

Hannah's Prayer
1 Samuel 1:9-11
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show how God hears & responds to the cries of the faithful.

- Intro:
1. Hannah's prayer is a one that is not uncommon even today.
 2. The desire to have children is a common one but for some it is not always easy or even possible.
 3. God reminds us however that with Him, truly all things are possible and that with great faith comes great blessings.

I. Hannah's Situation

- a. Hannah's husband & his wives (**1 Sam 1:1-2**)
 - b. The name of Hannah's husband Elkanah, means "God has obtained".
 - c. The name Peninnah means "jewel"
 - d. The name Hannah means "grace"
- A. Hannah's hardships (**1 Sam 1:3-9**)
1. Peninnah had children (sons & daughters, **v3**). Hannah did not.
 2. Hannah received double portion from her husband, this may be why her "rival" provoked her severally year after year.
 - a. Perhaps because she could not have children or because, as the Bible says, Elkanah loved her (Hannah).
 3. The actions of her rival combined with being barren drove Hannah to tears and it seems caused a loss of appetite. (**v.7**)
 4. Elkanah reminds Hannah of his love for her and his good treatment of her and shows his concern for her (**v.8-9**).
- B. Hannah's Prayer (**1 Sam 1:10-11**)
1. It is clear from the description of Hannah's prayer that it was one of weeping, discontent and lamenting her situation in general. (**v.10**)
 2. Bitterness includes the idea of discontent. Anguish – has the idea of lamenting, she was weeping in prayer and lamenting her condition.
 3. The Bible doesn't actually record the words of Hannah's prayer but it does reveal her vow or promise to God (**v.11**)
- C. Eli's response to Hannah's actions (**v.12-18**).
1. Eli misunderstands what Hannah is doing (**v.12-14**)
 2. Hannah then explains her prayer (**v.15**)
 - a. Hannah is says she is not such a woman but was instead praying to God. She says she has brought her plea and complaint to God and had spoken out of grief until now (**v.16**).
 3. Eli encourages Hannah (**v.17-18**).
 - a. Hannah went away content after her prayer and talk with a man of God.

II. God's Response

- A. God give's Hannah a child (**1 Sam 1:19-28,2:11**)
1. The Lord "remembered" Hannah. He answered her cry (**v.19-20**)

2. Hannah recalls her vow to God and how He heard her prayer (**v.24-27**).
3. Hannah repeats her vow of her son being a servant of God (**v.28**)
 - a. The “child” (Samuel) ministered to the Lord (**1 Sam 2:11**).
- C. Hannah rejoices (**1 Sam 2:1**)
 1. Hannah rejoiced in the Lord out of joy for what He has done (**1 Sam 2:1**)
 2. Hannah then acknowledges the various things that make God truly great (1 Sam 2:2-11)
- B. Hannah’s faith is rewarded
 1. Hannah’s continued love for Samuel and God’s blessed her (**1 Sam 2:18-20**).
 2. Hannah was greatly blessed by God again and again (**1 Sam 2:21**).

III. Lessons for us today.

- A. **God hears our prayers**
 1. **God hears our prayers and answers according to His own time and will.**
 2. **God showed His mercy to Hannah.**
- B. God rewards faith & obedience
 1. Because Hannah kept her word, God continued to bless her (**1 Sam 2:21**).
 2. Samuel was a humble man through out his ministry and was a faithful servant of God (**1 Sam 3:18-19**)

Application & Conclusion:

1. It seems Hannah truly did find grace in the eyes of God, just as her name suggests.
2. Let us remember always that God answers prayers but does so according to His time and His will and not ours.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9