

Samuel – A Light in the Darkness

1 Samuel 1:1-20



I. **How did we get here?** A historical overview of the preceding 400(ish) years.

In the **Book of Joshua**, Joshua leads the people across the _____ after a big ceremony of recommitment at Gilgal (Joshua 3-4)

They _____ all the males born during the desert years (Joshua 4)

Joshua encounters the Angel of the Lord who reminds him who is really _____ of the Lord's armies (Joshua 5)

3 Big Battles of Joshua: _____

After the three major battles, the land is _____ and they divide it (Joshua 11-21)

The Transjordan tribes go home, stop to make a "memorial" on the way, and it almost results in _____ (Joshua 22)

They finally resolve that conflict and _____ once again at Shechem (Joshua 24)

The **Book of Judges** is 300 years of _____ and _____

Israel _____ and started to act like all the nations around her

This was especially heinous because God's whole purpose for choosing a people was for that people _____ (Deut 7)

_____ is the match that lights fire, after fire, after fire

The **Book of** _____ is actually a Judges story, but it has better ending because it points to the Messiah

The **Books of 1-2 Samuel** _____ are a Judges story and a Monarchy story

II. Background Details of 1-2 Samuel

Date: _____ with the birth of a new deliverer - Samuel

Main characters: _____

Main enemies: _____

III. The Family of Samuel

_____ name means "God created"

_____ name means "grace"

_____ name means "pearl"

The introduction to the family of Samuel is parallel to the introduction to the family of Samson. It is meant to show contrast between worldly Samson and godly Samuel. A small difference in _____ makes a big difference in _____.

IV. The Trip to Shiloh

_____ was the location of the central sanctuary in Israel; it housed the tabernacle which was now a more permanent structure than it was during the desert years

The Priests

_____ name means "exalted is the Lord"

_____ name means "tadpole"

_____ names means "Nubian"

The conflict

They go to make a _____; traditionally followed by a _____

Penninah is needling Hannah about her _____ to the point where Hannah is so depressed, she can't eat

A Couple Pro Tips

When you don't do things God's way, you may get away with it for the time being, but it will always produce a _____

"Things go _____ when we listen to God, and _____ when we don't."

- *What's in the Bible*

Hannah's Prayer

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Hannah's Vow

_____vow – usually temporary, this was not

Included:

Women's vows _____ until they were acknowledged by their husband

Hannah's Character

Notice Hannah's _____ before the Lord – "May your servant find favor in your eyes."

Hannah _____ her sorrows to the Lord and _____ Him with them enough to _____ them there

In the Course of Time

They had to take _____

It wasn't a _____ or instant miracle

_____ Hannah's prayer and acted on her behalf

Hannah's Story Reminds Us

Even in the silence, God is not _____ you

Even when you feel lonely, God has not _____ you

Even when your heart is tired, God still has _____ for you

- Proverbs 31 Ministries

V. Big Takeaway

God wants us to _____ demonstrate our faith with _____ and _____ even when we're not getting the answers we want, in the timing we want!

Table Talk Ideas

1. Introduce yourselves and get to know a bit about one another.
2. Hannah had some very relevant struggles and the emotions that came from those challenges. What are some things Hannah faced that women still face today?
3. How did Hannah respond to the challenges?
4. Have you ever experienced anything like Hannah's story? Share your story.
5. How could you use Hannah's story to encourage another woman who is facing challenges in her life?