

Communion Meditation – Hannah’s Prayer

1 Sam 1.1-7 “Hannah is Miserable” December 9th, 2018

Story of Hannah – not Others

- Not of Elkanah (husband), Eli (priest), Hophni, or Phinehas (bad priests)
 - Not even of Samuel (son) for whom the book is named – but Hannah
- Bible is filled with stories of women
 - patriarchal – Eve, Noah’s wife, Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, and Leah
 - judges – Debra, Jael (tent peg), woman killed Abimelech (millstone)
 - gospels – Anna prophetess, Elizabeth, 3 Mary’s cross (**John 19.25**), Martha, Tabitha, Pilot’s wife
 - Acts – Sapphira, Lydia, Priscilla, Rhoda
 - Epistles – Eunice, Lois, 2nd John, Euodia & Syntyche (*Philippi*)
- **III: Party** – “What do you do?” – “As little as possible” - women

Woman not yet Mentioned - Peninnah

- **v2b** ~ “Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children”
- **v6a** ~ “her rival provoked her severely, to make her miserable”
- **III: George & Barbara Bush** –73 years – 28 hair turned white death of Robin
- Peninnah made Hannah’s life miserable (1 of only 3 occurrences)
- “Should Hannah have obsessed over wanting children?” / No
- “But should Elkanah have married multiple women?” / No

Read v5-6 ~ “The Lord had Closed Her Womb”

- Peninnah and Hannah both accepted this
 - Nowadays people scoff at this – even Christians assume away God’s power
 - But these women knew God did it – and Hannah knew He could change it
- **v5** ~ “to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah”

v5 ~ “for he loved Hannah”

- “Which woman had he married first?” Hannah? – then no children?
 - How hard this would have been for her to bear . . .

Most of us know this story (maybe not the youngest) – Happy Ending – Not Yet

We come to God’s table at different phases of our life

Sometimes we don’t have eyes to see God’s grace at work in our lives