

the SILENT BURDEN

Pastor Othniel James

Main Scripture: Matthew 11:27-28; 1 Samuel 1: 1- 19

Supporting Scriptures: Genesis 3:16 - 19; Job 5: 6 -13; Job 14: 1; Luke 4:18-19; John 14: 8-9; John 1:1-3

Notes:

In this text, some believed that Samuel wrote the first few chapters before he died. This story begins in a time of the judges when they were trapped in a cycle of defeat because Israel turned away from God. Elkanah was a Levite and we see something strange the bible wants us to understand that he had two wives as were the cultural norms of society. Elkhana probably married Hannah and because she was barren he married Pininah who gave him children. Elkhana was faithful as it relates to his religious duties. Every year he would go to worship at Shiloh and would bring his two wives and when he offered his offering he would give to Peninnah but to Hannah, he gave a worthy portion because he loved her but she was barren. Here we find Hannah who was finding suffering and pain, mocked and jeered and looked on with contempt because she could not have any children. Such is life and it's not strange to any human the condition of suffering and pain and anxiety and fear. It is a plague as it related to the human condition. We were not created like this, our forefather Adam and Eve were created in the likeness of God but because of disobedience sin was introduced into the world.

Genesis 3:16 - 19 - an introduction to pain and suffering in a moment that should be filled with Joy in bringing forth a newborn the Lord said she would experience sorrow. What was strange to Adam and Eve had become the norm. Sorrow, death suffering was never found in the garden that God had placed them. But in an act of disobedience suffering became a part of the Human condition

Job 5: 6 -7, 11-13 Trouble is certain

Job 14: 1

Hannah's problem was a divine one, God himself had shut up her womb. No matter what she did she could not produce. Very often in life, what we consider a dilemma or something beyond our understanding, very often we don't understand that there is one that is Sovereign. Hannah was unable to produce because God had shut up her womb. The very act of God caused her adversary to provoke her sour. She lives in a house with another woman who would make her fret. She was trapped in a cycle year after year when she went to the house of the Lord she was provoked and fell into depression. She wept and did not eat. So great was her trouble that even her husband did not understand.

Her sorrow was much greater than the Love Elkanah could show. Such is the human condition that even though others are there to help the trial and the struggles are deeper than a helping hand of a loved one.

Sometimes in times of pain and suffering, we tend to look for an answer in others or solutions we can create that may end that suffering. But the correct way is to plead your cause before God. Know that you came into this world for a purpose there is a God who made you and blew breath in you and the purpose of life can only be found in him. Too often we are trapped in a cycle that man can not have an answer for.

Faith Deliverance International Ministries

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No doctor could not help Hannah because God shut up her womb. Some of us this morning, the pain and suffering you have God ordained it and has a purpose in our lives. Sometimes it is pain and suffering that will cause us to channel our thoughts to the eternal one. The pain and the suffering is not an enemy it will take you on a path to one who can provide rest for the weary. So Hannah went up to the temple and Eli sat on a post at the temple. And Hannah wept not just sobbing. Hannah recognized the answer for her pain was with God. The answer is with the creator. In this period of time, the priest had a very significant role, he represented God and was the mediator and the bible said he marked her mouth and he thought she was drunk. The mediator witnessed this woman weeping marked her mouth and noticed only her lips moved. There are times in our lives that the agony of the heart cannot be audibly expressed, there are times we are overwhelmed with such pain and sorrow that our lips will move but nothing can come out because there is a deep cry on the inside. Many believed that those who went up to the feast would drink until they were drunk so Eli assumed she was drunk. Can you imagine in the pain and suffering that you are experiencing you just heard from the only one who can give you an answer told you are I not better than ten sons in other words he had given up while you clung to hope? Hannah responds now to the mediator who accused her of being drunk, that she drank no wine but poured out her soul before the Lord.

You don't understand how weighty my complaint is and my grieve you have misread. It is the pain that has caused me to be like this. Pain, the Lord knows it. Suffering, loss of loved ones, rejection by loved ones, divorce by partners rejected by children and parents. Taken advantage of as a child, sexually molested and no one to care for you. Helpless and hopeless in pouring out your soul you seek for an answer in the wrong places, even to churches, and were judged and criticized such as Hannah. After explaining herself Eli said go in peace and God grant you your petition. So she went away and ate and she was no longer sad.

A man by his own effort seeks to be reunited with God and does so in various ways to gain access to the higher realm but Jesus says all things are given to me of my Father and no man knoweth the Son but the Father... Hannah had access based on the fact that the Lord had given them the Tabernacle and temple and the high priest that would represent the people before God. Hannah went to the temple to make contact with God. Now we have a challenge because there is no more temple and all others that were outside of Israel had no hope. The challenge is we are experiencing similar pain how can we find God to plead our cause. Jesus uttered these words to villages who had rejected him and he said everything is delivered to me of my Father and no man knoweth the Son neither any man knows the father. No man can have access to God simply because we don't know him only the Son and he to whomever the Son will reveal him.

There is no access to God outside of Jesus Christ so unless we understand who Jesus is we are left in a dilemma of suffering and agony which will end in death. No man knoweth the Son but the father. Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Every individual is seeking rest in some form or the other. Every individual is seeking an end to their suffering and pain. there are two extremes - one of extreme weariness that can not take another step and then there is another individual who is under a burden, this person is about to go crazy because of the burden. The Lord did not tell s what caused the weariness or the burdens, perhaps it's the natural condition of every man. But he says to every person Come to me all ye that are heavily burdened. I will give you rest from your burdens and struggles. The invitation is for everyone who needs rest.

Hannah rested in the word that was spoken by the Priest. Jesus said come to me you can't attempt to find God outside of me. No man knoweth the Father except the Son. it is the revelation that Jesus gives that will cause us to find rest.

Some have made the mistake of trying to reason and define who Jesus is. Phillip asked the same question and Jesus told I'm he was going and Phillip sad show us the father
That statement is everything that men are seeking, that one statement is the solution to every man's trials and tribulations, if we know God we will be satisfied. Jesus said have you been with me and don't know me?

Hannahs faith in the word granted her peace in her soul. Since no man has access to God unless Jesus reveals who God is what are we to do? how can we receive a word to find the rest?

John 1:1 - so there is an answer for humans dilemma, in the beginning, was the word...The word!

God is the word. In the beginning, was the word and the word was with God and the Word was God.

John 1:14 - the word became flesh and dwelt among us....full of grace and truth. Jesus Christ - God manifested in flesh, that's why he can say come unto me. There is a word it's in him, he is the word. Come unto to me (the word in the flesh) he can give you rest for your weary soul.

It is impossible, very extremely difficult to please men because men change. But God never changes. Jesus said I seek always to please my father by doing His will. Jesus is saying my will for you is light. It's not something you will fail to achieve if you come to me I will give you rest for your soul. the problem is some of us who have not yet know n the Lord begin to reason it out when we have not found rest. Learn of me for I am meek and lowly in my heart and you will find rest in your souls. Get to know him and his purpose and Love for you and how he will make you live an abundant life in this world. It tells me that the answer to life's trials is rest that can only be found in our creator. All things were made by him and without him was nothing made. Everything is found in Jesus.

Pain is designed to allow you to be fruitful but you can find rest. Rest in Jesus.

Come to christ he wants to give you rest and heal the broken heart. Lift your hands and bless the Lord Jesus. Jesus knows your suffering and pain. Come I will give you rest.

The hope in this world is in Jesus today.