

NOTES

May 13, 2018

Hannah—Portrait Of A Godly Woman

1 Samuel 1:1-28

Now there was a certain man from Ramathaim-zophim from the hill country of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. ²He had two wives: the name of one was Hannah and the name of the other Peninnah; and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.³Now this man would go up from his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests to the LORD there. ⁴When the day came that Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and her daughters; ⁵but to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah, but the LORD had closed her womb. ⁶Her rival, however, would provoke her bitterly to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. ⁷It happened year after year, as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she would provoke her; so she wept and would not eat. ⁸Then 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 better to you than ten sons?"⁹Then Hannah rose after eating and drinking in Shiloh. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the temple of the LORD.¹⁰She, greatly distressed, prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. ¹¹She made a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and a razor shall never come on his head." ¹²Now it came about, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli was watching her mouth. ¹³As for Hannah, she was speaking in her heart, only her lips were moving, but her voice was not heard. So Eli thought she was drunk. ¹⁴Then Eli said to her, "How long will you make yourself drunk? Put away your wine from you." ¹⁵But Hannah replied, "No, my lord, I am a woman oppressed in spirit; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have poured out my soul before the LORD. ¹⁶Do not consider your maidservant as a worthless woman, for I have spoken until now out of my great concern and provocation." ¹⁷Then Eli

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answered and said, "Go in peace; and may the God of Israel grant your petition that you have asked of Him." ¹⁸ She said, "Let your maidservant find favor in your sight." So the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad. ¹⁹ Then they arose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD, and returned again to their house in Ramah. And Elkanah had relations with Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her. ²⁰ It came about in due time, after Hannah had conceived, that she gave birth to a son; and she named him Samuel, saying, "Because I have asked him of the LORD." ²¹ Then the man Elkanah went up with all his household to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and pay his vow. ²² But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, "I will not go up until the child is weaned; then I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD and stay there forever." ²³ Elkanah her husband said to her, "Do what seems best to you. Remain until you have weaned him; only may the LORD confirm His word." So the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him. ²⁴ Now when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with a three-year-old bull and one ephah of flour and a jug of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD in Shiloh, although the child was young. ²⁵ Then they slaughtered the bull, and brought the boy to Eli. ²⁶ She said, "Oh, my lord! As your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the LORD. ²⁷ For this boy I prayed, and the LORD has given me my petition which I asked of Him. ²⁸ So I have also dedicated him to the LORD; as long as he lives he is dedicated to the LORD." And he worshiped the LORD there.

Discussion Questions 1 Samuel 1:1-28

1. Notice that in **verses 9-18** Hannah took action through prayer to address her concerns ... what keeps us from doing the same?
2. **Verse 18** shows us that following her prayer and conversation with the priest Eli, Hannah "**ate, and her face was no longer sad.**" When have you experienced the spiritual lift of burdens unloaded in prayer and shared with another believer? Name one prayer promise in Scripture.
3. Besides being a devoted believer and a devoted mother, Hannah also "dedicated" (or "lent") her child to the LORD (verse 28). Why is it important for parents to "release" their children once they are grown?

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