

'The Rise of the Kings Series'

Sermons in the Book of 1 Samuel

Message 4 - 'Sacrifice and Song' 1 Samuel 2:1 - 10



Last time we looked at Hannah's song, a lovely expression of praise that is full of the Lord. We saw how their were similarities between Hannah's and Mary's song even though they are separated by a thousand years. The song of praise majored on God's grace, His favour towards undeserving people. If you are a believer then you too should have a song of grace on your heart. It also spoke of God's victory over His enemies, and the way that He is a God of the impossible. When circumstances can seem overwhelming for the individual, He can intervene to work in ways they never thought possible. It also spoke of how God is sovereign and he will always work and accomplish His purposes without fail. We saw the following things in those verses:

- 1. Praise** - As Hannah is moved in her own soul to pray her lips are full of praise and rejoicing as well. Despite the blessings Hannah had received, she doesn't major on what that has meant for her, rather her thoughts are focused on the One who gave the blessing. She was lost in wonder, love, and praise. It seems evident that the Lord in His mercy had given Hannah a calm assurance that He was going to use Samuel, and as a result it bring blessing to the nation. Her praise was an overflow of her understanding and her emotion and as such was full of the joy of the Lord.
- 2. Perspective** - Hannah seemed to know, as we should, that it is so helpful to begin with praise when we pray because it helps us to focus on the Lord, the great God of heaven who is powerful and majestic. Focusing on the glory of God and not on the greatness of our needs is so important. Why? When we think on the greatness of God, of His power to work, it helps us to see life in perspective. Hannah is an excellent example for us as she does this, she thinks upon the glorious attributes of a great God, and she exalts Him. Hannah had a high view of God because she had a spiritual understanding of who He is. As she lived her life before Him, it all contributed to her awareness that He was a great and holy God who is to be approached with reverence, yet at the same time to experience His warmth as a heavenly Father who loves the people He has saved by His grace.
- 3. Provision** - The attributes of God that we heard are truly glorious, He is just, He is true, He is steadfast! However, Hannah also speaks of His grace and His mercy and the way He provides for His people in a way they never thought possible. In His gracious provision, God can take the poor and raise them up, to be seated at the highest table. Is that not what Christ does for the believer in saving them? He takes them from the dust, from nothing, and makes them sons and daughters of God. When we see the cross, we see the world turned upside down.
- 4. Protection** - God is in control of all things, the world is in His control, all of these things are under His watchful care. The Lord Jesus Christ is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, He rules and He reigns, and on the day of His return, all we be submitted under His footstool. Yet, there is great comfort in knowing, that as the Lord's people, we live guided and guarded by His care. As we walk in the light, the Lord's protection rests over His people, as He keeps them, and sustains them by His grace.
- 5. Promise** - We have here a prophetic statement that the Lord will give an anointed king to Israel, and that the Lord would use Him, strengthen Him to lead the nation. As Israel asked for a king, God in His mercy and sovereign purposes would grant them their desire. Saul as the people's choice would end his reign in sin and disaster. King David, God's choice, would go some way to fulfilling the prophecy of a future anointed king, but there was to be a far greater King! The Lord Jesus Christ, 'the anointed One' is the complete fulfilment and the Scriptures tells us that He will one day be seated on David's throne and rule over His glorious kingdom.



Penzance Baptist Church

'Upholding the Ordinary Means of Grace'

Pastor Jonathan Stobbs