

FAITHFUL INTERPRETERS OF HIS MIND AND WILL

Now there was a certain man from Ramathaim-zophim from the hill country 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. ² He had two wives: the name of one was Hannah and the name of the other Peninnah; and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

³ Now this man would go up from his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice to the Lord of hosts in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests to the Lord there. ⁴ When the day came that Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and her daughters; ⁵ but to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah, but the Lord had closed her womb. ⁶ Her rival, however, would provoke her bitterly to irritate her, because the Lord had closed her womb. ⁷ It happened year after year, as often as she went up to the house of the Lord, she would provoke her; so she wept and would not eat. ⁸ Then Elkanah her husband said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep and why do you not eat and why is your heart sad? Am I not better to you than ten sons?"

⁹ Then Hannah rose after eating and drinking in Shiloh. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the temple of the Lord. ¹⁰ She, greatly distressed, prayed to the Lord and wept bitterly. ¹¹ 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 son, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and a razor shall never come on his head." **1 Samuel 1:1-11 NASB**

- Elkanah had two wives...bodies in motion cause friction.
 - Hannah is well loved but she is also consistently shamed (see **v6**) and ridiculed.
 - An endless duration to her difficulty...this happened year after year.
v7
 - Elkanah doesn't get it...but you get me...and I am better than ten sons.
 - Hannah is greatly distressed...bitter of soul...and she wept and cried out to the Lord in prayer.
 - She promises (vows) the Lord that if He gives her a son, she will dedicate him for a lifetime to the Lord. **V11**

¹² Now it came about, as she ^lcontinued praying before the Lord, that Eli was watching her mouth. ¹³ As for Hannah, she was speaking in her heart, only her lips were moving,

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but her voice was not heard. So, Eli thought she was drunk. ¹⁴ Then Eli said to her, “How long will you make yourself drunk? Put away your wine from you.” ¹⁵ But Hannah replied, “No, my lord, I am a woman oppressed in spirit; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have poured out my soul before the Lord. ¹⁶ Do not consider your maidservant as a worthless woman, for I have spoken until now out of my great concern and provocation.” ¹⁷ Then Eli answered and said, “Go in peace; and may the God of Israel grant your petition that you have asked of Him.” ¹⁸ 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*. **1 Samuel 1:12-18 NASB**

- Eli the priest, hears her wailing prayer and accuses her of being drunk. This is not his first faulty perception.
 - Eli and Hannah get things worked out and he blesses her and prays that God will answer her...a sort of pre-natal baby dedication.

¹⁹ Then they arose early in the morning and worshiped before the LORD AND returned again to their house in Ramah. And Elkanah had relations with Hannah, his wife, and the LORD remembered her. ²⁰ It came about in due time, after Hannah had conceived, that she gave birth to a son; and she named him Samuel, *saying*, “Because I have asked him of the LORD.” ²¹ Then the man Elkanah went up with all his household to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and *pay* his vow. ²² But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, “*I will not go up* until the child is weaned; then I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD and stay there forever.” ²³ Elkanah her husband said to her, “Do what seems best to you. Remain until you have weaned him; only may the LORD confirm His word.” So, the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him. ²⁴ Now when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, with a three-year-old bull and one ephah of flour and a jug of wine and brought him to the house of the LORD in Shiloh, although the child was young. ²⁵ Then they slaughtered the bull, and brought the boy to Eli. ²⁶ She said, “Oh, my lord! As your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the LORD. ²⁷ For this boy I prayed, and the LORD has given me my petition which I asked of Him. ²⁸ So I have also dedicated him to the LORD; as long as he lives he is dedicated to the LORD.” And he worshiped the LORD there. **1 Samuel 1:19-28 NASB**

- Hannah gets pregnant and Samuel is born!
 - She keeps her word and when Samuel is weaned, she takes him to Eli and keeps her promise.
 - Samuel will grow up to be an incredible man of God.

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- In **1 Samuel 2:1-11**, Hannah worships God.
 - This is a song of thanksgiving from Hannah to the Lord.

Then Hannah prayed and said, “My heart exults in the LORD; my horn is exalted in the LORD, my mouth speaks boldly against my enemies, because I rejoice in Your salvation. ² “There is no one holy like the LORD, indeed, there is no one besides You, nor is there any rock like our God. **1 Samuel 2:1-2 NASB**

- Hannah and her family return home, but Samuel ministers to the Lord before Elie the priest. **V11**

¹² Now the sons of Eli were worthless men; they did not know the Lord ¹³ and the custom of the priests with the people. When any man was offering a sacrifice, the priest’s servant would come while the meat was boiling, with a three-pronged fork in his hand. ¹⁴ Then he would thrust it into the pan, or kettle, or caldron, or pot; all that the fork brought up the priest would take for himself. Thus, they did in Shiloh to all the Israelites who came there. ¹⁵ Also, before they burned the fat, the priest’s servant would come and say to the man who was sacrificing, “Give the priest meat for roasting, as he will not take boiled meat from you, only raw.” ¹⁶ If the man said to him, “They must surely burn the fat first, and then take as much as you desire,” then he would say, “No, but you shall give *it to me* now; and if not, I will take it by force.” ¹⁷ Thus the sin of the young men was very great before the Lord, for the men despised the offering of the Lord. **1 Samuel 2:12-17 NASB**

- The sin of Eli’s sons, they were base, worthless men,
 - Hophni – a handful, a pugilist, a fighter.
 - Phinehas – a look of compassion; the mouth of a serpent of brass.

