1 Samuel 2:1-11

“Hannah’s Magnificat!”

I. INTRO:

A. Prayer: As we study these timely lessons we realize...You know our secret sorrows & our disappointed hopes. You are cognizant of all that goes on in our lives.

B. This morning we’ll look at how Hannah reacted after presenting little Samuel to Eli the high priest to serve the Lord in Shiloh.

1. How did Moses’ mom, when he was 3 months old (not 3 ears old) place him in a basket on the bank of the Nile river? Or, how does any mom feel that has put her child up for adoption? Even when it is the best thing, or even a God thing.

2. Hannah didn’t react by crying but by uttering a jubilant prayer. In fact it is the longest prayer by a woman recorded in the bible.
   a) It’s also a highly theological prayer.
      (1) Also what was sung here, echoed 1000 yrs later in Mary’s song.
   b) Hannah reminds us this morning, we need to persevere in our prayers & remember to thank Him when the desired answer is given!

C. I’d like to explain my title: From “Mary’s Magnificat” (Latin for Magnify) Lk.1:46-55.

1. Magnificat anima mea Dominum - My soul magnifies the Lord!

2. Like the Psalmist said, “I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; The humble shall hear of it and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, And let us exalt His name together.” [Ps 34:1-3]

3. There are 20 references to God in Mary’s song.

4. My soul magnifies the Lord – What a motto to grasp for life!!!

5. Magnify = glorifies; exalts; make large; honor highly; to declare His greatness; to make Him great in the eyes of others!
   a) That we would wake up & magnify God!
      That we would eat & drink to magnify God!
      That we would work to magnify God!
      That we would play sports to magnify God!
      That we would go to school to magnify God!
      That we would chose our career to magnify God!

6. Not only was Mary pregnant herself, but her song was Pregnant w/Praise unto God!
II. **HANNAH’S PRAYER!**

A. **GOD IS UNIQUE & INCOMPARABLE!** (1-3)

B. (1) What or who should be our object of joy? Ps.9:1,2

   I will praise You, O Lord, with my whole heart;
   I will tell of all Your marvelous works.
   I will be glad and rejoice in You;
   I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.

C. Most people would sing if they could keep their son, but Hannah sang because she could give her son to the service of the Lord.

   1. Some of you moms/dads are dealing with that fact. Your son or daughter has come home & said, “I think I want to be a missionary/serve the Lord!” What!
   2. My kids love missions. Why? We invited missionaries over the house. We took our kids when we could & visited them on the field.
   3. We believe **Missions** at CM is contagious/infectious/communicable.
   4. Pray in what ever line of work your children choose...they would be in the service of the Lord!!!

D. Mary’s song in Lk.1:46-55 is very similar to Hannah’s because Mary also made a sacrifice to the Lord. 1st the **sacrifice**, then the **song**! (2 Chron.29:27) Then Hezekiah commanded them to offer **the burnt offering** on the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the **song** of the Lord also began, with the trumpets and with the instruments of David king of Israel.

E. Q: What did Hannah have to sing about? She’s back to being childless at least back at home; she still has to deal with Peninnah provoking...What did Hannah have to sing about?

F. Q: What did Mary have to sing about? A pregnant unwed teen from Nazareth, engaged to marry a poor carpenter...people talking...What did Mary have to sing about?

G. Have you asked yourself, “What have I to sing about???”

   1. Q: Well, How did Mary & Hannah do it? - They rose above her situation!
   2. They held to Job’s counsel, “when the Lord gives (even unexpected babies)...Blessed be the name of the Lord!"

H. A **pregnant teen** from Nazareth, engaged to marry a poor carpenter...What did Mary have to sing about? **She sang about her Lord!**

I. A **mommy of a toddler** from Ramah, sharing a household with a miserable woman. What did Hannah have to sing about? **She sang about her Lord!**

   1. Their Joy came from **who God is!**
J. (1) I smile - Lit. “my mouth is open wide over my enemies.”
   1. The image of a mouth open wide is an expression of contempt “They also opened their mouth wide against me, And said, “Aha, aha! Our eyes have seen it.” (Ps.35:21)
   2. Awkward when translated literally into other languages.

K. (2) Transcendent God - Transcendent (Latin: climbing over).
   1. It means that God is above, other than, and distinct from all he has made, he transcends it all.
   2. Paul says it this way in Eph.4:6, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

L. He is Incomparable - Without an equal in quality or extent. Matchless. Unparalleled. In a class of His own. Unable to be compared; totally different in nature or extent.
   1. Not, one-in-a-million...just One!

M. (2b) Nor is there any Rock like our God - rocklike stability.

N. (3) Pride & arrogance - Hannah saw the things on which evil people rely, rendered ineffective & useless.
   1. The haughty, the self-sufficient, & the powerful are made impotent before the Lord. He alone is sovereign. There is none like Him!

O. GOD IS THE GREAT REVERSER OF FORTUNE! (4-8)

P. Hannah’s song inspired David, Mary, & countless others to sing hymns of praise.
   1. So the song of a bird will set the whole forest ringing with the music of feathered chorus. (F.B.Meyer)
   2. We too shall sing someday! We too shall sing someday! :)
   3. God will turn the waters of our tears, which fill the jars to their brim, into the wine of joy!

Q. GOD IS TRUSTWORTHY! (9-10)

R. He guides & protects those who acknowledge His right to rule over them.
   1. All others face the inevitability of His wrath.

S. POSTSCRIPT! (11)

T. God receives children’s service.

U. Have you encouraged your children to serve in the church? In their community? Missions trips? [Values Participation: Encouraging all believers to discover & use their unique ministry gifts]
V. (11) **Before Eli the priest** - Is that who you want your son working for?

1. I know we want the best for our children, but do we really know more than Lord? - Do we really love our children more than Lord?

2. Here’s how this is worked out in our 21st century world:
   a) I’m not going to let my little Suzy play for that coach!
   b) I’m not going to let my little Billy have that teacher!
   c) I’m not going to let my son/daughter work for that employer!

3. Do you think this is Elkanah & Hannah’s priestly 1st-round-draft-pick for their little Sam? [Elkanah w/hands on shoulders to lil Samer]
   a) He’ll train you spiritually son even though he didn’t do a great job with his own 2!
   b) He’ll teach you how to respect women son even though his boys were womanizers!
   c) He’ll teach you how to be a man son even though he never disciplined his own boys

4. **So how did Elkanah & Hannah do this?** They vowed to the Lord to entrust their son into the HIS care...not Eli’s!
   a) Now, I know there is a balance to this. There is a time to pull our child from unhealthy situations. That’s part of parenting. But can I challenge soccer mom’s & determined dad’s, you better not be trying to keep your child immune from all problems of life!
     (1) Most of us believe in immunizing our children against different diseases
        (a) We do this by introducing into their body a vaccination of the very disease we don’t want them to contract, which causes the body itself to generate immunity against the target.
     (2) Is it so odd that God would do the same? That He’d introduce into their life difficulties to work through, on a small scale, so when the bigger problems of life hit, they’ll be prepared to handle them?
        (a) Did I make this up? Uh No! Read Ps.119:67,71,75.
   b) I will add 1 word to this last verse...Then Elkanah went to his house at Ramah. But the child ministered to the Lord (even) before Eli the priest.

W. **End:** How full of the Lord this song is!

1. He saves; He is holy; He knows; He weighs; He kills; He makes alive; He brings down to the grave & up; He will vindicate our trust; We do not prevail by strength, but by yielding ourselves into His hands!