

**“Woman Of Faith”**  
**1 Samuel 1:1-28**  
**Mothers Day May 13, 2018**

**1 Samuel 1:1-2; 1 Samuel 1:5-6; 1 Samuel 1:10-11; 1 Samuel 1:20;  
1 Samuel 1:27-28.**

**The Hebrew culture elevated the bearing of children and the family.  
Rachel, Genesis 30:1 – “Give me children, or I'll die!”**

**Thought Of The Passage:** God Often Uses Pain, Which Then Drives Us To Prayer, Resulting In His Will Becoming Our Will.

**1. Verses 1-8 – A Mother’s Pain**

**2. Verses 9-18 – A Mother’s Prayer**

**3. Verses 19-28 – A Mother’s Promise**

**1. Verses 1-8 – A Mother’s Pain:**

1 Samuel 1:1 – “Ramathaim-zophim from the hill country of Ephraim,” – Ramah; This was 15 miles north of Jerusalem.

Elkanah – “God hath created”

1 Samuel 1:2 – “He had two wives:” – The man was a polygamist.

Hannah – “gracious, grace, or favor;” This suited her!

Peninnah – “jewel;” This did not suit her!

Hannah was part of an exclusive group of women of faith who battled barrenness: In Scripture most of the childless women were righteous women, matriarchs of the faith.

Sarah (Abraham’s wife), Rebekah (Isaac’s wife), Rachel (Jacob’s wife), Ruth (Boaz’s wife), and Elizabeth (John the Baptist’s mother).

Children Are A Gift From God: Psalm 127:3-5.

Hannah Had Her Dreams Shattered.

1 Samuel 1:3 – “yearly to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts” – Day of Atonement – “Yom Kippur.”

Importance Of Worshipping Mothers and Fathers.

"in Shiloh" – 20 miles away; The location of the Ark when Joshua conquered the land of Canaan; the Ark remained in Shiloh, Joshua 18:1; Judges 21:19.

"And the two sons of Eli, Hophni" – "brawl;" "and Phinehas" – "mouth of brass;" "were priests to the LORD there." – 1 Samuel 2 – these boys were corrupt, Judges 21:25.

1 Samuel 1:4-5 – "Hannah he would give a double portion," – a divided home. This "double" portion literally means, "to show the face."

"but the LORD had closed her womb." – The reason for barrenness was the Lord.

1 Samuel 1:6 – "would provoke her bitterly to irritate her," – The word "provoke" literally means, "to cause her thunder." She's trying to get Hannah to blow her top! The word "irritate" refers to being stirred up inwardly.

Verse 5 – "but the LORD had closed her womb."

Her barrenness was from the Lord, Job 2:10; Ecclesiastes 7:14.

1 Samuel 1:7 – "It happened year after year, as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she would provoke her,"

1 Samuel 1:8

The Attack Of Misunderstanding – "Hannah, why do you weep and why do you not eat and why is your heart sad?"

Elkanah is doing what many of us husbands do when our wives are hurting. Instead of listening to her, we attempt to rationalize the problems and feelings.

Notice 3 Questions: 1) "why do you weep?" 2) "why do you not eat?" 3) "why is your heart sad?"

"Am I not better to you than ten sons?" – It's frustrating to husbands, fathers, mothers, and wives when we try to meet the need that only the Lord can meet.

## **2. Verses 9-18 – A Mother’s Prayer:**

1 Samuel 1:9-10

A Mark of true spirituality is to be greatly distressed over the lack of fruitfulness in our lives.

Psalm 119:71

1 Samuel 1:11 – “she made a vow ‘O LORD of hosts,’” – “I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life,” – As part of her prayer, she is making a vow.

Hannah now realizes a very important truth: children don’t belong to the parents, they belong to the Lord.

Hannah’s Devotion Was Misunderstood – 1 Samuel 1:12-14.

Maybe if Eli had been watching in prayer instead of watching others pray, he might not have falsely accused this sister.

1 Samuel 1:15-16

Hannah thought it enough to clear herself, and so must we.

1 Samuel 1:17-18 – “So the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.”

It is one thing to tell the Lord about our burdens, and another to cast our burdens upon the Lord. Prayer will smooth the countenance, 1 Peter 5:7.

## **3. Verses 19-28 – A Mother’s Promise:**

1 Samuel 1:19 – “arose early in the morning and worshipped before the LORD, and returned again to their house” – Prayer and worship do not hinder a journey.

1 Samuel 1:20 – “And it came about in due time, after Hannah had conceived,” – God is so good! Psalm 113:9

“Samuel,” – “heard of the Lord, God hears;” – “saying, ‘Because I have asked him of the LORD.’”

2 Corinthians 12:9

God needed a special prophet He could work through. He allowed a time of barrenness in Hannah's life to bring a greater blessing than she could ever imagine.

1 Samuel 1:21-24

Many people make promises to God, only to forget them once time passes. Not so with Hannah.

1 Samuel 1:25-27

1 John 5:15

1 Samuel 1:28 – “dedicated him to the LORD;” – She repeated this twice as if to cement her commitment, 1 Samuel 2:19.

Mothers, One Of The Most Difficult Tasks Is Letting Go.

That's the kind of love that Hannah had for Samuel. She was willing to sacrifice her desires for God's will.

The greatness of Samuel reflects in the greatness of his mother.

Samuel led Israel in its first great revival.  
Samuel drove the Philistines back into their territory.  
Samuel reestablished worship of Jehovah.  
Samuel set up the Kingdom of Israel.  
Samuel anointed David.

1 Samuel 2:21

### **Application:**

1. Mothers – God Allowed A Period Of Barrenness In Hannah's Life In Order To Bring About A Greater Blessing Than She Could Imagine.
2. Mothers – Take Your Sorrows To The Lord In Prayer.
3. Mothers – Make Your Devotion To The Lord First Priority.