

Hannah's Six Spiritual Actions

Samuel 1-2

Points to Consider

1. Hannah Fasted
2. Hannah Prayed to God
3. Hannah Vowed to God (tonight)
4. Hannah Believed God
5. Hannah Worshiped God
6. Hannah Praised God

Background

1 Sam 1:1-8

Elkanah had _____ wives. Everything we know about Elkanah leads us to conclude that he was a good man. He made yearly sacrifices, he loved Hannah, and he was kind.

Peninnah had children, but the _____ had closed Hannah's womb so that she didn't have children.

Peninnah was _____! She provoked Hannah every year because the Lord had closed her womb.

Peninnah was so mean that she totally ruined a joyous occasion.

She made worshiping and sacrificing to God a _____ experience for Hannah.

Even though Peninnah was heartless, Elkanah still _____ her a portion when they went to make their yearly sacrifice.

Hannah was _____! The weight of not having children was magnified immensely by her rival's constant jabs.

Elkanah was _____. Elkanah thought that his love and kindness _____ should solve Hannah's depression. I can hear him say, "I've done all that I know to do."

Kindness doesn't _____ heal the hurt.

Hannah Fasted

1 Sam 1:7-8

Hannah was so grieved that she _____ not to eat.

I believe this was a fast, and not a natural loss of appetite due to grief, for at least four reasons.

1. This had been happening for several years and we have no indication of her not eating.
2. It is coupled with other deeply religious actions.
3. Immediately after Eli told her that God was going to grant her request, she ate.
4. People often fasted when petitioning God. (See 1 Kings 21:27; Ezra 8:21; Esther 4:16)

Hannah Prayed

1 Sam 1:9-11

When Hannah was in _____ of the soul, she prayed and wept in _____. She considered not being able to have children an _____.

Hannah turned to the _____ one who could help her, God! Some things are out of our control.

1 Sam 1:12-16

Notice that God wanted it recorded that she _____ praying. The word means “to increase” or “to be full of.”

When talking to Eli she had a _____ **spirit**. (verse 15)

She prayed out of an abundance of her complaint and _____.

Hannah described her prayer to Eli as a _____ out of her soul to God.

David’s prayer life was similar to Hannah’s

Hannah Believed God

1 Sam 1:17-18 –

Eli _____ Hannah that God would grant her petition.

Her belief was made evident by her eating and _____.

This is in stark contrast to 1:7 where God records that she wept and did not eat.

At this point, Eli **didn’t** know what she asked of God.

1 Sam 1:26-28

When Hannah brought Samuel to Eli after he was weaned (3 years old) she told Eli that her prayer was for Samuel and that she was _____ him to the Lord for the rest of his life.

Hannah Worshiped

1 Sam 1:19-20

After Eli assured Hannah that God was going to grant her request, but before He does, she believed and _____ God. (19).

Peninnah had made worship time a miserable time for Hannah, but God made it joyful again.

God remembered Hannah, and she conceived and bore a son. God _____ her womb.

The name Samuel means asked of God.

She Praised God

1 Sam 2:1-11

After God blessed Hannah with Samuel, she offers a very heartfelt prayer of _____.

Hannah _____ in the Lord.

Hannah knew that no one can prevail on their _____ strength. We all need God!

Hannah also _____ her vow.

Hannah saw things like God saw things.

What about us?

When you are faced with a very difficult situation do what Hannah did. You might not do all of the six things Hannah did, but she is a great example on how to handle adversity.