

#### Lesson 57

# THE BIRTH OF SAMUEL

#### **Story Elements**

- **TEXT**: 1 Samuel 1:1-2:11
- **Setting**: circa 1105 B.C. in Ramah (Ramathaimzophim)
- Characters: God, Hannah, Elkanah, Peninnah & Eli
- Plot: A barren wife prays to God for a son and promises to dedicate the child to godly service.
- Key words: "
- Climax: "And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore." (vs. 10)

Hannah	'S	Sorrow	ful	. <b>P</b> .	ligl	nt
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1) (1:1-8) In the time of the Judges, a man named \_\_\_\_\_\_ had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah.
a) Hannah had no children and suffered ridicule at the hands of Peninnah who did. (vs. 6)
b) Although polygamy was tolerated and even regulated in in the Old Testament (see. Det. 21:15-17), it was never \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The Bible often portrays polygamy as something that leads to grief and sorrow. (cf. Gen. 21:9-11; 30:1-24)
2) All Israelite men were required to attend \_\_\_\_\_\_ annual feasts at the Tabernacle (Deut. 16:1-7). Elkanah regularly attended with his family.
a) At the time, the Tabernacle and the ark of the covenant resided in \_\_\_\_\_\_, about twenty miles north of Jerusalem. (Josh. 18:1; Jud. 18:31)
b) It was at these feasts that Peninnah would especially torment Hannah because Elkanah would demonstrate his \_\_\_\_\_\_ of Hannah. (vs. 4-8)

### Hannah's Soulful Prayer

- 3) (1:9-11) Following the festivities, Hannah went to the Tabernacle and poured out her heart in prayer. She prayed two things:
  - a) She asked the LORD to give her a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) She vowed that her son would be dedicated to LORD's service as a \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) (1:12-17) Hannah's prayed so fervently that Eli, the priest, assumed she was \_\_\_\_\_\_. Hannah explained her prayerfulness to Eli who blessed her and said: "Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him."

H	annah's Sincere Praise (1:19-2:11)
5)	(1:20) The LORD did indeed open Hannah's womb, and she bore a son and named him Samuel, which means ""
6)	(1:21-23) The time came for Elkanah and his family to return to Shiloh and worship the LORD, but Hannah asked to stay home with Samuel until he was weaned. Why do you think she wanted to abstain from going to the tabernacle until Samuel would be old enough to stay there?
7)	(1:24-28) When Samuel was weaned, Hannah took him to Shiloh as she had vowed to do. Along with the child she also brought a generous to demonstrate the fulfillment of a vow unto God ( <i>cf.</i> Num. 15:8-10).
8)	(2:1-11) Hannah then prayed to God, but instead of asking the LORD for something, she praised the LORD for what he had done. Her prayer contains a description of the of God for his humble people and a rebuke of the proud who live wickedly.
Jai	pplication mes 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be aled. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
9)	Hannah's prayer illustrates "effectual, fervent prayer." These prayers are often born in hearts that are filled with
10	It was said of Hannah that the LORD had "shut up her womb." This was said of Sarah (Gen. 16:2) and Rachel (Gen. 30:2). God exercises His sovereignty over all things, including He gives some women children and not others in accordance to His divine plan.

## **Answer Key**

"Key word(s): "Samuel" | 1. Elkanah; b) recommended | 2. three; a) Shiloh; b) favor | 3. a) son; b) Nazarite | 4. drunken | 5. asked of God | 6. Perhaps she needed more time to prepare her heart for the journey that, would not include a return trip for Samuel. | 7. sacrifice | 8. justice | 9. sorrow | 10. childbearing