

“Hannah”

1 Samuel - chapters 1 and 2

Advent - Preparation for Jesus Coming to Earth

1 Nativity

- a time to
 - take a break
 - spend time with...
 - set aside past grievances
 - help others

2 Second Time

- We don't know when
- Live to please the Lord

Current Reality

- Many people are hurting!
- People need the Good News!

There 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. 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. Now 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.

On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters. But to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the Lord had closed her womb. And her rival used to provoke her grievously to irritate her, because the Lord had closed her womb. So 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.

(1 Sa 1:1-7 ESV)

Context

- husband Elkanah
- one of two wives, Hannah didn't have any children
- family unit critical
- very little status, less if no children
- Hannah's reality - looked down on, bullied
- annual trips to Shiloh

stress...
can't sleep,
can't eat,
can't focus...

Hannah's Response

She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord and wept bitterly. And she vowed a vow and said, "O Lord of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head."

(1 Sa 1:10-11 ESV)

Hannah's Response to Eli - Grace

But 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. Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for all along I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation."

(1 Sa 1:15-16 ESV)

God Brings Peace

Then Eli answered, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition that you have made to him." And 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.

(1 Sa 1:17-18 ESV)

Answered Prayer

And 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."

(1 Sa 1:20 ESV)

Don't lose Hope !!

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

(2 Cor 4:7-10 ESV)

Hannah Fulfills Her Vow

And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh. And the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli.

Hannah Fulfills Her Vow Cont'd

And she said, "Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord. As long as he lives, he is lent to the Lord."

(1 Sa 1:24-28a ESV)

Hannah's Prayer - homework :)

And Hannah prayed and said, "My heart exults in the Lord; my horn is exalted in the Lord.

(1 Sa 2:1a ESV)

"There is none holy like the Lord: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.

(1 Sa 2:2 (ESV))

Hannah's Prayer - 2

The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts. He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world. (1 Sa 2:7, 8 ESV)

do we agree with Hannah's statements?

Hannah's Prayer

The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

(1 Sa 2:10b ESV)

reflected in

Mary's Song of Praise - The Magnificat

Luke Chapter 1

Hannah's story...

**devotion to God at all times
from pain, to prayer, to peace, to joy**

**may you all experience
the joy of knowing the Lord**