

I. INTRODUCTION.

A. Scripture text: **1Samuel 1:26-28.**

And 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.

B. In honor of Mother's Day, I want to preach about Hannah.

C. Hannah is a wonderful lesson in the sweet innocent of a woman who loves God and desires to have a family, that she might be a mom.

II. HANNAH WORSHIPPED REGULARLY.

A. See 1Sam. 1:3-5.

Now 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. [4] And when the day came that Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and her daughters; [5] but to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah, but the LORD had closed her womb.

B. It would seem that Hannah had married a good man. Elkanah was obedient to God. He would come to Shiloh to worship every year. He would bring his entire family to the tabernacle to offer sacrifice and give Hannah a double portion to sacrifice.

C. But there was no happiness in this annual pilgrimage, because unlike Peninnah, Hannah was barren.

D. Lesson for mothers today:

Your life may not seem all that you want it to be but keep on serving and worshipping God (Jn. 4:23,24).

"But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. [24] "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

III. HANNAH ENDURED UNDER TRIAL.

A. See 1Sam. 1:6,7.

Her rival, however, would provoke her bitterly to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. [7] And it 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.

B. Polygamy is not God's ideal arrangement for the home (Gen. 2:23,24).

And the man said, "This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." [24] For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

C. Peninnah was a rival of Hannah. Hannah had to endure hardship, taunts, and unkind comments from Peninnah. The NASB says that Peninnah would provoke her bitterly to irritate her. In 1:7 the text says that it got so bad that Hannah could not even eat.

D. Ladies, I'm sure there have been times in your life that stress as piled up to either the point that you don't eat or you over eat. Hannah was at that point.

E. Lesson for mothers today:

Even in a good home, with a godly husband there will be trials and troubles that come your way, Hannah's hope was to turn to God in prayer.

IV. HANNAH'S EFFECTIVE PERSISTENT PRAYER.

A. See 1Sam. 1:9-18.

Then 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. [10] And she, greatly distressed, prayed to the LORD and wept bitterly. [11] And she made a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if Thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of Thy

maidservant and remember me, and not forget Thy maidservant, but wilt give Thy 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.” [12] Now it came about, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli was watching her mouth. [13] As 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. [14] Then Eli said to her, “How long will you make yourself drunk? Put away your wine from you.” [15] But Hannah answered and said, “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. [16] “Do not consider your maidservant as a worthless woman; for I have spoken until now out of my great concern and provocation.” [17] Then Eli answered and said, “Go in peace; and may the God of Israel grant your petition that 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.

- B. Hannah prayed to God for a son. She prayed and wept, fact is, she prayed and wept bitterly. She poured out her soul to God.
- C. It’s OK to cry. Ladies, if you want to get in your prayer closet and have a good long cry to God while you pray--Godspeed. Let your emotions out.
- D. Lesson for mothers today:

Prayer helps erase the stress, the fear, and the worry of life’s problems

(Phil. 4:6,7; Jas. 5:16b).

(Phil 4:6-7) Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. [7] And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

(Jas 5:16) ...The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.

V. HANNAH OFFERED COMPLETE SURRENDER TO GOD.

- A. See 1Sam. 1:11.

And she made a vow and said, “O LORD of hosts, if Thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of Thy maidservant and remember me, and not forget Thy maidservant, but wilt give Thy 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.”
- B. Two things show her complete surrender to God:
 - 1. She called herself a maidservant (handmaid). This term in the Hebrew means “property by right of purchase.” She claimed no rights or authority of her own, she completely gave herself to God and His will.
 - 2. She vowed to give her son away. The very thing that she wanted so badly will now be the very thing she will dedicate to God.
- C. Could it be said that the toughest thing for a mother to give up is her children?
- D. Lesson for mothers today:

True motherhood means being totally God’s maidservant, willing to give up those things that are precious to you.

VI. HANNAH STAYED AT HOME WITH SAMUEL.

- A. See 1Sam.1:21-23.

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] And 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.
- B. I may get in trouble here, because I have gotten in trouble with this point before. Hannah stayed home with Samuel. Mothers, if at all possible, need to stay home with their children.
- C. Even when Elkanah was going to worship (serving God), Hannah knew the value of staying home and being a mother to Samuel.
- D. Lesson for mothers today:

Especially in the early years, moms need to be home with their children--not at work, and the kids not in daycare.

VII. HANNAH FULFILLED HER VOW TO JEHOVAH.

- A. See 1Sam. 1:24-28; 2:11.

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] And 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. (1Sam 2:11) Then Elkanah went to his home at Ramah. But the boy ministered to the LORD before Eli the priest.

- B. How difficult it must have been to let Samuel go-but she did.
- C. Moms never stop being a mom, but there comes a time when you must learn to turn loose, and turn your children over to God. You can't continue to be their "at home mom" forever. Prepare to do what Hannah did.
- D. Lesson for mothers today:
Part of being a good mother is knowing when to cling, and when to let go.

VIII. HANNAH CONTINUED TO LOVE AND SERVE HER SON.

- A. See 1Sam. 2:18,19.

Now Samuel was ministering before the LORD, as a boy wearing a linen ephod. [19] And his mother would make him a little robe and bring it to him from year to year when she would come up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

- B. Hannah's role as Samuel's mom is now different. She brings him a robe each year when the family comes back to offer sacrifice at Shiloh.
- C. Mothers never quit loving their children, they only learn to do so in way that allows their children to mature on their own.
- D. Lesson for mothers today:
Mom's are to realize that they always serve an important role in the lives of their children.

IX. CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. It is right and proper that we honor our mothers.
- B. May the mothers in our audience tonight profit from the example of Hannah.
1. Your life may not seem all that you want it to be but keep on serving and worshipping God
 2. Even in a good home, with a godly husband there will be trials and troubles that come your way, Hannah's hope was to turn to God in prayer.
 3. Prayer helps erase the stress, the fear, and the worry of life's problems
 4. True motherhood means being totally God's maidservant, willing to give up those things that are precious to you.
 5. Especially in the early years, moms need to be home with their children--not at work, and the kids not in daycare.
 6. Part of being a good mother is knowing when to cling, and when to let go
 7. Mom's are to realize that they always serve an important role in the lives of their children.
- C. The Lord's invitation, "Come all you that labor" is extended.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.