

Series: Influencers

Hannah: A Lady of Prayer

1 Samuel 1

2 Chron. 7:14, If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Hannah Utilized Prayer as Influence over Her Rival

1:4-5, When the day came that Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to Peninnah his wife and to all her sons and her daughters;
5 but to Hannah he would give a double portion, for he loved Hannah, but the LORD had closed her womb.

1:6-7, Her rival, however, would provoke her bitterly to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. 7 It happened year after year, as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she would provoke her; so she wept and would not eat.

Mt.5:43-44, “You have heard that it was said,
‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’
44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray
for those who persecute you.

Rom. 12:20, “If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals of shame on their heads.”

Hannah's Prayer Influenced Her Priest

1:11, “O LORD of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and a razor shall never come on his head.”

1:17-18, Then Eli answered and said, “Go in peace; and may the God of Israel grant your petition that you have asked of Him.” 18 She said, “Let your maidservant find favor in your sight.” So the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad.

Hannah's Prayer Conveyed Influence even to Her Husband

1:22-23, But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, “I will not go up until the child is weaned; then I will bring him, that he may appear before the LORD and stay there forever.”²³ Elkanah her husband said to her, “Do what seems best to you. Remain until you have weaned him.

Hannah's Prayer Influenced the Entire Nation

1:26-28, She said, "Oh, my lord! As your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you, praying to the Lord. 27 "For this boy I prayed, and the Lord has given me my petition which I asked of Him. 28 "So I have also dedicated him to the Lord; as long as he lives he is dedicated to the Lord." And he worshiped the Lord there.

Lk. 18:1, Now He was telling them a parable to show that at all times they ought to pray and not to lose heart.

Eph. 6:18, And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Hannah