



Hannah's Prayer

1Samuel 1 - 2

1Sam. 1:4-5, 9-11

- “And whenever the time came for Elkanah to make an offering, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters. 5 But to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah, although the LORD had closed her womb... 9 So Hannah arose after they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the tabernacle of the LORD. 10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the LORD and wept in anguish. 11 Then she 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 male child, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall come upon his head.”

1Sam. 2:1-5

- “And Hannah prayed and said: My heart rejoices in the LORD; My horn is exalted in the LORD. I smile at my enemies, Because I rejoice in Your salvation. 2 No one is holy like the LORD, For there is none besides You, Nor is there any rock like our God. 3 Talk no more so very proudly; Let no arrogance come from your mouth, For the LORD is the God of knowledge; And by Him actions are weighed. 4 The bows of the mighty men are broken, And those who stumbled are girded with strength. 5 Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, And the hungry have ceased to hunger. Even the barren has borne seven, And she who has many children has become feeble.”

1Sam. 2:6-10

- “The LORD kills and makes alive; He brings down to the grave and brings up. 7 The LORD makes poor and makes rich; He brings low and lifts up. 8 He raises the poor from the dust And lifts the beggar from the ash heap, To set them among princes And make them inherit the throne of glory. For the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, And He has set the world upon them. 9 He will guard the feet of His saints, But the wicked shall be silent in darkness. For by strength no man shall prevail. 10 The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken in pieces; From heaven He will thunder against them. The LORD will judge the ends of the earth. He will give strength to His king, And exalt the horn of His anointed.”

A Fervent Prayer

- 1Thes. 5:17 - "Pray without ceasing"
- 1Sam. 1:12-18 - "And it happened, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli watched her mouth. 13 Now Hannah spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli thought she was drunk. 14 So Eli said to her, How long will you be drunk? Put your wine away from you! 15 And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I am a woman of sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor intoxicating drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD. 16 Do not consider your maidservant a wicked woman, for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief I have spoken until now. 17 Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have asked of Him."

A Prayer Full Of Pain

- 1Sam. 1:10 - “And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the LORD and wept in anguish.”
- 1Sam. 1:6-7 - “And her rival also provoked her severely, to make her miserable, because the LORD had closed her womb. 7 So it was, year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, that she provoked her; therefore she wept and did not eat.”

A Prayer Full Of Pain

- Psalm 46:1-2 - “God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea”
- Psalm 50:15 - “Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”
- Psalm 91:14-15 - “Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. 15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him.”

A Prayer Filled With Promise

- 1Sam. 1:11 - “Then she 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 male child, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall come upon his head.”
- Ecc. 5:4-5 - “When you make a vow to God, do not delay to pay it; For He has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you have vowed- 5 Better not to vow than to vow and not pay.”

A Prayer Filled With Promise

- When you pray for growth in the church, are you willing to work for it? - Eph. 4:15-16
- When you pray for strength to resist temptation, do you make efforts to minimize your exposure to it? - Rom. 13:14
- When you pray for an opportunity to teach, do you go seeking opportunities? - Col. 4:2-4

A Frequent Prayer

- She continued to pray - 1Sam. 1:12
- Repeating a prayer does not show a lack of faith
 - Jesus prayed three times in the garden - Matt. 26:39-44
 - Paul prayed three times - 2Cor. 12:7-8
- God wants us to persist in prayer - Luke 18:1-8

A Frank Prayer

- She prayed sincerely, not to impress others
 - 1Sam. 1:13 - “Now Hannah spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard.”
- Paul’s personal prayer came from his sorrow
 - Rom. 10:1 - “Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.”
 - Rom. 9:1-2 - “I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, 2 that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart.”

A Frank Prayer

- Psalm 20:1-4 - “May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble; May the name of the God of Jacob defend you; 2 May He send you help from the sanctuary, And strengthen you out of Zion; 3 May He remember all your offerings, And accept your burnt sacrifice. 4 May He grant you according to your heart's desire, And fulfill all your purpose.”

A Prayer Of Faith

- She was confident she would be answered
 - 1Sam. 1:17-18 - “Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have asked of Him. 18 And 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.”

A Prayer Of Faith

- James 1:6-7 - “But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord”
- Matt. 6:8 - “Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.”
- Eph. 3:20 - “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us”
- Mark 11:24 - “Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them”

A Fulfilled Prayer

- Hannah received her heart's desire, and more
 - 1Sam. 1:20 - "So it came to pass in the process of time that Hannah conceived and bore a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked for him from the LORD."
 - Samuel became a priest of God, a judge of Israel, a mighty prophet, and the anointer of kings of Israel
 - The name Samuel in Hebrew is Shema-El "God Heard," not that she asked for him, but rather God heard her prayer.

A Fulfilled Prayer

- There is a reason why the prayer of a woman is in scripture
 - Rom. 15:4 - “For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.”