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## Hannah

*The Direction of Faithfulness*



- The books of 1 Samuel begins with a 4 chapter comparison between a lowly, but godly woman - Hannah - and a highly-positioned but wicked man - Eli. Once again God demonstrates that He does not see as man sees, nor work as man works. Rather than work through the educated and respected priest, God chooses faithful Hannah through whom to demonstrate His glory, and bring forth the prophet Samuel.
- In 1 Samuel 1, mention is made of “The house of the Lord” at Shiloh (vs. 7) and the “temple of the Lord” (vs. 9) even though the Temple Solomon built would not be built for several years. The answer is that, for many years the Ark of the Covenant and the Tabernacle had been set up in in Shiloh (see: 4:3,4). Thus, when it came time to celebrate the festivals, the Israelites trekked to Shiloh which was located in the land of Ephraim. Additionally, the Tabernacle built in Exodus 40 was often referred to as the “house of the Lord” or the “temple.”
- Hannah was just the latest in a long sequence of women who were unable to have children until God opened their womb. In each case, the offspring played a major role in the redemptive plan of God. Sarah brought forth Isaac; Rebecca brought forth Jacob; Rachel brought forth Joseph; and here Hannah brings forth Samuel. This remarkable string of providentially arranged births sets us up for the culmination of God’s pattern of miraculous births through Mary.
- Hannah’ Song (1 Samuel 2:1-10) is very similar to that of David in 2 Samuel 22. It appears that the author of these books intends us to see these “victory prayers” as bookends, and expects the reader to understand that all the material in between speaks to the protection and provision God extends to His people Israel.
- It is likely that Hannah’s Song was one familiar to her and to the worshippers at Shiloh. Out of her heart of thankfulness she offers this song as a prayer to God, much as we do when we sing songs of praise.

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*The Direction of Faithfulness*  
Genesis, Chapters 12-22

**Introduction:** The story of Hannah reminds us of a very important truth: *God is near to all who trust Him, regardless of the challenges they face or the position they occupy.*

### Hannah’s Story

Genesis 12-22

The Tragedy of Barrenness:	1:1-8
The Direction of Faithfulness:	1:9-18
God Remembers Hannah:	1:19, 20
Hannah Remembers Her Vow:	1:21-28
Hannah’s Song of Thanksgiving:	2:1-10
The Triumph of Faithfulness	2:11, 18-21

### GOD:LIFE LESSONS

### JESUS CHRIST:LIFE FOCUS

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### GOD: LIFE LESSONS

Prayer is the outlet God gives us by which we can escape the brokenness world, and enjoy the peace of Heaven.

Prayer is not our way of letting God know our will in Heaven; this is God's way of aligning our hearts with His will on earth.

God is a God of relationship, and He desires that we know, love, and trust Him.

We must see our relationship with God - not as a list of duties - but as the privilege of being in love.

Only God knows the chapters of our lives that are yet to be written, and He uses "today" to prepare and fit things for Him "tomorrow".

We must see every day, and every challenge and every opportunity as part of God's great ongoing work to use us for His glory.

### JESUS CHRIST: LIFE FOCUS

Ultimately, our escape from brokenness is only found in Jesus Christ, in whom we experience true relationship with God, and through whom we will one day become a trophy of God's transforming grace.