



REDEMPTION STUDY #6

Hang On, God Will Answer

The redemption of Hannah

THE STORY

1 Samuel 1:1-8

Now there was a man from Ramathaim-zophim from the hill country of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. ² And he had two wives: the name of one was Hannah and the name of the other Peninnah; and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

³ Now this man would go up from his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of armies in Shiloh. And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were priests to the LORD there.

⁴ When the day came that Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; ⁵ but to Hannah he would give a double portion, because he loved Hannah, but the LORD had closed her womb. ⁶ Her rival, moreover, would provoke her bitterly to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. ⁷ And it happened year after year, as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, that she would provoke her; so she wept and would not eat. ⁸ Then Elkanah her husband would say to her, "Hannah, why do you weep, and why do you not eat, and why is your heart sad? Am I not better to you than ten sons?"

When I was young, and playing a lot of sports, there was no, what we call today "Trash talk". It was just considered unsportsmanlike. My coaches would have pulled someone from the game if they acted in such a way. Today things are different. I have seen and heard this type of thing happening from kids sports all the way up to the pros.

Hannah's story is a story of redemption and overcoming. She had to overcome the continual "trash talking" of her day. Hannah was one of two wives of Elkanah. Her husband loved her very much and it is interesting that nowhere in the scriptures does it say anything about if he loved his other wife, Peninnah. However, Peninnah was supplying Elkanah with children and he tolerated her and her treatment of Hannah. Peninnah was a trash talker and would have fit into today's sporting world.