

HANNAH'S CONSECRATION

(MOTHER'S DAY LESSON)

[BIBLE TEXT](#) : I Samuel 1:1-28

LESSON 71 Junior Course

MEMORY VERSE: "Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise" (Ephesians 6:2).

[BIBLE TEXT in King James Version](#)

1 Samuel 1:1-28

¹ Now there was a certain man of Ramathaimzophim, of mount Ephraim, and his name *was* Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephrathite:

² And he 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.

³ And this man went up out of his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice unto the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, *were* there.

⁴ And when the time was that Elkanah offered, he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her daughters, portions:

⁵ But unto Hannah he gave a worthy portion; for he loved Hannah: but the LORD had shut up her womb.

⁶ And her adversary also provoked her sore, for to make her fret, because the LORD had shut up her womb.

⁷ And *as* he did so year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, so she provoked her; therefore she wept, and did not eat.

⁸ Then said Elkanah her husband to her, Hannah, why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? *am* not I better to thee than ten sons?

⁹ So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they

[BIBLE REFERENCES:](#)

[NOTES:](#)

Always a Remnant

In the days of the judges, before Israel had a king, lived p. devout couple named _Hannah and Elkanah. To show their love for the Lord they obeyed His command to go yearly to the Tabernacle to worship and partake of the religious feasts. The spiritual condition of the Israelites was at a low ebb at this time, but we notice that God has always had a faithful few who would serve Him, even in the darkest periods of church history.

Hannah wanted a baby boy, but year passed year and still she had not a child to love and care for, This made her very sad. It was considered a special honor to be the mother of a son.

Hannah's Vow

As time went by her grief became greater, and one day while she was at the feast at Shiloh, she told God about her sorrows. She was so unhappy she could not eat. She knew God loved her and would help her when no one else could make her happy. She did not have to speak aloud as she prayed to the Lord, because He could see the prayer of her heart. Sometimes we, too, pray so earnestly that we do not have words to express our feeling. But God sees the prayers and consecrations we make with "groanings which cannot be uttered." The Spirit of God helps us in those prayers, and we get an answer.

As Hannah prayed she told the Lord how unhappy she was because she had no children. She promised if God would only give her a man-child, she would give him back to the Lord all the days of his life, and not a razor should come upon his head. Letting the hair grow was a part of the vows of the Nazarites who set themselves apart for special service to God. This vow might be for a week, a month, or a lifetime.

When Eli, the high priest, saw Hannah's lips move but could hear no sound, he thought she had become drunken. She assured him that her grief had caused her to pray so deeply that only her lips had moved, but she did not tell him what her prayer had been. Eli realized he had misjudged her, and he hastened to comfort her. He prayed, too, that God would answer her prayer and bless her with rich blessings.

Happy through Faith

Hannah had faith that God had heard her prayer and that He would give her what she desired. She was just as sure as though she already had the child, because the Scripture states that she did eat, "and her countenance was no more sad." Her faith had made her happy.

Time for Devotion

The following morning when Hannah and her husband were ready to return home they first took time to worship God. We should never be in such a hurry to go about our business that we cannot take time to thank God for His blessings and ask His guidance through the day; and we should look into His Word to see what His will is for us. Perhaps He has a special blessing or promise for us on a certain day, and we miss it by neglecting to

had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the LORD.

¹⁰ And she *was* in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore.

¹¹ And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head.

¹² And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli marked her mouth.

¹³ Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard: therefore Eli thought she had been drunken.

¹⁴ And Eli said unto her, How long wilt thou be drunken? put away thy wine from thee.

¹⁵ And Hannah answered and said, No, my lord, I *am* a woman of a sorrowful spirit: I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD.

¹⁶ Count not thine handmaid for a daughter of Belial: for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief have I spoken hitherto.

¹⁷ Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant *thee* thy petition that thou hast asked of him.

¹⁸ And she said, Let thine handmaid find grace in thy sight. So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more *sad*.

¹⁹ And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before the LORD, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the LORD remembered her.

read the Bible. To know the will of God is more important to us than any other part of our life. If we neglect God's Word, we lose our defense against the enemy of our soul.

Hannah Remembers

Hannah had made her consecrations to God, and had believed He would answer her prayer; and in due time Samuel was born to reward her faith. She did not forget the vow she had made to give him back to the Lord to serve in the Temple all the days of his life. She loved her baby very much, and it would have been easy for her to say that God had given her the child to make her happy and perhaps He would not expect her to take him to the house of God to remain always. She remembered her promise to the Lord; and when Samuel was old enough to be separated from his mother, she took him to Eli, the high priest, to perform what services he could. Samuel was her precious gift to the Lord.

Sacrifice Rewarded

God honored Hannah's sacrifice and gave her three more sons and two daughters to gladden her home. God does reward the sacrifices His children make, and has promised much to those who seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Hannah did not forget her duty as a mother to Samuel, but went up from year to year to Shiloh with a little coat she had made for him.

A Child Shall Lead Them

Samuel served faithfully in the House of God from the time he was a small child. Some people believe children should grow up before they are taught anything about religion. They think children cannot understand the things of God. But the simple, honest hearts of children often grasp the holy truths sooner than the corrupted, biased minds of the adults. We *see* many children who love Jesus from the time they can talk, and some are truly saved when they are but four or five years old. By giving their hearts to Jesus when they are very young they miss the trouble and sorrow that sin brings.

A Great Man of God

We learn that Samuel grew up to be a wonderful man of God. In addition to being a priest in the Tabernacle, he was the last of the judges who headed civil government of Israel. Think how happy Hannah must have been to see her son rise to such spiritual and political heights! Thus was her consecration to God rewarded by the godly life of her first-born.

QUESTIONS

- 1 Where did Hannah and Elkanah go each year? Why?
- 2 Why was Hannah unhappy?
- 3 Whom did Hannah tell about her grief?
- 4 What did Eli do when he realized Hannah's grief?
- 5 Did Hannah believe God right away? How do we know?
- 6 What did Hannah promise to do if she had a man-child?
- 7 Did she keep her promise?
- 8 What was her reward?

²⁰ Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, *saying*, Because I have asked him of the LORD.

²¹ And the man Elkanah, and all his house, went up to offer unto the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and his vow.

²² But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband, *I will not go up* until the child be weaned, and *then* I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD, and there abide for ever.

²³ And Elkanah her husband said unto her, Do what seemeth thee good; tarry until thou have weaned him; only the LORD establish his word. So the woman abode, and gave her son suck until she weaned him.

²⁴ And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with three bullocks, and one ephah of flour, and a bottle of wine, and brought him unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: and the child *was* young.

²⁵ And they slew a bullock, and brought the child to Eli.

²⁶ And she said, Oh my lord, *as* thy soul liveth, my lord, I *am* the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

²⁷ For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him:

²⁸ Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD. And he worshipped the LORD there.