



Hannah

1 Samuel 1:1-4:1



Genesis 1:27

So God created human beings in his own image.

In the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.



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Hannah's Plight



1 Samuel 1:1-8 (Slide 1 of 4)

There was a man named Elkanah who lived in Ramah in the region of Zuph in the hill country of Ephraim. He was the son of Jeroham, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Zuph, of Ephraim. Elkanah had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah did not.

Each year Elkanah would travel to Shiloh to worship and sacrifice to the Lord of Heaven's Armies at the Tabernacle.



1 Samuel 1:1-8 (Slide 2 of 4)



The priests of the Lord at that time were the two sons of Eli—Hophni and Phinehas. On the days Elkanah presented his sacrifice, he would give portions of the meat to Peninnah and each of her children. And though he loved Hannah, he would give her only one choice portion because the Lord had given her no children.



1 Samuel 1:1-8 (Slide 3 of 4)

So Peninnah would taunt Hannah and make fun of her because the Lord had kept her from having children. Year after year it was the same—Peninnah would taunt Hannah as they went to the Tabernacle. Each time, Hannah would be reduced to tears and would not even eat.



1 Samuel 1:1-8 (Slide 4 of 4)

“Why are you crying, Hannah?” Elkanah would ask. “Why aren’t you eating? Why be downhearted just because you have no children? You have me—isn’t that better than having ten sons?”



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Hannah's Ask



1 Samuel 1:9-28 (Slide 1 of 7)

Once after a sacrificial meal at Shiloh, Hannah got up and went to pray. Eli the priest was sitting at his customary place beside the entrance of the Tabernacle. Hannah was in deep anguish, crying bitterly as she prayed to the Lord. And she made this vow: “O Lord of Heaven’s Armies, if you will look upon my sorrow and answer my prayer and give me a son, then I will give him back to you.”



1 Samuel 1:9-28 (Slide 2 of 7)

He will be yours for his entire lifetime, and as a sign that he has been dedicated to the Lord, his hair will never be cut.”

As she was praying to the Lord, Eli watched her. Seeing her lips moving but hearing no sound, he thought she had been drinking. “Must you come here drunk?” he demanded. “Throw away your wine!”



1 Samuel 1:9-28 (Slide 3 of 7)

“Oh no, sir!” she replied. “I haven’t been drinking wine or anything stronger. But I am very discouraged, and I was pouring out my heart to the Lord. Don’t think I am a wicked woman! For I have been praying out of great anguish and sorrow.”

“In that case,” Eli said, “go in peace! May the God of Israel grant the request you have asked of him.”



1 Samuel 1:9-28 (Slide 4 of 7)

“Oh, thank you, sir!” she exclaimed. Then she went back and began to eat again, and she was no longer sad.

The entire family got up early the next morning and went to worship the Lord once more. Then they returned home to Ramah. When Elkanah slept with Hannah, the Lord remembered her plea, and in due time she gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, “I asked the Lord for him.”



1 Samuel 1:9-28 (Slide 5 of 7)

The next year Elkanah and his family went on their annual trip to offer a sacrifice to the Lord and to keep his vow. But Hannah did not go. She told her husband, “Wait until the boy is weaned. Then I will take him to the Tabernacle and leave him there with the Lord permanently.”

“Whatever you think is best,” Elkanah agreed.
“Stay here for now, and may the Lord help you keep your promise.”



1 Samuel 1:9-28 (Slide 6 of 7)

So she stayed home and nursed the boy until he was weaned.

When the child was weaned, Hannah took him to the Tabernacle in Shiloh. They brought along a three-year-old bull for the sacrifice and a basket of flour and some wine. After sacrificing the bull, they brought the boy to Eli. “Sir, do you remember me?” Hannah asked.



1 Samuel 1:9-28 (Slide 7 of 7)

“I am the very woman who stood here several years ago praying to the Lord. I asked the Lord to give me this boy, and he has granted my request. Now I am giving him to the Lord, and he will belong to the Lord his whole life.” And they worshiped the Lord there.



VOWS

Usual Formula:

If you do X,
I'll do Y

Hannah's Formula:

If you give me X,
I'll give you X



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Two Paths



1 Samuel 2:11-26 (Slide 1 of 8)

Then Elkanah returned home to Ramah without Samuel. And the boy served the Lord by assisting Eli the priest.

Now the sons of Eli were scoundrels who had no respect for the Lord or for their duties as priests. Whenever anyone offered a sacrifice, Eli's sons would send over a servant with a three-pronged fork.



1 Samuel 2:11-26 (Slide 2 of 8)

While the meat of the sacrificed animal was still boiling, the servant would stick the fork into the pot and demand that whatever it brought up be given to Eli's sons. All the Israelites who came to worship at Shiloh were treated this way. Sometimes the servant would come even before the animal's fat had been burned on the altar.



1 Samuel 2:11-26 (Slide 3 of 8)

He would demand raw meat before it had been boiled so that it could be used for roasting.

The man offering the sacrifice might reply, “Take as much as you want, but the fat must be burned first.” Then the servant would demand, “No, give it to me now, or I’ll take it by force.”



1 Samuel 2:11-26 (Slide 4 of 8)

So the sin of these young men was very serious in the Lord's sight, for they treated the Lord's offerings with contempt.

But Samuel, though he was only a boy, served the Lord. He wore a linen garment like that of a priest.



1 Samuel 2:11-26 (Slide 5 of 8)

Each year his mother made a small coat for him and brought it to him when she came with her husband for the sacrifice. Before they returned home, Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, “May the Lord give you other children to take the place of this one she gave to the Lord.” And the Lord blessed Hannah, and she conceived and gave birth to three sons and two daughters.



1 Samuel 2:11-26 (Slide 6 of 8)

Meanwhile, Samuel grew up in the presence of the Lord.

Now Eli was very old, but he was aware of what his sons were doing to the people of Israel. He knew, for instance, that his sons were seducing the young women who assisted at the entrance of the Tabernacle. Eli said to them, "I have been hearing reports from all the people about the wicked things you are doing."



1 Samuel 2:11-26 (Slide 7 of 8)

Why do you keep sinning? You must stop, my sons! The reports I hear among the Lord's people are not good. If someone sins against another person, God can mediate for the guilty party. But if someone sins against the Lord, who can intercede?" But Eli's sons wouldn't listen to their father, for the Lord was already planning to put them to death.



1 Samuel 2:11-26 (Slide 8 of 8)

Meanwhile, the boy Samuel grew taller and grew in favor with the Lord and with the people.





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Two Destinations



1 Samuel 3:15-4:1 (Slide 1 of 3)

Samuel stayed in bed until morning, then got up and opened the doors of the Tabernacle as usual. He was afraid to tell Eli what the Lord had said to him. 16 But Eli called out to him, “Samuel, my son.”

“Here I am,” Samuel replied.

“What did the Lord say to you? Tell me everything. And may God strike you and even kill you if you hide anything from me!”



1 Samuel 3:15-4:1 (Slide 2 of 3)

So Samuel told Eli everything; he didn't hold anything back. "It is the Lord's will," Eli replied. "Let him do what he thinks best."

As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him, and everything Samuel said proved to be reliable. And all Israel, from Dan in the north to Beersheba in the south, knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the Lord.



1 Samuel 3:15-4:1 (Slide 3 of 3)

The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh and gave messages to Samuel there at the Tabernacle.

And Samuel's words went out to all the people of Israel.



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Childlessness

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a solid purple arrow pointing to the right, positioned horizontally. Behind the arrow and extending upwards and to the right are several thin, curved black lines that create a sense of movement or flow.

Apostasy



Path \neq Destination



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