





The Rise of The King

Hannah's Hope

 **Main Text:** 1 Samuel 1:24 - 2:11

 **Big Question:** We say, "God is good," but do we **truly believe** it when things are not?

Introduction: The Question of God's Goodness in Pain

- Everyone says "**God is good**"—but do we **believe** it when life hurts?
- Tonight, we look continue with **Hannah's story**. A woman who **prayed, received, and then gave away** what she longed for.
- This isn't about **what Hannah knows**—it's about **who she knows**.

We pick up in **1 Samuel 1:24**, where Hannah has her long-awaited child, Samuel. But instead of **holding tightly to the promise**, she gives him away. **At this point, she doesn't know if she'll ever have another child.**

 **Would we still say "God is good" if we had to surrender our greatest blessing?**

1. The Offering: What It Really Means (1 Samuel 1:24-28)

Hannah doesn't just bring **Samuel**—she brings an **extravagant offering** to God at the Tabernacle in **Shiloh**:

- **A three-year-old bull** (or three bulls, depending on the text).
- **An ephah of flour** (35 pounds of fine flour).
- **A skin of wine.**

Deep Context:

- The **bull** was a **high-value sacrifice** used for **burnt offerings**—a **symbol of full surrender** (Leviticus 1:3-5).
- The **flour** represents **sustenance** (Leviticus 2), pointing to **God's ongoing provision**.
- The **wine** symbolizes **joy, covenant, and poured-out worship** (Numbers 15:7, Matthew 26:28).

 **Hannah didn't bring the bare minimum—she brought an offering of complete devotion. This wasn't a legal requirement.**

 **She wasn't bargaining with God—she was surrendering to Him.**

 **Key Application:** Do we hold **God's gifts loosely**, or do we try to **control them**?

2. Hannah's Joy in the Midst of Surrender (1 Samuel 2:1-2)

"My heart exults in the Lord; my horn is exalted in the Lord..."

Hannah's **joy is not in her circumstances**—it's in **the Lord Himself**.

- **"My horn is exalted"** → Symbol of **strength restored** (Psalm 92:10).
- **"I rejoice in Your salvation"** → She is worshiping God **for who He is, not what He gave her**.
- **"There is no one holy like the Lord"** → She recognizes that **God is beyond human comprehension**.

 **Deep Truth:** Hannah's joy was birthed from years of suffering.

- **Pain was the soil; joy was the fruit.**
- **God was cultivating something in the waiting.**

 **Key Application:** Do we only worship when God **answers**—or do we trust Him **in the waiting**?


3. God's Sovereign Reversal (1 Samuel 2:3-8)

Hannah's prayer shifts from personal to **prophetic truth about God's justice and power**.

- **God humbles the proud and exalts the humble.**
- **The barren bear children, while the full become empty.**
- **The hungry are filled, while the rich become poor.**
- **The weak are made strong, while the mighty fall.**

 **Biblical Pattern:**

1. **Joseph** (Genesis 37-50) → **A slave becomes a ruler.**
2. **David** (1 Samuel 16) → **A shepherd boy becomes king.**
3. **Mary's Song** (Luke 1:46-55) → Mary echoes **Hannah's words** in praising God for **raising the lowly**.
4. **Jesus Christ** → The ultimate **suffering servant exalted** (Philippians 2:5-11).


 **Key Application:** When life feels upside-down, **trust that God is still writing the story**.

4. The Coming King (1 Samuel 2:9-10) → Prophecy of Christ

"The Lord will give strength to His king and exalt the horn of His anointed."

 **Significance:**

- **Israel had no king yet**—this is **prophetic**.
- She points forward to **David** and ultimately to **Jesus Christ, the true Anointed One (Messiah)**.
- **Jesus is the ultimate exalted horn** (Luke 1:69).

 **Key Application:** We don't always see what God is preparing—but we trust that He is moving toward redemption.

5. Practical Applications for Today

Lesson	How to Apply It
God is good even when we don't understand.	Trust His timing instead of demanding answers.
Waiting is preparation, not punishment.	Use the waiting season to grow in faith and prayer.
Our joy should be in God, not circumstances.	Daily remind yourself of His faithfulness, not just His gifts.
Worship means surrender.	Give back to God what He has given you.
God exalts the humble.	Serve others instead of seeking status.
Jesus is our true King.	Anchor your hope in Christ, not in human power.

6. Reflection Questions for Students & Small Groups

1. Have you ever felt like God was withholding something from you? How did you respond?
2. How can you learn to trust God even when you don't see the bigger picture?
3. What is something in your life that you need to surrender fully to God?
4. How does Hannah's story change your understanding of waiting and suffering?
5. Where do you place your confidence—human success or Christ's eternal victory?

7. Closing Thought: Seeing the Harvest Beyond the Soil

- Hannah did not know how her story would play out—but she trusted.
- Years of pain became the soil for joy.
- God was always working—preparing, planting, envisioning the harvest.
- We don't always understand the "why" in suffering, but we trust that "ALL things work together for good" (Romans 8:28).

Final Challenge:

Be encouraged to see with eyes of faith past your circumstance. What if your unanswered prayer is the very thing God is using to shape a **bigger story**?

