

Scripture reading: 1 Samuel 1:18-2:10

My (Hannah's) heart rejoices in the Lord

Neither the love of her husband, nor the gifts he gave her changed the reproach she had because of the words spoken against her. But when she came into the presence of God and poured out her heart, she was no longer sad. Did God strengthen her heart and gave her the grace just to bare the reproach? No! The same year God blessed her with a son and rolled away the reproach in her life. Hannah too kept up her words by leaving Samuel in the temple after she had weaned her. She glorified God by saying that he was the son given by God. She sang praises and worshipped God. Her heart was not just strengthened; she was also filled with the joy of the Lord. She offered praises unto God and dedicated the child in the temple for God's work.

Question:

Hannah cried of distress when she had no child. Now when God blessed her with a son, she gives him back to God by leaving him in the temple. Will she cry again?

Answer:

Though it took quite some time for Hannah to go in search of God's presence, her faith and prayer were genuine. She believed that if God is able to bless her with a son after being unable to conceive for these many years, He is also able to bless her with many more children after she would completely dedicate Samuel in the temple for God's service. That's the reason she could happily dedicate the son she received after going through so much of agony and reproach. Many a times, we are very doubtful of offering those things that we've received after much struggle and waiting. Failing to give it up out of faith, we lose on many greater blessings that are in store for us. After that, God blessed Hannah with many more children. Dear brother/sister, you too trust in God and offer your best to Him. You will surely be astonished by the blessings you get back from Him.

"He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor. "For the foundations of the earth are the LORD's; on them he has set the world." 1 Samuel 2:8

Prayer

Father, thank for answering our prayers. We will never forget the help you gave us and will also likewise help our brothers. Amen.