

The Anointed King: Anticipation For A Forever King Begins

An Ordinary faith in an Extraordinary God

1 Samuel 1.1-2.11

Main Idea

The centrality of God in all things infuses prayer such that God is pleased to move through it to bring hope to His people.

Overview

- Setting of Samuel is the closing of the book of Judges where “everyone was doing what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 21.25)
- Hannah’s womb is closed by the Lord and she is deeply distressed (1.1-10)
 - Other great women of the faith also had their wombs closed by the Lord
 - The Lord used them to bring about a child that was very important
 - So the Author is readying us
- Hannah goes to God with her distress and asks Him to give her a Son and then she will return that Son to God (vs. 11-20)
 - The Lord was pleased to answer Hannah’s prayer
- Hannah weaned Samuel then brought him to Shiloh (where Tabernacle is) to dedicate to the Lord and fulfill her vow
- Hannah responds with a beautifully God centered prayer (2.1-10)
- Hannah prays for God to strengthen His King and exalt His anointed (2.10)
 - Anointed = Messiah = Christ
 - It is the in the context of God judging the earth
 - This sounds like what Paul says in Phil. 2.9-11
- God used a simple woman from a small town who had a great faith

Questions

Discussion Starter: How do you see people longing for hope in a better “King” and “Kingdom” both here and around the world?

1. Read the final sentence of Judges and describe the environment that Hannah (and all of Samuel) is being introduced. Discuss the ways the Bible is pieced together as a story and how it helps us understand it when we read it as such.
2. Read 1 Samuel 1:1-20. Review the difficulty of Hannah’s life. Read Vs. 11 and discuss the faith of Hannah to vow to give her son back to the Lord. Are there ways you need to do this? Why is it difficult to ask for things and then not return them *if* received?
3. Note that the Lord “remembered” Hannah (vs. 19). Why is it we often want to pull away from God in “deep distress” instead of going to Him in faith believing He can and will move in our midst?
4. Work through Hannah’s responsive prayer in 2.1-10. Note the centrality of God in all things in the mind of Hannah. How can we learn to see the world in the way that Hannah does?
5. Note how Hannah understands that God is often mindful of those that are not valued in society (mighty broken, but feeble strengthened, vs 4; those full have hired out, hungry don’t hunger, vs 5; barren borne seven, vs. 5; He raises up poor and makes rich, vs. 7, etc.) Does what and who you value need to change in light of this? How is this like the Gospel?
6. Read 2.10 carefully and note that Hannah prays for God’s king to be strengthened and His anointed (Messiah or Christ) to be exalted. Is your prayer life marked with a jealousy to see Christ exalted in the world? What does this look like in the day to day?

7. In what ways do you see Hannah modeling Christ? How can you learn to walk in those same ways this week? How can Restoration Church walk in these ways?

Accountability question: Is there anything that you are in 'deep distress' about that you need to go to God, ask Him to move, and then return that gift to Him? Confess those things to your brothers/sisters and invite them to pray with you.

Or

Noting the simple life of an otherwise smitten woman in the eyes of the world, do you value the strong, powerful, and successful things of the world more than the humble, quiet, and simple, yet mighty faithfulness of Gods people?