

•1There was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim of the hill country of Ephraim whose name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, son of Elihu, son of Tohu, son of Zuph, an Ephrathite. 2He had two wives. The name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the other, Peninnah. And Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. 3Now this man used to go up year by year from his city to worship and to sacrifice to the Lord of hosts at Shiloh, where the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests of the Lord. 4On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters. 5But to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the Lord had closed her womb. 6And her rival used to provoke her grievously to irritate her, because the Lord had closed her womb. 7So it went on year by year. As often as she went up to the house of the Lord, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. 8And Elkanah, her husband, said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? And why do you not eat? And why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?" 1 Samuel 1:1-8

☒ ***Hannah lived in what might be considered a difficult time:***

•**The world was unholy and disobedient.** There was no king in Israel. The Scripture tells us everyone did “what was right in his own eyes.” Morality was subjective. Right and wrong were fluid.

•**The church was corrupt.** Eli was the high priest but he was lax, allowing evil to be done in God’s house. His two sons served as priests in the temple, but their hearts were far from God. They stole sacrifices that belonged to the Lord and even seduced women who came to the temple to worship.

•**Family issues.** He had two wives, and that caused problems. One of his wives, Peninnah, had children. His other wife, Hannah, did not. Peninnah cruelly taunted Hannah about being childless, and Hannah stayed upset and depressed. Elkanah had little peace in his own home.

☒ **Hannah was favored of Elkanah, The only problem was Hannah’s womb was barren.**

•Elkanah- Sometimes money isn’t enough.

•**Elkanah "God has possessed"**

•**Hannah- favored**

• ***Is it possible to be Favored but Fruitless?***

•*Marriage affected, physical, attitude.*

- You can have it all and still not have what you want.
 - *A dream that won't die, can't be bought, refuses to be replaced.*
- Just when you think that the favor is enough, God sends a Peninnah. Hannah was good until Peninnah showed up.
- Peninnah is a reminder that you are the problem.
 - Peninnah didn't have any issue being fruitful in bad times.
 - Should could have blamed the culture, Church, even her family.

• **Peninnah is NOT MY PROBLEM!**

☑ **Some of you were about to get comfortable.**

- You thought it was jealousy. It was A Divine Disturbance.

• **God allowed it to provoke you!**

☑ **Peninnah Is the problem that leads to promise.**

- Hannah was not satisfied to be blessed, or favored, that is to have her husbands attention and affection and gifts.

• *I remember Our Peninnahs. I remember wondering if God would ever fill this church...*

• **We had 1 Church.** *hat enough? Isn't one good enough? Bills paid, money in the bank. Covid emptying pews.*

• *NO- Because I see MORE! Dreams about to be revived, families saved...*

• ***I believe God allows Peninnahs when PRESENTS replace PRESENCE. Favor/Fruitful***

☑ **Hidden in Ugly**

• ***Jacob and Leah-*** *Rachael was Jacobs choice for Jacob, But Leah was God's choice for Jacob.*

• **But, out of Leah came Levi and Judah- Out of Ugly came Glory and Praise!!!**

• *Isa 65:8 Destroy it not; for a blessing is in it:*

• Out of that travail came one of the greatest prophets that ever lived

• Hannah could not be pacified any longer, she could not be satisfied to be blessed but barren, she began to cry out from the depths of her being,

☑ **Her problem DROVE her to PRESENCE.**

• **She RAN to the ALTAR!**

• *Where are you running?*

• Her husband had made the house a habit so when she faced a problem she knew where to go.

• ***15But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman troubled in spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong***

drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the Lord. 16Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for all along I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation.” 17Then Eli answered, “Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition that you have made to him.” 18And she said, “Let your servant find favor in your eyes.” Then the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad. 19They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the Lord; then they went back to their house at Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah his wife, and the Lord remembered her. 20And in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, “I have asked for him from the Lord.”

•The bible says of Samuel, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.

• The thing that was about to altar her future, nations future, was **INSIDE OF HER!!!**

•“Sing, O barren one, who did not bear; break forth into singing and cry aloud, you who have not been in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than the children of her who is married,” says the Lord. Isaiah 54:1

•God said if it's barren, broken, **SING!!!**

•What's been closed to you is about to be opened!

•Samuel- Changed the nation, Changed the Church, Changed the Family

•Her prayer requested it. The Priests word confirmed it.

•Hannah spoke to God about her problem and God spoke to her son about His.

•Praying parents produce children who can hear from GOD!

•But the test was what she did after the blessing!

•Can God trust you with the AFTER?

•*Indeed the Lord visited Hannah, and she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the boy Samuel grew in the presence of the Lord. 2 Samuel 2:21*

•She gave Samuel to God & God gave her **5** more.

•She gave Samuel to God and God gave her **FAVOR!**

☑ **HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU HAVE HAD A SPIRITUAL BIRTH?**

- *How long has it been since you have conceived of the Holy Ghost and carried a spiritual baby in your spiritual womb?*
- **We're in the season of supernatural conception!**
- *How long will I be pacified, How long can I be satisfied to be blessed and barren, = no spiritual births?*
- *Can we be satisfied to be favored, to know that God has chosen us and loves us, and yet be spiritually barren?*
- For every promise, for every prophecy, and for every dream there is a **set time**.

• She thinks pregnant, everything she looks at tells you she's expecting, she talks pregnant, and in a little while she walks pregnant.

☑ See when you are really pregnant with the promise, you start out growing some things.

• In other words You are not satisfied with things the way they've always been, there is a divine discontent and divine dissatisfaction that begins to grow in you.

☑ A pregnant woman has a tendency to experience extreme mood swings, For no reason at all she may just burst out crying.

• That is true spiritually too, when you are near delivery or manifestation there are strong emotions that begin to stir in your spirit.

• It may be crying one minute, and shouting the next,

☑ Just as in the natural there is a struggle before the birth, so it is in the spiritual (There is usually a great warfare just before manifestation)

• We need to realize that just before manifestation satan will do everything he can to get you to cast away your confidence and to abort your promise.

• It is time to praise like you have never praised, it's time to bless the Lord, It's time to pray like you have never

prayed, and confess the promise, and stand on the word,
and declare the faithfulness of God. She was carrying a
Prophet.