

## 15.02 Samuel Is Born, Serves, Gets Coats (1 Samuel 1:19–28; 2:10, 18–21)

✓ “*Check*” it out; opinion, inference, supposed conversation, or fact one can verify follows  
[ . . . ] indicates a remark to the teacher that usually should not be read. It also indicates answers to questions.

### Visuals and Tools:

- Pictures and other visuals found at the end of this lesson. Please give credit to the sources of pictures.
- Check “Activities” and “Handwork” found below for additional materials.
- Five-gallon bucket

**Bible Time Tips and Terms to Teach:** Vocabulary words are enlarged for flashcards at the end of this lesson. Print, cut out, and glue to card stock, or just print on colorful cardstock.

- (none for this lesson)

### Scripture: (ESV)

1 Samuel 1:19 They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the Lord; then they went back to their house at Ramah. And Elkanah knew Hannah his wife, and the Lord remembered her. 20 And in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, “I have asked for him from the Lord.”

21 The man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow. 22 But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, “As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, so that he may appear in the presence of the Lord and dwell there forever.” 23 Elkanah her husband said to her, “Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him; only, may the Lord establish his word.” So the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him. 24 And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh. And the child was young. 25 Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. 26 And she said, “Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. 27 For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition that I made to him. 28 Therefore I have lent him to the Lord. As long as he lives, he is lent to the Lord.” And he worshiped the Lord there.

2:1 And Hannah prayed and said, “My heart exults in the Lord; my horn is exalted in the Lord. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation.

2 “There is none holy like the Lord: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God. 3 Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by his actions are weighed. 4 The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble bind on strength. 5 Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. 6 The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. 7 The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts. 8 He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord’s, and on them he has set the world.

9 “He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness, for not by might shall a man prevail. 10 The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; against them he will thunder in heaven. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

11 Then Elkanah went home to Ramah. And the boy was ministering to the Lord in the presence of Eli the priest. 18 Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy clothed with a linen ephod. 19 And his mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. 20 Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the Lord give you children by this

woman for the petition she asked of the Lord.” So then they would return to their home.

21 Indeed the Lord visited Hannah, and she conceived and bore three sons and two daughters. And the boy Samuel grew in the presence of the Lord.

### Introduction/Review:

Barren Hannah, wife of Elkanah and fellow wife with Penninah, desired with all her heart to have a son. When she went to worship God at the tabernacle, she poured out her heart to the Lord, even promising that if God would give her a son, she would give him back to God to serve at the tabernacle.

Eli, the high priest, at first thought Hannah was drunk because she moved her lips and body as she prayed but made no sound. When Hannah told him of her burden in prayer, Eli said her request would be granted.

### Story:

God answered Hannah’s prayer for a son. She named her son Samuel (“asked of God”) because she said, “I asked God for him.” Will she keep her vow?

Elkanah, as usual, took his family up to the tabernacle to worship God at Shiloh year by year. However, Hannah asked to be excused a few years from the annual pilgrimage so that she could stay home with Samuel. She said, “I’ll stay home until he’s older; then I will bring him so that he may appear before the Lord and stay there forever.” That sounds like a good intention. Will Hannah go through with such a hard thing as to take her only son to the tabernacle to live?

Elkanah answered, “Okay, do what you think is best; only don’t forget your vow.” (Good for Elkanah!)

The time eventually came, though, when Hannah did keep her vow. We guess that Samuel might have been ✓four or five years old. We can imagine ✓Hannah was sad at the impending parting, expecting to see her son only once a year from then on. However, when “the child was young,” Hannah took Samuel, and the Bible mentions no sorrow on her part. When she took Samuel to the tabernacle at Shiloh, she also took three bulls (ESV translation is “a three-year-old bull”), an ephah (5.8 gallons) of flour, and a bottle of wine. ✓Perhaps she brought all this “food” as payment for the actual food Samuel would eat. But we know that a bull was slaughtered, ✓maybe for a sacrifice.

When Elkanah’s family arrived at the tabernacle, Hannah went to Eli the priest, saying, “O my dear sir; as you live, master, I am that woman who stood by you praying. I prayed for this child, and the Lord has given me what I asked for. Therefore, I have returned him to the Lord for as long as he lives.”

