

MARKS OF A MOTHER

1 Samuel 1:1-28; 2:1,21

1. Her Spirituality

"Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Prov. 31:28

2. Her Sorrow

⁵ But to Hannah he gave a double portion because he loved her, and the LORD had closed her womb. ⁶ Because the LORD had closed Hannah's womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her. ⁷ This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the LORD, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat. ⁸ Her husband Elkanah would say to her, "Hannah, why are you weeping? Why don't you eat? Why are you downhearted? Don't I mean more to you than ten sons?"

¹⁵ "Not so, my lord," Hannah replied, "I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the LORD. ¹⁶ Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief."

3. Her Supplication

¹⁰ In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the LORD, weeping bitterly. ¹¹ And she made a vow, saying, "LORD Almighty, if you will only look on your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head." ¹² As she kept on praying to the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. ¹³ Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk ¹⁴ and said to her, "How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine."

"Go in peace and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him" 1 Samuel 1:17.

"Those who hope in me will not be disappointed." Isaiah 49:23

4. Her Sacrifice

"Then the man Elkanah went up with all his household to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice and pay his vow." ²¹ When her husband Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the LORD and to fulfil his vow, ²² Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, "After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the LORD, and he will live there always."

"Do what seems best to you," Elkanah her husband told her. "Stay here until you have weaned him; only may the LORD make good his word." So the woman stayed at home and nursed her son until she had weaned him." (Vs. 23)

"After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. When they had slaughtered the bull, they brought the boy to Eli, and she said to him, "As surely as you live, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the LORD. I prayed for this child, and the LORD has granted me what I asked of him. So now I give him to the LORD. For his whole life he will be given over to the LORD." And he worshiped the LORD there." (vv. 24-28)

"Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice." 2 Sam 2:19

5. Her Song

2 Samuel 2:1-10

"My heart rejoices in the Lord; in the Lord my horn is lifted high . . . There is no-one holy like the Lord; there is no-one besides you; there is no rock like our God . . . for the Lord is a God who knows, and by him deeds are weighed" 1 Samuel 2:2-3.