

A Downtrodden Voice in Shiloh is Heard

Mother's Day message 2020 – Pastor Ben Hunt

Primary Point – When other voices torment, it is your voice God hears

Primary Text – 1 Samuel Chapter 1

#1 – The Oppressive Voice of the Rival

See, back then, children were everything. Literally the more children you had, the more wealth you had. You had more workers and you had more security. The more children you had, the more protection you had. Peninnah was provoking Hannah with “you are of no value to this culture. You provide no wealth or security, you are only a drain and a taker.”

Every culture is oppressive somehow some way, throughout all time that is the way it has been. Why, because every culture since the beginning of time is full of human beings who can't stop comparing themselves to one another!

#2 – The Contemptuous Voice of a Spouse

Elkanah her husband is making the same mistake that every husband makes. By essentially saying, “Honey, you shouldn't feel that way!”

My favorite phrase from Ephesians 5 is the line that “*a husband is to wash his wife with the water of the word.*” That phrase is so significant, and specifically the word *wash*.

And the 2 were naked and they felt no shame. They were completely exposed, completely vulnerable, and they felt no shame. Husbands when we wash our wives with the water of the word what that means is that our wives emotionally must feel safe.

We need to draw out the heart of our wife, making none of it about us, take her side against your common enemy, and expose the fact that the dirt that she is wearing was spit on her by the enemy, she is the victim of an attack from the devil himself, and if we don't have compassion for our wives when we see the dirt, we are only adding to what the devil has done to our wives.

#3 – The Humble Voice of the Destitute

When the text says that Hannah stood up, it is saying Hannah put her foot down!

Her prayer was not bargaining with God. How do we know? Verse 18 says, “*Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast.*”

Hanna is saying I choose the sacrificial pain. I choose to sacrifice my one and only son in order that he might intercede on behalf of God's people.

This story is prophetic! Hannah is a picture of God's sacrificial love for us! This amazing, humble downtrodden woman is a picture of God the Father willing to sacrifice His one and only Son, that He might intercede for us!

What's the book right before 1st Samuel? Ruth! The female version of Job. She had lost everything. But because of her faithfulness, out of her lineage came King David. Thank you Ruth for your faithfulness. Because of Hannah's faithfulness came Samuel, the one who would anoint David as King.

Ruth and Hannah are a prophetic picture of 2 more downtrodden women that were yet to come! In the Gospels we see Mary, a poor young girl, humble and falsely accused, give birth to Jesus, the one who was given the throne of his father David, whose kingdom will never end. But we see another downtrodden woman by the name of Elizabeth. She is old, she

is barren, she has never had a child, and she gives birth to John the Baptist, the one who would announce Jesus as the Lamb of God!

Application questions:

1. What do you appreciate about the location of Shiloh?
2. Is there a difference in how children are viewed today in comparison to back then?
3. How is our culture oppressive to you? How do you compare yourself to others?
4. Why is it so difficult to keep ourselves from saying, *"Honey you shouldn't feel that way?"*
 - a. How is being *"naked and feeling no shame"* a help to this?
5. How do we know Hannah was not bargaining with God?
6. In what ways is Hannah a prophetic character?
7. What was most meaningful to you about today's message?