

THRU BIBLE

1 Samuel 2–3 | “The Call of Samuel”

I. THE SONG OF HANNAH. (2:1-11)

A. (v. 1)

1. **“And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.”**

- a. “horn” - Symbol of power ([Deut 33:17](#); [Psalm 75:4, 10](#))
- b. “salvation” - This does not refer to eternal salvation, but the *salvation* of being demeaned because of her barrenness.
- c. Hannah realized that God has the power to answer the most difficult of prayers.
 - 1) **Q** = Is there something difficult in your life that you are praying about?... God has the power to answer that prayer!

B. (v. 2)

1. **“There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God.”**

- a. “Rock” - This refers to God’s strength ([Deut. 32:4, 15](#); [Psalm 18:2](#))
- b. God is totally UNIQUE in His Holiness and Strength!

C. (v. 5)

1. **“...so that the barren hath born seven...”**

THRU BIBLE

1 Samuel 2–3 | “The Call of Samuel”

- a. Hannah had a totally of 6 children (v. 21), but she mentions 7, which may refer to God granting her desire for a son because in the Scriptures, the number seven often refers to that number of completion.
 - 1) Also, she might just be speaking generally, and not to herself specifically.

D. (v. 6)

1. ***“The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.”***

- a. This is a prophecy of the DEATH and RESURRECTION of Jesus Christ!
 - 1) Cf. [Isaiah 53:4-10](#); [John 3:16](#); [10:18](#); [11:25-26](#)

E. (v. 7)

1. ***“The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up.”***

- a. Cf. [2 Corinthians 8:9](#) - *“For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.”*

F. (v. 10)

1. ***“...and he shall give strength unto his king, and exalt the horn of his anointed.”***

- a. “horn” - Symbol of strength (v. 1)

THRU BIBLE

1 Samuel 2–3 | “The Call of Samuel”

- b. “Anointed” - Heb. *Mashiach* - “Messiah”
 - 1) This is the first use of this term “*the Anointed One*” or “*Messiah*”.
- c. **NOTE:** Hannah’s song becomes the basis for Mary’s Magnificat ([Luke 1:46-55](#)).

G. (v. 11)

1. “...*And the child did minister unto the LORD before Eli the priest.*”

- a. There are ways that children can serve the Lord, not just adults!
 - 1) **Illust.** - Ever since we started the church, my children have helped in setting up on Sunday mornings, and that’s been one of the memories that I will always cherish.

II. THE SONS OF ELI. (2:12-36)

A. (v. 12)

1. “*Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial; they knew not the LORD.*”

- a. “*Belial*” - Heb. “*wickedness; corruption; worthlessness; good for nothing; ruin; destruction*”
- b. “*they knew not the LORD*”

THRU BIBLE

1 Samuel 2–3 | “The Call of Samuel”

- 1) The sons of Eli were unregenerate men who worked in the vocational ministry.
 - a) It is tragic today how many pulpits have men in them that do not believe in the inspiration of Scripture, the resurrection of Christ, or that Jesus is the only way of salvation.
 - i. That’s why some churches have lesbian or gay clergy. They don’t know the LORD.

B. (v. 13-14)

1. **“*And the priests' custom with the people was,...*”**

- a. According to the Law, the priest was given a certain portion of the sacrifice ([Lev. 7:28-34](#); [Deut. 18:3](#)), but the sons of Eli would steal more than what they were allowed from the people’s sacrifices for themselves.

C. (v. 15)

1. **“*...Give flesh to roast for the priest; for he will not have sodden flesh of thee, but raw.*”**

- a. “sodden” - Heb. “boiled”
 - 1) The priests were to *boil* their meat from the peace offerings (Exodus 29:31), but they didn’t want to do it God’s way. They wanted BBQ!!
- b. According to the Law, the fat had to be burned first ([Lev. 3:16](#); [7:28-34](#); [17:6](#)), and the fat belongs to

THRU BIBLE

1 Samuel 2–3 | “The Call of Samuel”

God ([Lev. 3:16](#); [Num. 18:17](#)). However, the sons of Eli were taking what belonged to God.

D. (v. 17)

1. **“Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before the LORD: for men abhorred the offering of the LORD.”**

- a. The sons of Eli despised the offering of the LORD by:
 - 1) Robbing the people of their share of the peace offerings, taking more than their allotment.
 - 2) Demanding the meat before the fat was offered up in clear violation of the Mosaic Law.
 - 3) Roasting the meat instead of boiling it, which was required by the Law.

