



9:00 Live Sunday School at FBCJ

1st Samuel 1:9-28

I. vv.9-11 – Hannah’s vow

A. The Nazarite Vow

1. Laid out in Numbers 6:1-21
2. Typically a temporary vow to consecrate yourself – kind of like a fast
3. Can’t touch anything from the vine – raisins or wine or grapes
4. Can’t touch the dead or blood
5. Grow your hair out
6. Compare with Samson:
 - a. Samson still a judge and likely still popular
 - b. Samson/Samuel both dedicated the vow by their parents – barren mothers
 - c. Samuel’s life is way different story
 - d. John the Baptist’s barren mother Elizabeth makes the same vow

B. Holy Spirit is setting up a pattern statement in these first verses:

1. Elkanah is acting in the way God would have him
2. Good Samuel – bad Samson
3. New day for Israel coming
4. Good Samuel – bad Eli/Hophni/Phineas
5. Bad Leah/Rachel – Good Hannah

II. vv.12-20 “I asked the LORD”

A. Immediate thoughts about Eli

1. He’d been high priest
2. Blind to Hannah’s pain
3. From chapter 3 he doesn’t know God is calling Samuel at first
4. He’s kind of dead in his walk
5. God is setting up the Zadokite priest prophesy

B. vv.12-17 - Why would Eli think she was drunk? Why would there be drinking?

1. Deuteronomy 14:22-26 – people drank at the festivals

2. “shakar” is Hebrew word for strong drink – “beer” in NIV – means to get drunk but different from wine

C. v.18

1. How can she get up and have “her face no longer sad?”
2. She knew the LORD would answer her prayer.
3. Why didn't she do that before? Why now?

D. v.19

1. “YHWH remembered” - Hebrew word “zakar” – to mark
2. Only time subject/verb “YHWH remembered” used in Samuel
3. It's a form of a covenant or in this case about to be one:
 - a. With Noah – Genesis 7:20- 8:1 - “God remembers”
 - b. With Moses - Exodus 2:23-25 - Precursor to Moses and Sinaitic Covenant – “God remembered”
 - c. Also see it in Genesis 30 when Rachel's womb opened up

E. v.20

1. Samuel “sounds like” heard of God
2. Scholars debate exact meaning but name is two words: *shema* and *el* – not necessarily God

III. vv. 21-23 - Elkanah once again is showing his faithfulness to God

A. v.23 – “Do what seems best to you” – contrasting Eli

B. Women making vows outside their husband - Numbers 30:10-15

IV. vv. 24-28 – How much do you bring the LORD?

A. Numbers 15:1-12 – gives the law on “fulfilling a vow” (v.3)

1. v.24 – “Hannah took”

- a. 3 year-old bull? Or 3 bulls? - MT and LXX says 3 bulls - KJV and others 3 bulls
- b. Ephah of flour about 6 quarts – where was oil?
- c. How much hin is in a skin?
 - Matthew 9 – “new wine in old wineskins” –so expansion was expected
 - only ½ hin required

What do you bring to the LORD? Your first born and above/beyond?

Questions? Comments? Thoughts? nick@nickwalters.org

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