

## Communion Meditation – Hannah’s Prayer

1 Sam 2.7-8d “God Gives Honor” July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### v7 ~ “The Lord makes poor and makes rich; He brings low and lifts up”

- vss 6-8 ~ “down .. up .. poor .. rich .. low .. up .. raises .. poor .. lifts .. beggar”
- All of these words reflect status and position
  - We recognize such distinctions in America – even if not practice them
- III: “How to address the President?”
  - “Your Highness”, “Your Most Benign Highness”, “His Exalted Highness”, “His Elective Highness”, “Most Illustrious and Excellent President”, “His Majesty the President”, and “Why not call him George IV”?
  - He was neither king nor emperor and should simply be called “George”
  - John Adams suggested “His Highness, the President of the United States, and Protector of the Rights of the Same”
  - Someone pointed out Constitution did not allow for titles - emoluments

### v8ab ~ “He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the beggar from the ash heap”

- Proverbs and Ecclesiastes speaks much of honor, dishonor, wisdom, folly
- In a true meritocracy wisdom is rewarded and foolishness is punished
- God’s Law / God’s world – is designed this way – and God honors His design
- Wisdom tends towards honor – Foolishness tends towards dishonor
- Yet it’s God Himself that links consequences to causes

### v8cd ~ “To set them among princes and make them inherit the throne of glory”

- If God didn’t intervene all consequences would tend towards dishonor
- Foolishness would prevail – chaos would ensue – despair would follow
- This kindness of God is called grace – two types – common and special

### God’s Grace – Common and Special

- Common grace “curbs the destructive power of sin, maintains in a measure the moral order of the universe, thus making an orderly life possible”
- Special grace is that by which God redeems, sanctifies, and glorifies His people

God sets His children “among princes” & makes them “inherit the throne of glory”  
It is to God alone that we owe our position / our position “among the princes”