

“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!