E. (v. 18)

1. **“But Samuel ministered before the LORD, being a child, girded with a linen ephod.”**

- a. “linen ephod” - priestly garment ([1 Sam. 22:18](#))
 - 1) This garment resembled the ephod of the High Priest, however the High Priest’s ephod was much more elaborate ([Exodus 28:6-14](#); [39:2-7](#)).

F. (v. 22)

THRU BIBLE

1 Samuel 2–3 | “The Call of Samuel”

1. “Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto all Israel; and how they lay with the women that assembled at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.”

- a. “Eli was very old” = about 98 years old (4:15)
- b. Eli heard the rumors about his sons:
 - 1) What they were doing with the sacrifices. (v. 12-17)
 - 2) How they were having sex with the women that served in the Tabernacle compound.
 - a) Since they were married, they were committing adultery.
 - b) Sadly, priest sex scandals are nothing new!

G. (v. 30)

1. “Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever:...”

- a. “the house of thy father”
 - 1) This speaks of the house of Aaron (Exodus 29:9) and then Phineas (Numbers 25:13).
 - 2) Eli was from the line of Ithamar, but now the priesthood will be restored to Eleazar and Phineas through Zadok.

THRU BIBLE

1 Samuel 2–3 | “The Call of Samuel”

H. (v. 32)

1. “And thou shalt see an enemy in my habitation, in all the wealth which God shall give Israel:...”

- a. This refers to the destruction of Shiloh by the Philistines (4:1, 17).

I. (v. 35)

1. “And I will raise me up a faithful priest, that shall do according to that which is in mine heart and in my mind: and I will build him a sure house; and he shall walk before mine anointed for ever.”

- a. “a faithful priest”
 - 1) This refers to Zadok, the descendant of Phinehas and Eleazar (2 Sam. 8:16-18; 1 Kings 2:35; 1 Chronicles 6:4-8, 50-53)
 - a) Abiathar, who was of Eli’s house, escaped the slaughter of the priests at Nob (22:18-20) and served as David’s high priest (22:18-25; 1 Chron. 24:1-6, 31). However, in the latter part of his high priesthood, towards the end of David’s reign, he made the mistake of siding with Adonijah against Solomon, so when Solomon took the throne, he had Abiathar deposed from the priesthood (1 Kings 2:26-27; 1 Chron 6:1-6) and in place of him came Zadok.

THRU BIBLE

1 Samuel 2–3 | “The Call of Samuel”

- b. *“he shall walk before mine Anointed [Messiah] forever”*
 - 1) It will be the sons of Zadok that will minister as the priesthood during the Messianic Kingdom.
 - a) Cf. [Ezekiel 40:46](#); [43:19](#); [44:15-31](#); [48:9-11](#)

III. THE CALL OF SAMUEL. (3)

A. (v. 1)

1. **“And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli...”**

- a. Cf. [1 Samuel 2:11, 18, 21, 26](#)
- b. “child” - Heb. “boy; lad; youth; young man”
 - 1) This word refers to someone from a child up to a young person getting married and having children ([Prov. 5:18](#); [Psalm 127:4](#)). Most scholars think Samuel may have been 12 years old, which agrees with what Josephus tells us.

2. **“...And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; there was no open vision.”**

- a. “precious” - Heb. “rare; scarce; prized”
- b. “open” - Heb. “widespread; frequent”
- c. This indicates that the frequency of Divine revelation during the Mosaic/Joshua era has ended and the Prophetic period had not yet begun. So, this is a

THRU BIBLE

1 Samuel 2–3 | “The Call of Samuel”

transitional period in which the hearing of the Word of God was extremely rare.

- 1) Today, we have a lot of churches in America, and even here in California, but in how many do you truly hear the Word of God?

B. (v. 11)

1. **“And the LORD said to Samuel, Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle.”**

a. “tingle” - Heb. “quiver; ring”

- 1) Has the idea of your ears *ringing* as an effect of a calamite upon the hearer.
 - a) It’s like the ringing you have after getting slapped in the head. It’s the *tingle* from a horrid sound.
 - b) Cf. [2 Kings 21:12](#); [Jeremiah 19:3](#) - Both referring to the Babylonian Captivity