

Hannah: Beautiful Desperation
1 Samuel 1:10-18

“May a merciful God preserve me from a Christian Church in which everyone is a saint! I want to be and remain in the church and little flock of the fainthearted, the feeble and the ailing, who feel and recognize the wretchedness of their sins, who sigh and cry to God incessantly for comfort and help, who believe in the forgiveness of sins.” (Martin Luther)

“...For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and He will deliver us. On Him we have set our hope that He will deliver us again.” (2 Corinthians 1:8-10)

“Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it (Paul’s thorn in the flesh) should leave me. But He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you for My power is made perfect in weakness’. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.” (2 Corinthians 12:8-9)

“If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us out of your hand, O King. But if not, be it known to you, O King, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.” (Daniel 3:17-18)

- What did Hannah’s desperation and pain come from?
 - Her barrenness (1 Samuel 1:5-6); her husband taking on a second wife (1 Samuel 1:2); Peninnah being able to have children (1 Samuel 1:2); Peninnah provoking her because of jealousy of Elkanah’s love for Hannah (1 Samuel 1:7); the duration of the suffering (1 Samuel 1:7); and Elkanah’s obliviousness and insensitivity (1 Samuel 1:8).
- What did Hannah’s desperation look like?
 - “Hannah wept and would not eat” (1 Samuel 1:7); “She went to the temple/the presence of the LORD (1 Samuel 1:9); “She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord” (1 Samuel 1:10); “She wept bitterly” (1 Samuel 1:10); “And she vowed a vow” (1 Samuel 1:11); “ I am a woman troubled in spirit” (1 Samuel 1:15); “I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD” (1 Samuel 1:15); “I have been speaking out (praying) of my great anxiety and vexation” (1 Samuel 1:16).

“And being in agony He (Jesus) prayed more earnestly; and His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground” (Luke 22:44). “In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to Him (God the Father) who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverence” (Hebrews 5:7). “When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all” (Psalm 34:17-19).

- What was the result of Hannah’s desperation?
 - Her desperate prayers led to Eli praying for her (1 Samuel 1:17); Her desperate prayers led her to worshipping God in the eating of the sacrifice (1 Samuel 1:18); Her desperate prayers led to a change of her disposition (1 Samuel 1:18); In due time Hannah conceived (1 Samuel 1:20); Hannah kept her word and worshiped God for the answer to her prayer (1 Samuel 1:24-25); Hannah rejoiced with Eli for the

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Worship: Tis So Sweet (Various Artists)

His Mercy is More (Matt Boswell)

Service Times: Sundays: Revelation Class 4/Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7;
Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

answer to her prayer (1 Samuel 1:26-28); Eli asked the LORD to continue to bless Hannah and Elkanah (1 Samuel 2:20); The LORD visited Hannah and gave her more children (1 Samuel 2:21).

“Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints, and give thanks to His holy name. For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.... You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, that my glory may sing Your praise and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to You forever!”
(Psalm 30:4-5, 11-12)

- What are areas in which we ought to be people of “desperate prayer”?
 - Our sin and the sin of others (James 4:6-10; Galatians 6:1-2).
 - The salvation of those that are lost (Romans 9:1-3; 10:1).
 - The suffering of my brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 12:26; Hebrews 10:32-34).
 - My personal suffering (2 Corinthians 1:4, 10).

“Am I too busy and distracted with this world to pray earnestly?”

“Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.” (Colossians 4:12)