Eli ✓(and/or Samuel) then worshiped the Lord, but Hannah sincerely worshiped as she composed a wonderful prayer song. As we listen to Hannah’s prayer, let’s pay attention to what she said about our God [noted by bold print and also found in a chart below]:

“My heart exults in the Lord. . . . My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation. **There is none holy like the Lord: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.** Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for **the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by his actions are weighed.** The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble bind on strength. . . . The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. **The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts.** He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For **the pillars of the earth are the Lord’s, and on them he has set the world. He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness,** for not by might shall a man prevail. The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; **against them he will thunder in heaven. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt . . . his anointed.**”

My! Hannah certainly knew a lot about our God, didn’t she? [Review the chart below.]

The time came for parting; Hannah and Elkanah left Samuel behind, under the care of Eli, to work in the tabernacle. What work could a child do in the tabernacle? ✓Perhaps Samuel cleaned the furniture, swept the floor, dusted Eli's tent.

Of course, just like other kids, he grew. So every year when Hannah, Elkanah, (and Peninnah) came to Shiloh to worship God, his mother brought him a bigger garment to wear until the next year.

Eli blessed Elkanah and Hannah, saying, "May the Lord give you other children through Hannah because you have loaned Samuel to the Lord.

Guess what! God did indeed bless Hannah and Elkanah—with two daughters and three more sons! These children grew up at home with their parents, but Samuel "grew before the Lord" at the tabernacle. God would eventually make him a great prophet in Israel.

### Lessons from this lesson:

- We see Jesus:

Elkanah loved Hannah no less because she was barren. Jesus loves His people no matter what their condition in life may be (Matthew Henry at <https://www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries/matthew-henry-complete/1-samuel/1.html>).

### Activities:

- Play dough: baby, coat[s]
- Snack: Beef jerky or some other form of beef (related to the story by the bulls Hannah brought to Eli)
- Read other children's books of this story to students. (Be discerning; show discrepancies with Scripture.)
- Have students arrange flannelgraph figures as they retell the story.
- Sing the following songs found at <https://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-crafts-samuel.html#songs> (Other activities are also suggested at this site):

"Samuel the Boy" by Nancy Foss

"Sam-u-el Grew Inside and Out" by Theresa Bostick.

- Use yarn to measure the students. Send the yarn home in an envelope.
- Find the meanings of students' names. (See <https://www.momjunction.com/baby-names/>.)
- Do charades of Samuel's activities in the tabernacle.
- Review questions: (Game: Print on cardstock and cut out the eight coats found below. Students who answer a question correctly may place a coat in a pocket chart or on a flannel board (if printed copy is backed with flannel, flocked paper, or paper towel).
  1. What did Hannah name her baby? [Samuel.]
  2. What does *Samuel* mean? [Asked of the Lord.]
  3. Name one of the three things Hannah brought to the tabernacle. [A bull, an ephah of flour, wine.]
  4. Hannah said Samuel was lent to the Lord for how long? [As long as he lived.]
  5. Tell one thing Hannah said about God in her prayer song. [He is holy, a rock, a God of knowledge; He weighs actions, kills and brings to life, makes poor and makes rich, brings low and he exalts; He has set the world on pillars; He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, will cut off the wicked, will judge the ends of the earth; will give strength to his king and exalt his anointed.]
  6. How often did Hannah get to see Samuel? [Once a year.]
  7. What did Hannah make for Samuel each year? [A robe/coat.]
  8. How did God bless Hannah for her faithfulness? [Gave her three more sons and two daughters.]

**Memory Verse[s]:**

- Psalm 55:17: “Evening, morning, and at noon will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.”

**Handwork:**

- Make graduated sizes of coats from wallpaper, or print the coats found below. Have students sort in growth order and glue to a large sheet of paper. Glue the verse found below at the bottom or top of the paper.

# Hannah's Prayer Song

## *What God Is*

holy

a rock

a God of knowledge

## *What God Does*

weighs actions

kills and brings to life

makes poor and makes rich

brings low and exalts

## *What God Has Done*

set the world on pillars

## *What God Will Do*

guard the feet of his faithful ones

cut off the wicked

judge the ends of the earth

give strength to his king

exalt his anointed.

