

**INTRODUCTION: THE VOW OF HANNAH** (1Sam.1,2)

**A. FORM OF EARNEST PRAYER** (1Sam.1:9-11; see Ps.66:13,14; Jon.2:9; Jms.5:15)

**B. DEFINITION: CONDITIONAL PROMISSORY OATH** (1S1:11 /Gen.28:20f /WCF,22; 1/9/11, reformedvoice.com)

**C. SUMMARY: AN APPOINTED MEANS OF GRACE** (Ps.65:1,2; vs. Mt.15:9; Tt.1:14)

**I. THE VOW OF HANNAH** (1Sam.1:1-28)

**A. NEED: BARREN** (1:2; see Gen.11:30; 29:31; Lk.1:7)

**B. AGGRAVATION: PROVOKED** (1:6,7; 16; see Gen.16:4; Job 4:7,8)

**C. DESPERATION: LONG** (1:7; see 5 with 4; Gen.16:1f; 30:1f)

**D. CONFIRMATION: ELKANAH** (1:11,23; see Num.30:13f,1f)

**E. RESOLUTION: WORSHIP**

1. *sought God* (1:9; see Ps.22:26; 119:2; Dan.9:3; Heb.11:6; compare Gen.30:1)

2. *His appointed place & time* (1:9; 2:28; see Ex.30:1; Ps.141:2; Rev.5:8,etc.; Lk.1:10f; Jn.4:21f)

3. *His appointed means* (1:21,3f & 11; see Lev.3:1f; 7:16f)

4. *longing too deep for sound* (1:12f,15f; see Rom.8:26; Eph.5:18; Acts 2:13f)

5. *priest's blessing and prayer* (1:17; see also 2:20f)

6. *extraordinary blessing of ordinary means* (1:19f,5; 2:20f; see Ps.113:9; see Rom.10:17; 2Tm.4:1f; 2:24f)

7. *vow fulfilled: public praise* (1:11,24f; Lev3:1f; 7:11f & 1:26f; 2:1f; Jon2:9,1f; Lk1:46f; 67f(9f);Ps116:14,18)

**II. PRAYER WITH VOWS IS NORMAL IN THE BIBLE** (see Lk.24:44)

**A. JACOB, ELKANAH, HANNAH, JONAH** (Gen.28:20-22; 1Sam.1:21; 11,23f; Jon.2:9,1f)

**B. THE LAW OF MOSES** (Lev.3,6,22,27; see Num.30:1f; Dt.23:21)

**C. THE WORDS OF THE PROPHETS** (Is.19:21; Jon.1:16; 2:9; Nah.1:15; Mal.1:14)

**D. THE PSALMS OF DAVID** (Ps.50:14,15; 61:5,8; 66:13,14; 76:11; 116:14,18 /Job 22:27; Prov.31:2; Eccl.5:4f)

**E. THE LIFE OF JESUS** (Ps.22:1f,16f,25-27f /Acts 2:33f; 1f /Acts 1:11 w/Ps.66:13-20f,16; 1Sam.1:24f; 2:1f)

**F. THE TEACHING OF JESUS** (Mt.5:33f; see 17,20; 21f; 27f; 31f; 33f; 38f; 43f; see Jms.5:12,15)

**G. THE LIFE OF PAUL** (Acts 18:18; 21:23; see Num.6:2f; Jdgs.13:5f; 1Sam.1:11)

**III. PRAYING WITH VOWS IN THE LIFE OF A CHRISTIAN**

**A. PRAY FOR ORDINARY THINGS WITH ORDINARY PRAYERS** (Mt.6:11; Phil.4:6f; see Gen.25:21)

**B. WHEN YOU ARE IN GREAT NEED, CONSIDER FASTING** (Neh.1:4; Ps.35:13; Dan.9:3; Lk.2:37; Acts 13:3)

**C. WHEN YOU ARE DESPERATE, CONSIDER MAKING A VOW** (1Sam.1:10-15; see Gen.28:20f; Jon.2:9,1f; Ps.22:25f; 66:13,14; see Jms.4:2f; 5:15; Lk.21:5)

**D. IF YOU MAKE A VOW, BE SURE TO PAY IT** (1Sam.1:11,28; Deut.23:21; Eccl.5:4; Mt.5:33; see 1Sam.2:20,21; Mk.10:29,30; Job 42:10; see Lev.27:1f)

**E. PAY YOUR VOW WITH PRAISE IN PUBLIC WORSHIP** (1Sam.1:24-28; 2:1-11 /Ps22:25(Acts 2); 116:14,18)

**F. IT IS WHO YOU SEEK, NOT HOW YOU PRAY OR WHAT YOU SAY THAT COUNTS**  
(1Sam.1:20,27; see Deut.10:20; Jn.14:13f; 15:16; 16:23f; see Mt.6:7; Lk.11:9f; 1Chr.4:9f)

**G. NEVERTHELESS, GOD GIVES US MEANS SUITABLE TO OUR NEEDS** (Mt.6:5f,16f; 1Sam.1:11; Mt.5:33f; Jms.5:15; see Ps.50:14,15)