

LORD, INCREASE OUR FAITH

Sermon Three – “Samuel’s Mother—Hannah, A Mother of Faith”

Text: Hebrews 10:32; I Samuel 1-2

INTRODUCTION: Faith is saying with boldness what God has already said. Hebrews 13:5-6 says, “Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have; for **He hath said**, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. **So that we may boldly say**, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.” These verses give us a New Testament Principle of an Old Testament Precept.

1. “For He (God) hath said . . .”
2. “So that we may boldly say . . .”

Now, let’s talk about Mother’s Day. The Bible speaks much of mothers: We are to **honor** mothers (Exodus 20:12; Proverbs 1:8; Proverbs 6:20).

I. SAMUEL’S MOTHER—HANNAH, A MOTHER OF FAITH

A. The phrase most often used in the Bible with reference to mothers is the phrase, “His mother’s name was . . .”

1. After reading through the historical books of I and II Kings and I and II Chronicles, the words “**His mother’s name was**” appears when introducing the kings of Israel and Judah. I asked myself, why this phrase was used so often. Then I asked the Lord to show me the reason.
2. I believe it is because of the great influence that mothers have in shaping the lives of their children. Those who become presidents, kings, and queens, or however great or prominent a person becomes, it is most often their mothers who challenged, inspired, and motivated them to strive for greatness.

B. Mothers have a tremendous influence on the lives of their children. Their influence can be a treasured influence or a tragic influence.

1. Whatever type of mother you have or had will forever impact your life! Whatever type of mother you are will forever impact the life of your child or children!
2. There is no job description that covers all that a mother is, does, and is expected to do. Her work is most demanding of all.
3. Mothers have to be responsible to rear kings, queens, princes, princesses, presidents, senator, congressmen, doctors, lawyers, engineers, astronauts, preachers, teachers, etc.

C. Mother’s Day Quotes:

1. “All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel Mother.” ~Abraham Lincoln
2. “What is home without a mother?” ~Alice Hawthorne

3. "The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother." ~David O. McKay
4. "The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother." ~Napoleon Bonaparte
5. "For the hands that rock the cradle, is the hand that rules the world." ~W. R. Wallace
6. "My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her." ~George Washington
7. "If a mother believes that her child will succeed, the child will succeed. Every successful child is the product of an enthusiastic Mother." ~Reed Markham, American Educator
8. "I remember my mother's prayers and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life." ~Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)

II. NOTICE HANNAH'S PLIGHT (I Samuel 1:5-8)

- A. Hannah was barren. She longed to have children, but God had shut up her womb.
- B. In ancient Israel it was considered a curse to not have children. Women especially wanted to have sons.
- C. Hannah also had Peninnah as an adversary who provoked her sore to make her fret (vs. 6).
- D. Hannah wept and did not eat because of her desperate plight.
- E. Her husband Elkanah did not understand why she was so grieved (vs. 8).

III. LOOK AT HANNAH'S PRAYER OF FAITH (I Samuel 1:10)

- A. Hannah's prayer was a prayer of faith.
- B. In the bitterness of her soul she prayed unto the Lord. She poured out her soul to God.
- C. For the first time in Scripture the name *Jehovah Sabaoth*, which means the Lord of warrior hosts or the Lord of armies, is used.
- D. Hannah was calling upon the God of armies to fight her battles for her!

IV. NOTICE HANNAH'S PROMISE OF FAITH (I Samuel 1:11-17)

- A. As Hannah prayed she made a vow to God.
- B. She promised to God that if He gave her a son, she would give the son back to God to serve God all the days of his life (vs. 11).
- C. Hannah promised God that she would train her son to be a lifelong Nazarite, wholly set apart for God.

- D. She would mold him to live with a consuming passion for God.
- E. Hannah's brokenness stirred the heart of God.
- F. Eli, the old priest thought that she was drunk.
- G. Hannah had more power with God in her fifty-five words of prayer than the priest and judge of Israel during fifty-five years of ministry.

V. LOOK AT HANNAH'S PRONOUNCEMENT OF FAITH (I Samuel 1:18-27)

- A. Hannah prayed in faith.
- B. She knew that God had answered her prayer.
- C. A song welled up in her soul.
- D. Her faith showed in her face (*"Her countenance was no more sad."* vs. 18).
- E. When the child was born, Hannah named him Samuel.
 1. This was her pronouncement of her faith in God.
 2. She had prayed in faith, and God had heard and answered her prayer (*"Because I have asked him of the Lord"* vs. 20).
- F. When Elkanah went up to offer unto the Lord the yearly sacrifice, Hannah announced to her husband that she was not going until she had weaned the child that God had given to her and that she was going to present him before the Lord to abide there for ever (vs. 22).

VI. NOTICE HANNAH'S PERFORMANCE OF FAITH (I Samuel 1:24-28)

- A. Faith always leads to action for God!
- B. After Samuel had been weaned, Hannah took him up to the house of the Lord with the proper sacrifice to offer to the Lord.
- C. Elkanah and Hannah slew a bullock. They were putting their child under the blood and claimed the coming victory of Calvary.
- D. When you think of the spiritually dark days in which Hannah lived and the low spiritual life of Eli and the wicked ways of his sons, it took great faith for Hannah to leave her young child in Eli's care.
- E. Hannah was not trusting in Eli to take care of Samuel; she was trusting in God who had given her a son!

VII. LOOK AT HANNAH'S PRAISE OF FAITH (I Samuel 2:1-10)

- A. Hannah was praying and rejoicing at the same time.
- B. She believed that the Lord was going to do great things for His people and that

her son would be greatly used by God to accomplish His will.

VIII. NOTICE HANNAH'S PRODUCT OF FAITH (I Samuel 2:11, 18, 21, 26; 3:1-12, 19-21; I Samuel 12:1-23)

- A. Samuel is the man that God used as a bridge between man's king (Saul) and God's king (David).
- B. God raised up Samuel when Israel desperately needed direction (I Samuel 1:10-27; 2:18; 3:1, 10-21).
- C. He was the last of the judges (I Samuel 7:15-17; Acts 13:20) and the first in a new line of prophets after Moses (I Samuel 3:20).
- D. He established a school for training prophets.
- E. He anointed two kings (Saul and David—I Samuel 9:15-16; 10:1; 16:12-13).
- F. In I Samuel, the Israelites had decided that they did not want to be led by God or by His appointed prophet, Samuel. They wanted to be "Like All the Nations."
- G. God's design and desire for them and their strength lay in the fact that they were to be unlike all the other nations! They were to be different!
- H. In I Samuel 12, Samuel rehearsed the history of the people of God and called them to witness against him if he had mistreated them as a leader among them. They agreed that he had not defrauded them (I Samuel 12:3-4).

CONCLUSION: Hannah was a "**Mother of Faith.**" Her prayer produced a son that led the nation of Israel in dark days when "*there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.*" It goes without saying that Hannah had a tremendous influence on her son. Is it any wonder that Samuel is listed in the Hall of Fame of Faith? Samuel had a "**Mother of Faith.**"