

## **Hannah: All God Made Her to Be**

### ⇒ **Introduction:**

- The time that Hannah lives was a time when there was no king and the priesthood was corrupt.
  - God was raising up a man to lead the Israelites.
  - As always, when God is choosing to bring forth a leader, He starts in the home.
- Note that with Moses in Exodus, the book itself starts with the description of the home.
  - Note also that the New Testament begins with a description of the family of Jesus.
  - Although there are many good men who come from broken homes, the majority of God's great men come from godly homes.
- Let me ask you this question - "Has there has ever been a time when you personally felt that there was something that the Lord would have you do.?"
- Let ask you this - "What is the one thing all Christians have in common concerning the will of God?"
  - The answer: - "Each person has a specific place he is to fill in the will of God."
  - Our lesson is concerned with Hannah filling her place in the will of God.
  - **See 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11.**

### ⇒ **I. Hannah Could Live Under Disgrace**

- In Old Testament times, it was a disgrace for a woman not to be a mother, Hannah lived under this disgrace.
- In our day there are so many things that we as Christians do unknowingly that bring us under reproach that our people need to be taught how to live.
- It is easy for a person to live as Christian when all the world is shouting, "What a wonderful Christian!"
- When we do something wrong and the people look down upon us, it takes real Christian character to continue to stand and to live as God would have us to do.

### ⇒ **II. Hannah could live facing opposition.**

#### ⇒ **See 1 Samuel 1:6-7.**

- Hannah lived in a household where others constantly reminded her of her disgrace.
  - In fact, the one doing the reminding is called her "adversary."
- People seem to have the idea that when they become Christians, all opposition ceases.
  - That is not so.
  - In reality, opposition doubles.
- You are not only battling with your flesh but also the world and the devil.

- Devil is called our adversary - **1 Pe. 5:8.**
- ⇒ **III. She wanted to be what she was supposed to be.**
- ⇒ **See 1 Samuel 1:8**
  - o Hannah wanted to be a mother, and nothing else would satisfy her.
  - o **Verses 5 and 8** say that with all of the gifts that her husband gave her, she still could not be satisfied being anything less than what she was supposed to be.
- ⇒ **IV. Hannah went to the right people for advice.**
  - o It came time to go up to Shiloh to make the sacrifice, and she went up to talk to the priest to find out what she might do.
  - o This is a tremendous place to impress upon all ages the necessity for going to spiritual people for advice concerning spiritual decisions, to teach the youngsters to go to their Sunday school teachers, the Preacher, and their Christian school teachers.
  - o How dare we ever accept advice from ungodly people!
- ⇒ **V. Adversity brought her closer to the Lord.**
- ⇒ **I Samuel 1:10**
  - o Think of all the opposition, personal turmoil, bitterness of soul that Hannah had, but she prayed unto the Lord.
    - Adversity happens for many reasons.
  - o If the Devil is trying to stop us, then the only way to defeat his purposes entirely is to use that to bring us closer to the Lord.
    - Of course, if the Lord is working to bring us closer to Him, surely that too must be done.
    - Adversity should always bring us closer to the Lord.
- ⇒ **VI. She knew how to pray.**
  - o Little children should not grow up without hearing their parents praying for them.
    - Let me ask you this question: "How many times a day could you find time to pray?"
    - "Upon awaking, when parting, at times of eating food, when meeting others, when hearing of problems, etc."
- ⇒ **VII. Hannah prayed until the answer came.**
  - o She did not just say her "Now I Lay Me's," but she prayed until she knew that God as going to give her that for which she asked.
- ⇒ **VIII. She vowed to use the gift for the Lord.**
  - o Hannah had prayed asking God for the gift of a son.
    - When the gift was promised, she in turn vowed that she would use it for the Lord.
    - How dare we use any godly acquisition in a way that would not bring honor to the One Who bestowed it upon us!
- ⇒ **XI. Hannah was sweet when misunderstood.**
- ⇒ **I Samuel 1:13-14**
  - o She had been praying, and the priest saw her, but not realizing that she was praying, he thought she was drunken.

- What a good spot for her to rise in righteous indignation, but she very sweetly told the priest that she was not drunken but pouring out her soul before the Lord.
  - What a time for us to learn the truth that people are not always going to understand what we do, and human nature being what it is, we will never be given the benefit of the doubt.
- ⇒ **X. Hannah remembered her vows.**
- ⇒ **I Samuel 1:24-28**
- o Hannah had promised the Lord that if He would give her a child, she would in turn lend the child to Him as long as he lived.
    - When the time came for the child to be old enough to be out from under her protection, then she brought her child that the vow might be completed.
- ⇒ **X. Hannah gave God the glory for the victory.**
- ⇒ **I Samuel 2:1-10**
- o Hannah's prayer is one of the greatest Old Testament songs of victory, for in it she gives God all the credit for the blessing that she has attained.
  - o What a wonderful way for little children to grow up, remembering Mother as one who sang the praises of God as she went about her daily duties!
- ⇒ **XII. To be what she was supposed to be was the greatest thing in her life.**
- ⇒ **I Samuel 2: 8**
- o She was saying that the poor sat upon the dunghill and that the Lord could set them among the princes.
  - o It seems that she is saying that she was once as the poor but now was as if she were sitting among the princes.
  - o The only thing that had changed in her life was the fact that she had now become a mother.
  - o In becoming a mother, she had attained that position that she felt God would have for her; and as such, she was at the highest pinnacle.
- ⇒ **XIII. She gave her best to the Lord.**
- o When Samuel was born, he was her greatest possession, but she still gave him to the Lord.
  - o My friend there is great joy in giving our best to the Lord!
- ⇒ **XIV. She did not want her family to have any exceptional consideration.**
- o The little coat that Hannah yearly took to her son in the service of the Lord was aside from all the spiritual implications a covering for his body.
    - As a youngster, he did not know enough to be of real use in the business of God.

- She did not want him to be a burden that he could not absolve by his own efforts.
- ⇒ **Conclusion:**
- o Most every point in this lesson is a good point applicable to any age.
  - o We all need to have Christian characteristics that Hannah had.