

The Birth of Samuel

[1Sa 1:1](#) Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim Zophim, of the mountains of Ephraim, and his name *was* Elkanah the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite.

Where was Samuel's family from?

Who were the Ephraimite's?

Did Elkanah allow anything to be a barrier to keep them from worshipping and fellowshiping with the Lord and His people?

[1Sa 1:2](#) And he had **two wives**: the name of one *was* Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

How does the Bible view polygamy?

[1Sa 1:3](#) This man went up from his city yearly to worship and sacrifice to the LORD of hosts in Shiloh. Also, the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, *were* there.

Why did Elkanah and his family go to Shiloh to worship?

Who was Eli?

What roles did Eli's sons have?

Why we're Eli's sons mentioned?

Did Elkanah judge God's character based on Eli's sons?

Why does God delay His judgement?

What scene do we see being set?

Who does the Lord use?

[1Sa 1:4](#) And whenever the time came for Elkanah to make an offering, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and daughters.

What sacrifice was made that the worshiper would be given a portion of the sacrifice?

What feast would the worshiper make a sacrifice any share the offering with all the family and those around?

[1Sa 1:5](#) But to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah, although **the LORD had closed her womb.**

[1Sa 1:6](#) And **her rival** also provoked her severely, to make her miserable, because the LORD had closed her womb.

1Sa 1:7 So it was, year by year, when she went up to the house of the LORD, that she provoked her; therefore she wept and did not eat.

Do we go through painful trials in life?

Does God have a purpose that He desires to work through our painful trials?

Is there any trial that is too hard for God?

Hannah's Vow

1Sa 1:8 Then Elkanah her husband said to her, "**Hannah, why do you weep?** Why do you not eat? And why is your heart grieved? **Am I not better to you than ten sons?**"

What could Elkanah has said differently?

Do we as men often times not realize that our wives has needs that we can not fill?

1Sa 1:9 So **Hannah arose after they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh.** Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the tabernacle of the LORD.

1Sa 1:10 And she *was* in bitterness of soul, and **prayed to the LORD** and wept in anguish.

1Sa 1:11 Then **she made a vow** and said, "**O LORD of hosts,** if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and

remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a male child, **then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life**, and no razor shall come upon his head."

Do we see difficulties and trials solved and clarity given after spending time with the Lord just once, twice or maybe 3 times many times?

What did Hannah do to receive clarity and understanding in her trials?

Oh Lord of Hosts – a title used 260 times in the OT, Lord of the Mighty Armies... Hannah felt attacked by her rival.

What did Hannah come to that would resolve her trial in her life?

Eli watches Hannah's silent prayer

[1Sa 1:12](#) And it happened, **as she continued praying** before the LORD, that Eli watched her mouth.

[1Sa 1:13](#) **Now Hannah spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard.** Therefore Eli thought she was drunk.

[1Sa 1:14](#) So Eli said to her, "**How long will you be drunk?** Put your wine away from you!"

What is the best thing we can do when we don't see any outcome to previous prayers?

What can we also pray while we are praying for the original thing we are waiting to hear from the Lord on?

Why is it important to have God's heart when He answers our prayer (yes/no/or not now)?

Hannah's response, Eli's blessing

[1Sa 1:15](#) But Hannah answered and said, "**No, my lord**, I *am* a woman of sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor intoxicating drink, but have **poured out my soul before the LORD.**

[1Sa 1:16](#) Do not consider your maidservant a wicked woman, for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief I have spoken until now."

[1Sa 1:17](#) Then Eli answered and said, "Go in peace, and **the God of Israel grant your petition** which you have asked of Him."

[1Sa 1:18](#) 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.**

Hannah's response with tact, but not arrogant, could Hannah have accused Eli of his sons actions in the Tabernacle?

What is the best Worship we can do?

Why or when does God grant our prayers?

How did Hannah's countenance change?

Is there comfort in the Lord? Col 2:2

Samuel's miraculous conception and birth

1Sa 1:19 Then they rose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD, and returned and came to their house at Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her.

1Sa 1:20 So it came to pass in the process of time that Hannah conceived and bore a son, and called his name Samuel, *saying*, "Because I have asked for him from the LORD."

How Hannah's worship now?

Had the Lord ever forgotten about Hannah?

What does it mean that the Lord remembered?

Does the Lord's work often fill delayed?

Samuel Given to the Lord

1Sa 1:21 Now the man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and his vow.

1Sa 1:22 But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, "*Not until the child is weaned*; then I will take him, that he may appear before the LORD and remain there forever."

1Sa 1:23 So Elkanah her husband said to her, "Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him. **Only let the LORD establish His word.**" Then the woman stayed and nursed her son until she had weaned him.

Who is important to remember when blessings come into our life or trials are removed or solved?

Who should we obey in every situation and circumstance in our life?

What is the best thing that we can have established in our life early on?

Why is it so valuable to have God's Word established in our lives early on?

Hannah dedicates Samuel to God's service

1Sa 1:24 Now when she had weaned him, **she took him up with her, with three bulls**, one ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD in Shiloh. And the child *was* young.

1Sa 1:25 Then they slaughtered **a bull**, and brought the child to Eli.

1Sa 1:26 And she said, "O my lord! As your soul lives, my lord, I *am* the woman who stood by you here, praying to the LORD.

1Sa 1:27 For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition which I asked of Him.

1Sa 1:28 Therefore **I also have lent him to the LORD**; as long as he lives he shall be lent to the LORD." **So they worshiped the LORD there.**

How costly was it to Hannah and Elkanah to fulfill their vow to the Lord?

What does their fulfilling their vow tell us about their hearts toward the Lord?

What are the differences in 3 bulls and the 1 bull that was later mentioned?

What was a repeated characteristic and response of Elkanah and his family?

The families worship was always centered around what action of their own?

In difficult situations is it still possible to worship the Lord and be thankful?

What can we always be thankful for?