

The Woman who dared to ask God for what mattered most to her!

→ **The essence of a 'vow' to God is, 'If God will do X, then I will dedicate Y' to God or his sanctuary.** Eg. Jacob's tithing (Gen. 28:20-22); Hannah's dedicating her son as a lifelong servant of the Lord (I Samuel 1:11); Absalom's sacrificing to God at Hebron (II Samuel 15:8-9).

→ **Characters in this drama include:** Hannah,
Elkanah, her husband,
Eli, the priest,
Peninnah, Elkanah's second wife,
God, the Father.

→ Hannah's Vow

"(v.1) Then Hannah prayed:

'My heart rejoices in the LORD!

The Lord has made me strong.

Now I have an answer for my enemies;

I rejoice because you rescued me.

(v.2) No one is holy like the Lord!

There is no one besides you;

There is no Rock like our God.

(v.3) 'Stop acting so proud and haughty!

Don't speak with such arrogance!

For the Lord is a God who knows what

you have done;

he will judge your actions.

(v.4) The bow of the mighty is now broken,

and those who stumbled are now strong.

(v.5) Those who were well fed are now starving,

and those who were starving are now full.

The childless woman now has seven children,

and the woman with many children wastes away.

(v.6) The Lord gives both death and life;

he brings some down to the grave but

raises others up.

(v.7) The Lord makes some poor and others rich;

he brings some down and lifts others up.
(v.8) He lifts the poor from the dust
and the needy from the garbage dump.
He sets them among princes,
placing them in seats of honor.
For all the earth is the Lord's,
And he has set the world in order.

(v.9) He will protect his faithful ones,
but the wicked will disappear in darkness.
No one will succeed by strength alone.

(v.10) Those who fight against the Lord will
be shattered.

He thunders against them from heaven;
the Lord judges throughout the earth.

He gives power to his king;
He increases the strength of his
anointed one.

Then Elkanah returned home to Ramah without
Samuel. And the boy served the Lord by assisting
Eli the priest."

I Samuel 2:1-11

New Living Translation

Time with Hannah enlightens us with:

1-Hannah appears to have been a woman with an unblemished character
polished by relentless pressure.

2-Hannah had a house but not a **home!**

3-Hannah had a deep, life-changing relationship with God,
who met the **deepest** needs of her life.

4-Hannah was a **resilient** woman!

5-Where was Hannah's **place?**

What would time spent with you bring to our lives?

If you faced a life situation similar to Hannah's, what would that do to your relationship
with God? Build it----Break it---- (He stands ready to help you today—just ask Him!)

Some special people in your life are counting on you. Give your best!