

# 100 Bible Stories

## 35. The Boy Samuel

### I Samuel 1-4 (NKJV)

Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim Zophim . . . and his name was Elkanah....<sup>2</sup>And he had two wives: the name of one was Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children. <sup>3</sup>This man went up from his city yearly to worship and sacrifice to the Lord of hosts in Shiloh. Also the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the Lord, were there...<sup>9</sup>So Hannah arose after they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat by the doorpost of the tabernacle of the Lord. <sup>10</sup>And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the Lord and wept in anguish. <sup>11</sup>Then she made a vow and said, "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 male child, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and no razor shall come upon his head."

<sup>19</sup> . . . and the Lord remembered her. <sup>20</sup>So it came to pass in the process of time that Hannah conceived and bore a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, "Because I have asked for him from the Lord. . . ."

<sup>24</sup>Now when she had weaned him, she took him up with her. . . and brought him to the house of the Lord in Shiloh... to Eli. <sup>26</sup>And she said, ". . . <sup>27</sup>For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition which I asked of Him. <sup>28</sup>Therefore I also have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives he shall be lent to the Lord."

<sup>2.12</sup>Now the sons of Eli were corrupt; they did not know the Lord...<sup>22</sup>Now Eli was very old; and he heard everything his sons did to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who assembled at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. <sup>23</sup>So he said to them, "Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all the people. <sup>24</sup>No, my sons! For it is not a good report that I hear. You make the Lord's people transgress. <sup>25</sup>If one man sins against another, God will judge him. But if a man sins against the Lord, who will intercede for him?" Nevertheless they did not heed the voice of their father, because the Lord desired to kill them. <sup>26</sup>And the child Samuel grew in stature, and in favor both with the Lord and men...

<sup>3.10</sup>Now the Lord came and stood and called as at other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel answered, "Speak, for Your servant hears." <sup>11</sup>Then the Lord said to Samuel: "Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. <sup>12</sup>In that day I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end." <sup>15</sup> And Samuel was afraid to tell Eli the vision. <sup>16</sup> Then Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son! . . . What is the word that the Lord spoke to you? Please do not hide it from me. God do so to you, and more also, if you hide anything from me of all the things that He said to you." <sup>18</sup> Then Samuel told him everything, and hid nothing from him. And he said, "It is the Lord. Let Him do what seems good to Him."

<sup>4.1</sup>Now Israel went out to battle against the Philistines...<sup>4</sup> And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God. . . .<sup>10</sup>So the Philistines fought, and Israel was defeated, and every man fled to his tent. . . .<sup>11</sup>Also the ark of God was captured; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died. . . . <sup>12</sup>Then a man of Benjamin ran from the battle line the same day, and came to Shiloh. . . .<sup>16</sup>Then the man said to Eli, "I am he who came from the battle. And I fled today from the battle line. Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has been a great slaughter among the people. Also your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead; and the ark of God has been captured." <sup>18</sup>Then it happened, when he made mention of the ark of God, that Eli fell off the seat backward by the side of the gate; and his neck was broken and he died, for the man was old and heavy. And he had judged Israel forty years.

Still in the period of the Judges.

What does this say to the barren?

Hannah sings, Ch. 2.

Characterize Eli...

The Last Judge....Eli or Samuel?