

LESSON 2: HANNAH'S PRAYER (I Samuel 1 - 2:20)

1 Samuel 2:1-11 - HANNAH'S DESPERATE PRAYER & SONG OF PRAISE.



I. BACKGROUND (I Sam. 1: 1-8)

- Pre-temple Tabernacle
- Fertility in ancient cultures; infertility a *significant stigma*.
- Worship was a regular part of family life. (“every year”) (1:3)
- Elk. *loved* Hannah > first wife > > gave her a double portion. (vv.4-5)

II. HANNAH PRAYS

- PRAYER was her recourse; *to whom do we turn in desperate situations??*
- Fasted
- Prays: earnestly; silently; specifically.
- Made a VOW/PROMISE:
- Eli’s rebuke & benediction (vv.12-18)
- Anticipated the answer! (v. 18)

III. THE ANSWER & HANNAH’S RESPONSE (2:1 – 11)

- God hears and answers (Ps.116:1-2) >> a child is born (vv.19-20)
- Hannah’s Magnificat:
 1. Rejoicing/Praise (v.1)
 2. **GOD gets the credit** (wholly worthy of praise)
 3. GOD’s character/nature reviewed (vv.2-3): -Holy (Lev. 11:45); - Incomparable (Ps. 86:8); -Rock; -Omniscient; - Judge
 4. GOD Reverses situations! (Redeems/Salvages) (vv. 4-8)
With God there is never any waste!! Strong vs. weak; wealth vs. poor; Downtrodden raised up.
 5. GOD has power over Life and Death (v. 6) (8b)
 6. GOD enables and empowers (9b)
- Hannah keeps her promise (vv. 21-28)
- Compared to Mary’s Magnificat - Luke 1:46-55
 - Rejoicing and giving God the credit (vv.46-55)
 - Reversal of fortune (vv. 51-53)
 - Holy paradoxes (when I weak I am strong; oldest vs. youngest)

IV. TNSW?

Q: Do we pray earnestly? How badly do we want our prayers answered?

Q: What are we asking for? Do we pray specifically?

Q: Will we rejoice when the answer comes?

Q: Will we give GOD the credit??

Q: How specifically are we praying??

V. Specific PRAYERS

1. Pastor

2. Session

3.