israeli woman, for each hoped to bare the Messiah.

b) Peninnah means "coral", some say "pearl" or "jewel", she had children, Elkanah probably married her, due to Hannah's bareness.

- c) Polygamy was tolerated but never God's ideal, causing many problems. Gen. 2:24-25, Deut. 21:5
 * The past history of Sarah and Hagar, Rachel and Lea, a house full of jealousy, envy and favoritism should of taught them this basic lesson, particularly when one is unable to have children!

1:3-5 The devotion of Elkanah to God.

- 1) He went up yearly to Shiloh to worship and sacrifice to the Lord of Host. vs. 3
 - a) The location of Shiloh was 9 miles north of Bethel. Josh. 18:1
 - b) The son's of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, served as priests.
- c) Three times a year, every male of 20 years up had to appear before the Lord. Ex. 34:23, Deut. 16:16
- d) Lord of host "saboath" is found 281 time in the Bible.
 - 1)) This is the first time it appears in Samuel
 - 2)) 80 times in Jeremiah.
 - 3)) 14 times in Haggai, two chapters.
 - 4)) 15 times in Zachariah.
 - 5)) 25 times in Malachi.
 - 6)) The idea behind the title is of power and might on God's part

alone, a military term, the Captain of the armies of heaven.

7)) The eyes of Lord go to and fro....
2Chron. 16:9

- 2) He always gave to Peninnah and her children a portion of the sacrifice but a double to Hannah. vs. 4-5
 - a) The reason was he loved her. vs. 5a-b
 - * It is impossible to love two men or women equally at the same time!
 - b) The other reason was that the Lord had closed up Hannah's womb. vs. 5c
 - 1) She could not be satisfied with materialism.
 - 2) She could not substitute a double portion for being a mother.

1:6-8 The difficult condition of Hannah. condition was made worse by Peninnah's antagonism. vs. 6-7

- 1) Peninnah was her rival "tsarah", which means adversary. vs. 6a
- 2) Peninnah went out of her way to provoke Hannah severely, in order to make her miserable, involving anger and indignation, causing her to rage. vs. 6a-b
- 3) Peninnah's motive was malicious and are declared, because the Lord had closed up her womb. vs. 6c

- a) She was being unsympathetic and uncompassionate, knowing she would only humiliate and shame her more!
 - b) True to her name, as coral a very cutting and sharp person and as a pearl, the product of pain, yet having a sense of beauty on the outside.
* Is there a Peninnah in your life?
- 4) Peninnah provoked Hannah every year on their journey to the house of the Lord. vs. 7
- a. Hannah was being attacked spiritually, when she should of been focusing on the Lord. vs. 7a-d
 - b. Hannah was afflicted emotionally as she wept. vs. 7e
 - 1) The word wept “bakah” and means to bemoan and bewail in anguish and complaint, due to the provocation of her bareness!
 - 2) Women are moved and affected by their emotions more than men, for that reason the word must be the criteria for their decision making!
- b) Hannah was also afflicted physically as she did not eat. vs. 7e
* Our emotions can affect us spiritually, If we allow to and that will affect our physical bodies either in a good or bad way!
- 5) Elkanah was not very sensitive. vs. 8

- a) He was completely oblivious to the evil provocation of Peninnah towards Hannah or indifferent to it. vs. 8a-d
- b) He was completely ignorant about the difference between the love for a son and that for her husband. vs. 8e

1:9-18 The petition and vow of Hannah.

- 1:9-11** The difficulty of Hannah drove her to God.
- 1) Hannah arose after worship and sacrifice, preparing to commune with the Lord. vs. 9a
* Probably the time of the evening sacrifice, 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon.
 - 2) Eli sat on the seat by the door-post of the tabernacle, the place of authority, as High Priest and judge. vs. 9b
* El was a descent of Ithamar, Aaron youngest so., 1Chron. 24:3
 - 3) Hannah was in bitterness of soul and she prayed to the Lord and wept in anguish. vs. 10
 - a) Her bitterness of soul that affected her emotions caused her feelings to cloud her ability to fix on the Lord, but now being open to the Lord and His will, she is brought into a meaningful interaction with the Lord. vs. 10a

- b) Her prayer refers God's intercession, entreating or supplicating. vs. 10b
 - c) Her prayer was as she wept in anguish, which means a strong crying and tears, very fervently and affectionately. vs. 10b
- 3) Hannah prayed with personal commitment. vs. 11
- a) Her prayer was accompanied with a vow to the Lord of Host. vs. 11a-b
* The title means the captain of the armies of heaven, undefeated!
 - b) Her prayer revealed humility, as she addressed to the only One who could look on the affliction of His with understanding and remember her bareness. vs. 11c-d
* Three times she says "handmaiden".
 - c) Her prayer was very specific, God would give her a man child. vs. 11e
 - d) Her promised vow was to give him back all the days of his life and no razor would come upon his head. vs. 11f-g
 - 1)) This was the vow of a Nazarite for life, even as Samson and John the Baptist. Num. 6
 - 2)) The genealogy presents Samuel from the sons of Kohathites. 1Chron. 6:26, 33, 35
 - 3)) The man Samuel was a Levite.