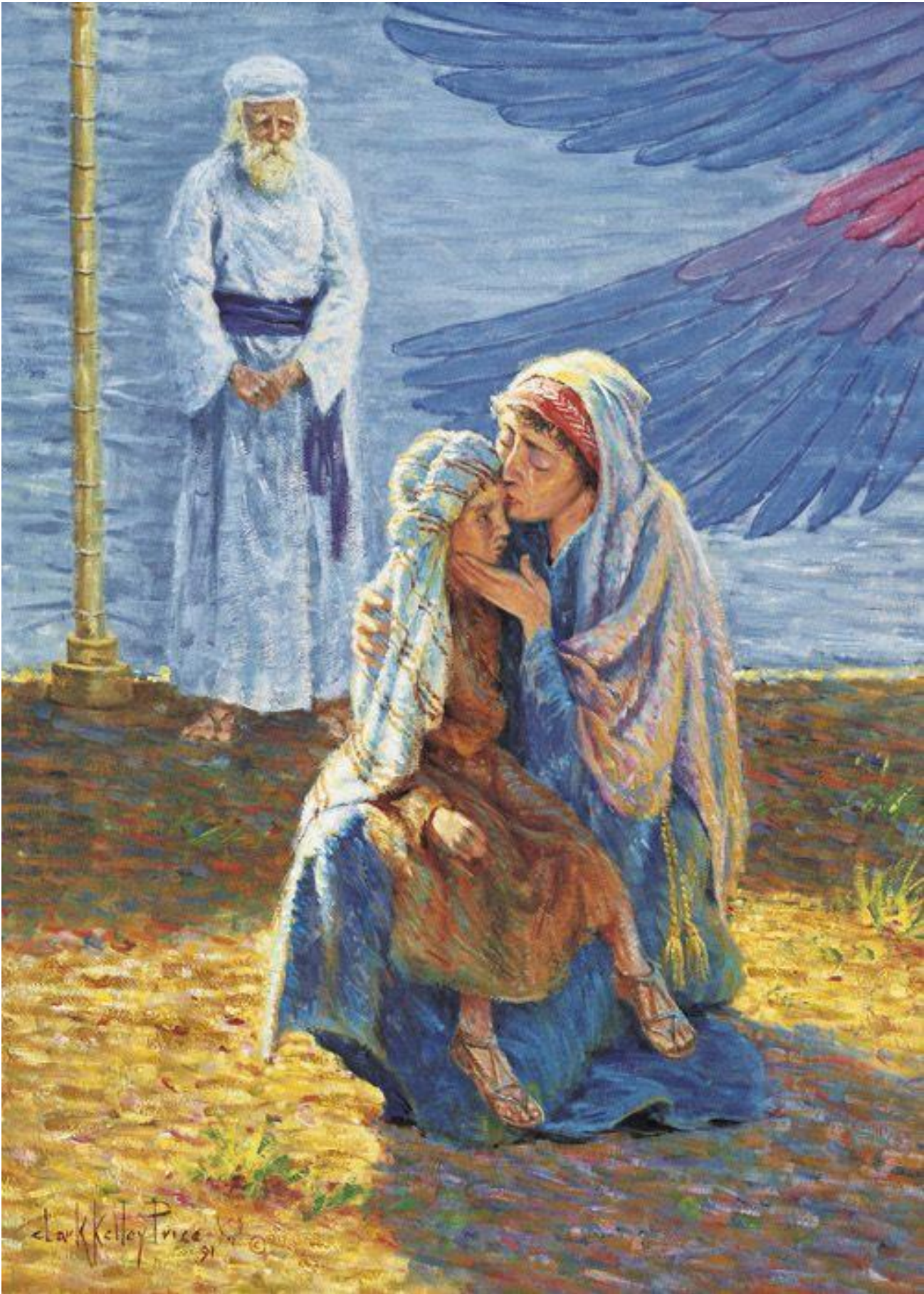






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<https://www.daniellesplace.com/images69/samuels-coat-book-craft.jpg>



And his mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice (1 Samuel 2:19).

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