

Samuel – God’s Kingdom and its King. (2) Hannah’s song. refs for Bible study 8/8/19: 1Sam.1v20-2v11.

2v1-10 is a joyful song that has set others singing, Ps.113v7-9, Lk.1v46-53. The key to joy is not some new experience but being ready to commit everything to him.

**Costly commitment:** Hannah prayed & made a vow, 1v11. God answered her prayer, v20. She was careful to keep her vow. When the time was right, v21-24, she brought her son to the Lord, v25-28. Weaning was at 3-4 years. We can’t be certain about his exact age. (1v28: ‘he’ not ‘they’. 2v11,18: ‘ministering’ = work of a Levite.) For Hannah this was costly. ‘Lent’ = ‘made over’ i.e. given, 1v28. Feel the pathos, 2v19! A unique situation. Samuel was to be God’s agent in establishing his Kingdom on earth. Her reward, 2v20-21. Do we know what costly commitment is?

*We lose what on ourselves we spend; we have as treasure without end  
whatever, Lord, to You we lend, who gives us all. Christopher Wordsworth.*

Hannah gave her first-born, child of miraculous birth. But the infinitely greater act was the Father’s. He gave his only Son, not just to work as a priest, but to offer himself as a sacrifice. Worship him for his costly commitment!

**Rejoicing in the Lord:** This song is a prayer and a prophecy (2v10). She sings not about herself but the Lord.

- **His goodness to me:** 2v1, ‘horn’ = symbol of strength, i.e. ‘he has made me strong’, she can smile at her enemies. The best way to handle antagonism is to leave it to the Lord to deal with, Rm.12v19, 1Pet.2v23.
- **Who he is:** 2v2-3, he is holy, strong (‘rock’), all-knowing & just, searching & weighing the actions of all. A comfort to the believer. A warning to the proud. Do we praise and thank him for who he is?
- **What he does:** 2v4-9, he is sovereign over all things, even life and death. He blesses those who trust him and frustrates those who don’t. Hannah’s God is your God. Consider how each of verses 4-9 can apply to us.

**Looking for the coming King:** A remarkable prophecy! v10abc: day when Christ will judge the world, Ac.17v31. v10de: the coming King. Remember there is no king at this point, not until 8v5. Earlier hints: Gn.17v6, 49v10, Nm.24v7,v17-19, Dt.17v14-20. The first time ‘his anointed’ occurs in the Bible. ‘his King’ is ‘his Anointed’. Partially fulfilled in Saul and David, Ps.89v20-21. Only fully in Jesus, Ac.3v24, 10v38. ‘Anointed’ = Messiah = Christ. God did indeed ‘give strength to His King’ in order to complete his saving work. Close of Samuel matches the opening, 2Sam.22v50-51. Through King Jesus the blessing flows to his spiritual children. Those who serve him without counting the cost will surely go on their way rejoicing as they look for the coming of the King.