

Communion Meditation – Hannah’s Prayer

1 Sam 1.21-28 “Hannah is Faithful” January 20th, 2018

Recap of Earlier Messages

- “Hannah was Miserable” ~ 1 Sam 1.1-7 ~ tormented by Penninah
- “Hannah was Peaceful” ~ 1 Sam 1.8-18 ~ comforted by Eli’s prayer
- “God Answers Prayer” ~ 1 Sam 1.19-20 ~ given a son by God

Hannah’s Vow

- v11 ~ “Then she made a vow .. give .. a male child .. I will give him”
- v19-20 ~ “the Lord remembered her .. Hannah conceived and bore a son”
- Read v23 ~ “So Elkanah .. establish His Word” ~ Husband reminds her of vow
 - Septuagint– “The Lord establish that which is gone forth out of thy mouth”
 - Elkanah was concerned that Hannah keep her vow to God
 - Num 30.15 ~ “If he does not make them void .. then he shall bear her guilt”

Hannah’s Faithfulness

- v24 ~ “when she had weaned him” ~ probably between 2 and 3 years old
 - Offerings ~ meat, grain, and wine for burnt, sin, and peace
- v27a ~ “For this child I prayed” ~ This boy – this son to be a Nazirite
- v27b ~ “The Lord has granted me my petition” ~ Eli knew she wanted a son
- v28a ~ “Therefore, I also have lent him to the Lord” ~ Did Eli know this part?
- v28b ~ “as long as he lives he shall be lent to the Lord” ~ lifelong service
 - Hannah’s vow obligated herself, her husband, and her son Samuel

The Law of the Nazirite

- The Nazirite vow explained in Num 6 / Aaronic blessing at end of chapter
 - Nazirite vow described as temporary yet Samson / Samuel lifelong
 - Num 6.8 ~ “All the days of his separation he shall be holy to the Lord”
- Vows are serious / Ecc 5.5 “Better not to vow than to vow and not pay”

Hannah was granted the desire of her heart, yet gave it back to God as promised
David poured out water from well his men had acquired risking their lives
Are we prepared to give God our very best? Will we honor our vows?