

1 Samuel 1:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the LORD.

Analysis

Hannah's rising after the meal demonstrates purposeful action amid her grief. The phrase 'house of the LORD' technically anachronistic (the Temple was not yet built) refers to the Tabernacle complex at Shiloh. Eli's position 'by a post of the temple' (Hebrew: mezuzah, doorpost) indicates his place of authority. The contrast between the aged, stationary priest and the grieving woman who will initiate spiritual renewal is deliberate. God often bypasses institutional channels to work through unexpected instruments.

Historical Context

The structure at Shiloh, though called the Tabernacle, appears to have incorporated more permanent architectural elements (doorposts, doors). Archaeological excavations at Shiloh (Khirbet Seilun) reveal significant Iron Age I remains, though the sanctuary itself has not been definitively identified.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 – Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does Hannah's intentional movement toward prayer challenge passive responses to difficulty?
2. What does the contrast between institutional religion (Eli) and genuine devotion (Hannah) teach us?

Interlinear Text

וְאַכֵּל הַבָּשָׂל הַיְתָה קָם	אַכֵּל הַבָּשָׂל הַיְתָה קָם				
rose up	So Hannah	after	they had eaten	in Shiloh	after
H6965	H2584	H310	H398	H7887	H310
וְשָׁת הַעַל יְלִיעָל	וְשָׁת הַעַל יְלִיעָל	וְשָׁת הַעַל יְלִיעָל	וְשָׁת הַעַל יְלִיעָל	וְשָׁת הַעַל יְלִיעָל	וְשָׁת הַעַל יְלִיעָל
they had drunk	Now Eli	the priest	sat	upon a seat	by a post
H8354	H5941	H3548	H3427	H3678	H4201
וְיְהִי לְהִיכָּל	וְיְהִי לְהִיכָּל	וְיְהִי לְהִיכָּל	וְיְהִי לְהִיכָּל	וְיְהִי לְהִיכָּל	וְיְהִי לְהִיכָּל
of the temple	of the LORD				
H1964	H3068				

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 3:3 (Temple): And ere the lamp of God went out in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was, and Samuel was laid down to sleep;

Psalms 27:4 (Temple): One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.