- 2:12-18** The demeanor of Hannah's was misunderstood by Eli the priest.
- 1) Hannah was being watched by Eli the priest and he thought she was drunk due to the fact that her lips were moving but no sound came forth, for she spoke in her heart, therefore he rebuked her, asking her to put away her wine. vs. 12-14
 - a) This puts into perspective the period of transition from the judges to the monarchy, corrupt after the pagan practices.
 - b) How interesting that Eli would confront and attempt to restrain Hannah but not his own sons, who were stealing, bullying and laying with the women, causing the people of God to abhor the offering, yet he restrained them not. 1Sam. 2:17, 22, 3:1
 - 2) Hannah then told Eli her true condition. vs. 15-16
 - a) She was a woman of sorrowful spirit. vs. 15a-d
 - 1)) She didn't know why God had shut up her womb. vs. 5c
 - 2)) She wasn't understood by her husband. vs. 8
 - 3)) She was now being misunderstood by Eli the High Priest. vs. 12-14

- b) She was not drunk with wine or intoxicating drink. vs. 15e
 - 1)) That would be irreverent towards God.
 - 2)) That would be worthy of the punishment of Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, whom the Lord smote with fire. Lev. 10
- c) She had poured out her soul before the Lord. vs. 15f
 - 1) Not just an emotional release, but a total emptying of self, seeking only what gave glory to the Lord.
 - a)) An emotional experience based on God's word is valid!
 - b)) An emotionalism experience usually brings no change, being deceptive and worthless!
 - 2) Prayer is always to align ourselves with the will of God, for His glory.
- d) She begged Eli not to think of her a woman of Belial but rather a woman who out of the abundance of her complaint and grief had spoken to God. vs. 16
- 3) Hannah received Eli's blessing. vs. 17-18
 - a) Eli proclaimed God's peace over her and that her petition might be granted, note it was not a promise that it would. vs. 17

- 1) She experienced reality, looking to the hope of God's word, not her emotions, for nothing had changed.
- 2) The idea of worshipped is to give the proper adoration to a superior before you, by prostrating oneself in reverence, fully aware of one's own unworthiness.
- b) Hannah left with the countenance of her face no longer sad. vs. 18
 - 1) This is truly the work of God by His Spirit, for her circumstances had not changed, only her heart!
 - 2) She would have to deal Penninah day after day.

1:19-28 The answered prayer of Hannah.

1:18-28 Samuel was born to Hannah.

- 1) Hannah and Elkanah both arose and worshipped early in the morning and returned home. vs. 19a-b
- 2) Hannah was known by her husband sexually and the Lord remembered Hannah. vs. 19c-d
- 3) Hannah conceived and bore a son and named him Samuel, due to the fact that she asked him of the Lord, his name means "heard of the God". vs. 20

- a) Samuel would know all his life he was a direct answer to prayer and the and be a man of prayer.
 - b) He told the people, “God forbid that I should sin against the Lord and cease praying for you”. 1Sam. 12:23
- 5) Hannah did not go up to Shiloh again with her husband till she weaned Samuel. vs. 21-23
- a) Elkanah and his entire house went up to offer at Shiloh yearly. vs. 21
 - b) Hannah ministered to the child for about three years before taking him to Shiloh Hannah knew he would appear before the Lord forever. vs. 22
 - 1)) She counted the cost and stayed home providing continual spiritual input. Deut. 6:4-9
 - 2)) Weaning usually was at three years of age.
 - 3)) One individual, Comestor. observes that there was a three fold weaning of children in old times;
 - a)) The first from their mother's milk, at three years old.
 - b)) The second from their tender age, and care of a dry nurse, at seven years old.
 - c)) The third from childish manners, at twelve years of age.

- 2) Hannah was true to her name an a perfect picture of her person, it means grace or gratuitous; she would withhold nothing from the Lord she had vowed.
- c) Elkanah only desired that God be guiding her, “Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him. Only let the LORD establish His word.” vs. 23b-c
- 1) His spiritual preparation would be crucial.
 - 2) Samuel would be the last judge of Israel and the first prophet of many to counsel and aid the Kings.
- 6) Hannah kept her vow to God. vs. 24-28
- a) Hannah went up to Shiloh with Samuel after she weaned him and presented him to the Lord in sacrifice and to Eli. vs. 24-25
 - b) Hannah reminded Eli of her prayer and vow that she would lent Samuel to the Lord as long as he lived. vs. 26-28a-b
 - c) Hannah and Eli worshipped the Lord together. vs. 28c
 - 1)) The purposes of God were accomplished, as He needed a man to judge over His people during this critical transitional period from anarchy to monarchy.

2)) And His eyes were looking to and fro through the whole earth, to show Himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him and he used a woman to get that man.