

# Hannah's Prayer

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1 Samuel 2:1-11

Pastor Mark Turner  
Oak Community Church (PCA)

## Review:

- We are all barren like Hannah without hope except for God
- God used her barrenness to draw her to Him in prayer
- Prayer causes us to focus on God's character & see God work

## A Response of Prayer:

- More worship plus a strange prayer for a simple mother
- Previously, Hannah prayed with sad heart<sup>1:8</sup>, now exulting<sup>2:1</sup>
- Story is not prescriptive, but shows us redemptive history
- Hannah's prayer echos her experience, but also reflects on God's actions toward His people

## Praise of the Incomparable God 1-2

- Hannah focuses on the Giver, not the gift (baby)
- Hannah realizes this is much bigger than just her - covenant
- Praises God for turning the tables - *my horn is exalted*<sup>2:1</sup>
- Declares God's Holiness<sup>2:2</sup>
- God's Holiness should provide us great comfort
  - He is separate from His creatures
  - His motives are pure<sup>Hab1:13</sup>, not perverse or callous
  - Affliction for believers is but temporary, justice is coming

## Praise to the God of Reversals 3-8

- God is Creator<sup>2:8</sup>, sovereign and in-control.
- Relationship by Grace alone - *for not by might shall a man prevail*<sup>2:9</sup>
- Think you are capable - God will reverse that v4-8
- This prayer is more than Hannah's personal experience
- Tone for rest of Samuel: Saul starts proud<sup>1S9:2</sup>; slain<sup>1S31:8</sup>
- David's lament<sup>2S1:19</sup>; God has a different economy<sup>1s55:9</sup>
- David introduced as nothing<sup>1S16:11</sup>; end of life<sup>2S22:47-51</sup>
- Samuel is a Gospel picture - can't do it by our own strength
- Let us as American church learn these lessons: let our barrenness and weakness turn us to the Lord in humble prayer looking to the Lord for deliverance and power.

## Praise to God the Judge 9-10

- God is judge<sup>2:3,10</sup>
- Since the Garden God has promised a reversal
- to Abraham<sup>Gen17:6</sup> promised nations and kings
- through Abraham<sup>Gen12:3</sup> all nations blessed
- Unfolding better covenant being shown through this prayer
- We have seen this King - Jesus Christ who came in the flesh

## Receive the Messiah as Your King

- Advent season: remembering King Jesus 1<sup>st</sup> Advent
- Put aside pride & self-reliance - God will reject
- Jesus fulfillment<sup>Phil 2:6-8,9-11</sup> in humility so that He could reverse our condition and redeem us - acknowledge Him!