¹⁸ Now Samuel was ministering before the Lord, *as* a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ And his mother would make him a little robe and bring it to him from year to year when she would come up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰ Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, “May the Lord give you children from this woman in place of the one she dedicated to the Lord.” And they went to their own home. **1 Samuel 2:18-20 NASB**

- Samuel continues to grow, and his parents are blessed with five more children.

²² Now Eli was very old; and he heard all that his sons were doing to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who served at the doorway of the tent of meeting. ²³ He said to them, “Why do you do such things, the evil things that I hear from all these

people? ²⁴ No, my sons; for the report is not good which I hear the Lord's people circulating. ²⁵ If one man sins against another, God will mediate for him; but if a man sins against the Lord, who can intercede for him?" But they would not listen to the voice of their father, for the Lord desired to put them to death. **1 Samuel 2:22-25 NASB**

- Eli's sons violated the worship of the Lord with their arrogance and greed and then insulted Him by their brazen indulgence.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel grew and was in favor both with the Lord and with men. ²⁷ A man of God came to Eli and said to him, Thus has the Lord said: I plainly revealed Myself to the house of your father [forefather Aaron] when they were in Egypt in bondage to Pharaoh's house. ²⁸ Moreover, I selected him out of all the tribes of Israel to be My priest, to offer on My altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before Me. And I gave [from then on] to the house of your father [forefather] all the offerings of the Israelites made by fire. ²⁹ Why then do you kick [trample upon, treat with contempt] My sacrifice and My offering which I commanded, and honor your sons above Me by fattening yourselves upon the choicest part of every offering of My people Israel?

³⁰ Therefore the Lord, the God of Israel, says, I did promise that your house and that of your father [forefather Aaron] should go in and out before Me forever. But now the Lord says, Be it far from Me. For those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed. ³¹ Behold, the time is coming when I will cut off your strength and the strength of your own father's house, that there shall not be an old man in your house. ³² And you shall behold the distress of My house, even in all the prosperity which God will give Israel, and there shall not be an old man in your house forever.

³³ Yet I will not cut off from My altar every man of yours; some shall survive to weep and mourn [over the family's ruin], but all the increase of your house shall die in their best years. ³⁴ And what befalls your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, shall be a sign to you—in one day they both shall die. [Fulfilled in I Sam. 4:17, 18.] ³⁵ And I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest (Priest), who shall do according to what is in My heart and mind. And I will build him a sure house, and he shall walk before My anointed (Anointed) forever. ³⁶ Everyone who is left in your house shall come crouching to him for a piece of silver and a bit of bread and say, Put me, I pray you, into a priest's office so I may have a piece of bread. **1 Samuel 2:26-36 AMPC**

- Samuel was growing in a stature but also in favor of the Lord and the Lord's people.

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- A prophet comes to speak to Eli the priest.
 - “Did I not give to the house of your Father all the offerings of the Israelites made by fire?” **v28**
 - “Why do you that with contempt the offerings I commanded?”
 - “Why do you honor your sons above Me?”
 - “But now know this...those who honor Me I will honor...those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed!”
 - “There shall not be any old men in your family.”
 - Both sons will pass on in one day.” (see **1 Samuel 4:17-18**)

³⁵ And I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest (Priest), who shall do according to what is in My heart and mind. And I will build him a sure house, and he shall walk before My anointed (Anointed) forever. ³⁶ Everyone who is left in your house shall come crouching to him for a piece of silver and a bit of bread and say, Put me, I pray you, into a priest’s office so I may have a piece of bread. **1 Samuel 2:35-36 AMPC**

- “I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who shall do according to what is in My heart and mind.”
- “Who acts in accord with My mind and My Spirit...” **Modern Language Bible**
- “Who is to do whatever I plan and desire...” **Moffatt**
- “That shall be a faithful interpreter of My mind and will...” **Knox**
 - Samuel is that kind of priest.

⁵ Extol the Lord our God and worship at His footstool! Holy is He! ⁶ Moses and Aaron were among His priests, and Samuel was among those who called upon His name; they called upon the Lord, and He answered them. ⁷ He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept His testimonies and the statutes that He gave them. ⁸ You answered them, O Lord our God; You were a forgiving God to them, although avenging their evildoing *and* wicked practices. ⁹ Extol the Lord our God and worship at His holy hill, for the Lord our God is holy! **Psalms 99:5-9 AMPC**

- Samuel and Moses prayed, and God answered in the pillar of the cloud and He forgave them through His mercy.

²⁰ We know *and* acknowledge, O Lord, our wickedness and the iniquity of our fathers; for we have sinned against You. ²¹ Do not abhor, condemn, *and* spurn us, for Your name’s sake; do not dishonor, debase, *and* lightly esteem Your glorious throne; [earnestly] remember, break not Your covenant *or* solemn pledge with us. ²² Are there

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any among the false gods of the nations who can cause rain? Or can the heavens [of their own will] give showers? Are You [alone] not He, O Lord our God? Therefore, we will wait [expectantly] for You, for You have made all these things [the heavens and the rain]. **Jeremiah 14:20-22 AMPC**

- If God was to listen to anybody's intercession, it would be Moses or Samuel but in this case, not even Samuel or Moses would make a difference.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for *God's* own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; **1 Peter 2:9 NASB**

And I will build him a sure house, and he shall walk before My anointed forever. **1 Samuel 2:35b**

I will found a family for Him, a family that lasts...**Moffatt**

A family that will not come to an end. **The Bible in Basic English**