

Sermon Outline

Hannah - the faithful woman in Israel | Geoff Lin

"Give us a king to lead us!" (1 Samuel)		
10/5	Hannah - the faithful woman in Israel	1 Samuel 1-2
17/5	Samuel - the last Judge in Israel	1 Samuel 3-7
24/5	THE King of Israel	1 Samuel 8
31/5	What is a Christian? (Commitment Sunday)	
7/6	Saul - Israel's First King	1 Samuel 9-15
14/6	David - Israel's Second King	1 Samuel 16-17
21/6	Civil War in Israel - Part 1	1 Samuel 18-31

- "the LORD" = Yahweh = Jehovah (Israel's covenant name for God)

The bigger and better story we belong to ...				
Genesis	Exodus	Lev/Num/Dt	Joshua	Judges (Ruth)
God's promise to Abraham	Moses leads Israel out of slavery in Egypt	40 years wandering in the desert	Joshua leads Israel into the Promised Land	After Joshua dies, Israel descends into anarchy

1. Hannah's first prayer (1 Samuel 1:1-28)

i. Anguish, grief, bitter weeping and misery (vv1-8)

- Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Jacob and Rachel; Samson's parents

Q. WHY is Hannah infertile?

- Hannah turns towards God, not away from Him

ii. Bargaining with God (vv9-20)

Ruth 1:20 Call me Mara, because the Almighty has made my life very bitter

Jdg 17:6 In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

Jdg 18:1 In those days Israel had no king.

Jdg 19:1 In those days Israel had no king.

Jdg 21:25 In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

- the complete inadequacy of Eli the priest ...

Q. WHEN does Hannah's face stop being downcast?

- **Deep Dive** (730-9pm, Thu 23 June, "Does God change His mind?")

- in Hebrew, "Samuel" sounds like "heard by God"

iii. A promise kept (vv21-28)

Q. Is Hannah tempted to renege on her bargain with God?

- "may the LORD make good HIS word"

1 Pet 5:6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

2. Hannah's second prayer (1 Samuel 2:1-11)

Q. WHY does Hannah pray this prayer after handing her child over to the LORD?

- as Hannah entrusts Samuel to Eli, it's clearly all up to God ...

What we're skipping over: In 1 Samuel 2:12-28, Eli's sons have no regard for the LORD (v12); the LORD is abundantly gracious to Hannah and she gives birth to 5 more children (v21); Samuel grows in stature and favour with the LORD and all the people (v26)

For next week: please read 1 Samuel 3-7

So what, for us?

Q1. Are we allowed to make bargains with God?

Q2. Should we expect God to always answer our prayers in the way that we want and in the timing that we prefer?

Rom 8:28 And we know that in **all things God works for the good of those who love him**, who have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined **to be conformed to the image of his Son**, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

My prayer: "Father, work in all things for my good: make me more like your Son Jesus"