

# Sermon Reflections

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## *Hannah's Prayer of Praise* (1 Samuel 2:1-10)

Guest Teacher: Jack Dove, Grace Elder-Pastor

**Summary:** When life's circumstances are unbearable and all seems hopeless, you still have a faithful, loving God who is near, who hears and answers prayer for your good and His glory.

"Hannah loved God more than however much she loved Samuel, so she kept her vow." – Jack Dove

**Key Point:** Love God more than the blessings He provides.

### 1. Hannah's Exulting in the Lord (vv. 1-2)

- Verse 2 indicates that Hannah's "heart exults in the Lord." What is meant by "exult"? What is another word that could be used?
- Think of a major blessing and/or answer to prayer that God has provided. How have you used that gift for God's glory? Contemplate how you might use that gift or future blessings to drive you toward heightened worship of Him.
- Read and meditate on Isaiah 6:1-3 and Revelation 4:1-8. These passages describe God as being holy (to the third degree). Hannah's exultation centers on this attribute of God.  
How does God's holiness relate to His uniqueness?  
How does this attribute of God move you toward a greater desire to:
  - Joyfully worship Him?
  - Take delight in a blessing He has provided for His glory?
  - Rejoice in the salvation that He has provided?

### 2. Hannah's Extolling of the Lord (vv. 3-8)

- Hannah's praise of God is centered on a high view of Him. Her prayer particularly focuses on His sovereignty and omniscience.
  - How would you define sovereignty?
  - How does this attribute of God move you toward praising Him?
- Do you have any lingering prayer requests that have not been answered? If so, how does having a high view of God help you to continually praise Him? What Scriptures remind you of God's sovereignty and provide solace when prayers don't get answered the way you want?
- List practical ways how we can teach our children that Christ is Master and we are to praise Him in everything.

### 3. Hannah's Expectation from the Lord (vv. 9-10)

- Verse 9 says "He will guard the feet of His faithful ones, ... for not by might shall a man prevail."
- What does it mean that God will "guard our feet"?
- Consider the fact that our "strength will not prevail" (Proverbs 33:16). What steps can you take to avoid elevating effort above prayer?
- Pray that God would help you to stay humble, relying on strength from the Holy Spirit to accomplish His will.