

A silhouette of a person wearing a dark cap, leaning over a chair in a room with blue lighting. The person's head is bowed, and their hands are resting on the chair's seat. The background shows a doorway or window with light coming through.

Redeemer Christian Church

DESPERATION & A SONG

July 31, 2022

Pastor Jeremy

ONE

What is your response to agonizing dissatisfaction?



1 SAMUEL 1:1-2

Now there was a man from Ramathaim-zophim from the hill country of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. ²And he had two wives: the name of one was Hannah and the name of the other Peninnah; and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

1 SAMUEL 1:3-18

Now this man would go up from his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of armies in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests to the LORD there. ⁴When the day came that Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters;

1 SAMUEL 1:3-18

⁵but to Hannah he would give a double portion, because he loved Hannah, but the LORD had closed her womb. ⁶Her rival, moreover, would provoke her bitterly to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb.

1 SAMUEL 1:3-18

⁷And it happened year after year, as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, that she would provoke her; so she wept and would not eat. ⁸Then Elkanah her husband would say to her, "Hannah, why do you weep, and why do you not eat, and why is your heart sad? Am I not better to you than ten sons?"

1 SAMUEL 1:3-18

⁹Then Hannah got up after eating and drinking in Shiloh. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. ¹⁰She, greatly distressed, prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly.

1 SAMUEL 1:3-18

¹¹And she made a vow and said, “LORD of armies, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your bond-servant and remember me, and not forget Your bond-servant, but will give Your bond-servant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and a razor shall never come on his head.”

TWO

How desperate are you for
an answer to your need?



1 SAMUEL 1:3-18

¹²Now it came about, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli was watching her mouth. ¹³As for Hannah, she was speaking in her heart, only her lips were quivering, but her voice was not heard. So Eli thought that she was drunk. ¹⁴Then Eli said to her, "How long will you behave like a drunk? Get rid of your wine!"

1 SAMUEL 1:3-18

¹⁵But Hannah answered and said, “No, my lord, I am a woman despairing in spirit; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have poured out my soul before the LORD. ¹⁶Do not consider your bond-servant a useless woman, for I have spoken until now out of my great concern and provocation.”

1 SAMUEL 1:3–18

¹⁷Then Eli answered and said, “Go in peace; and may the God of Israel grant your request that you have asked of Him.”

¹⁸She said, “Let your bond-servant find favor in your sight.” So the woman went on her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.

THOUGHT

When desperation drives us to prayer, we need to pray with tenacity and sincerity. Hannah's labor in prayer arguably delivered her more than she could have ever expected from the labor of her womb.

JAMES 5:16

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

1 SAMUEL 1:19-28

¹⁹Then they got up early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD, and returned again to their house in Ramah. And Elkanah had relations with Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her.

1 SAMUEL 1:19–28

²⁰It came about in due time, after Hannah had conceived, that she gave birth to a son; and she named him Samuel, saying, “Because I have asked for him of the LORD.”

1 SAMUEL 1:19–28

²¹Then the man Elkanah went up with all his household to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow. ²²But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, “I will not go until the child is weaned; then I will bring him, so that he may appear before the LORD and stay there for life.”

1 SAMUEL 1:19–28

²³Elkanah her husband said to her, “Do what seems best to you. Stay until you have weaned him; only may the LORD confirm His word.” So the woman stayed and nursed her son until she weaned him.

1 SAMUEL 1:19–28

²⁴Now when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with a three-year-old bull, one ephah of flour, and a jug of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD in Shiloh, although the child was young. ²⁵Then they slaughtered the bull, and brought the boy to Eli.

1 SAMUEL 1:19–28

²⁶And she said, “Pardon me, my lord! As your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the LORD. ²⁷For this boy I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my request which I asked of Him.

1 SAMUEL 1:19–28

²⁸So I have also dedicated him to the LORD; as long as he lives he is dedicated to the LORD.” And he worshiped the LORD there.

THREE

How do you respond
when you get an answer
to your desperate plea?



1 SAMUEL 2:1-11

Then Hannah prayed and said, “My heart rejoices in the LORD; My horn is exalted in the LORD, My mouth speaks boldly against my enemies, Because I rejoice in Your salvation.
2“There is no one holy like the LORD, Indeed, there is no one besides You, Nor is there any rock like our God.

1 SAMUEL 2:1-11

³“Do not go on boasting so very proudly, Do not let arrogance come out of your mouth; For the LORD is a God of knowledge, And with Him actions are weighed. ⁴“The bows of the mighty are broken to pieces, But those who have stumbled strap on strength.

1 SAMUEL 2:1-11

⁵“Those who were full hire themselves out for bread, But those who were hungry cease to be hungry. Even the infertile woman gives birth to seven, But she who has many children languishes. ⁶“The LORD puts to death and makes alive; He brings down to Sheol and brings up.

1 SAMUEL 2:1-11

⁷“The LORD makes poor and rich; He humbles, He also exalts. ⁸“He raises the poor from the dust, He lifts the needy from the garbage heap To seat them with nobles, And He gives them a seat of honor as an inheritance; For the pillars of the earth are the LORD’S, And He set the world on them.

1 SAMUEL 2:1-11

⁹“He watches over the feet of His godly ones, But the wicked ones are silenced in darkness; For not by might shall a person prevail. ¹⁰“Those who contend with the LORD will be terrified;

1 SAMUEL 2:1-11

Against them He will thunder in the heavens, The LORD will judge the ends of the earth; And He will give strength to His king, And will exalt the horn of His anointed.” ¹¹Then Elkanah went to his home at Ramah. But the boy continued to attend to the service of the LORD before Eli the priest.

HANNAH'S SONG

When Samuel is born, she devotes him to the Lord and leaves him in the service of the priest, Eli. He becomes the first of the Prophets and it changes a nation. Hannah's song of thanksgiving parallels Mary's song when Jesus is conceived in her womb.

PSALM 27:13–14

I certainly believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. ¹⁴Wait for the LORD; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD.