

MAY 10

Hannah ~ Hebrew name meaning “Grace” & “Favor”

1 Samuel 1 & 2

Birthing a Testimony

By Sista Donnelisha Jackson

Have you ever found yourself desperate for God to show up and move a mountain in your life? As time passes, maybe your heart grows weary, especially when others around you receive clarity and breakthroughs in their situation. If anyone could understand the emotional toll of waiting, it's Hannah—a woman who pressed on in prayer.

Proverbs 13:12 states, “*Hope deferred makes the heart sick,*” and Hannah undoubtedly experienced such heartache while waiting on God. Scripture tells us that Hannah failed to conceive with her husband, and her barrenness became a source of deep sorrow (**1 Sam. 1:5-7**). To make matters worse, she was constantly taunted by Peninnah, who was blessed with many children. She also experienced presumptuous judgment from Eli the priest, who mistook her tears and silent prayer for drunkenness. Perhaps what's most notable is that nobody empathized with her or prayed with her to help ease this heavy burden.

When tested, Hannah could have cursed God, thrown a pity party, or hid in shame. Instead, her response was to endure the fire and “hold fast to what is good” (**1 Thess. 5:21**). Amidst her trials, Hannah chose to draw closer to God with unwavering faith. Despite her circumstances, she praised and petitioned God as **Philippians 4:6** encourages us to do. Her persistent and fervent prayer ultimately led to a significant breakthrough, which reminds us of the truth in **James 5:16**: “*The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*”

As her name suggests, Hannah received grace and favor when God answered her prayer. She gave birth to Samuel, who became a great prophet of Israel, and the blessing continued with more children, showing that God can do “*exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think*” (**Ephesians 3:20**). Interestingly, this is not only a story of an infertile woman blessed to bear children, but also of a prayerful woman blessed to bear witness to God's loving nature. As you wait on God, just know that your trial today is paving the way for a powerful testimony tomorrow. So just P.U.S.H. (Pray Until Something Happens), and trust that God will deliver!

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for being a rock and comforter in my time of need. Help me to be patient and wait quietly while you work things out in your masterful way (**Romans 8:28**). Show me how to cast my care upon you (**1 Peter 5:7**) and submit myself to your will. Allow me to be a testament to your grace and glory.

In Jesus' name, amen.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above....James 1:17