

1 Samuel 2:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

Analysis

Hannah's prayer inaugurates one of Scripture's most significant prophetic poems. Her 'heart' (lev) rejoicing shows internal transformation, while her 'horn' (qeren) being exalted pictures strength restored - the horn symbolizing power as in a strong bull. The phrase 'mouth is enlarged' over enemies indicates confident speech replacing shameful silence. The Hebrew yeshu'ah (salvation) introduces a theme that echoes through Scripture to Jesus (Yeshua) Himself. Hannah's personal deliverance becomes a lens for understanding cosmic redemption. Her song anticipates Mary's Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) in remarkable parallel.

Historical Context

Victory songs following divine intervention were common in ancient Israel (Exodus 15; Judges 5; 2 Samuel 22). Hannah's psalm uniquely moves from personal thanksgiving to prophetic anticipation of the Davidic kingdom and messianic hope. This progression establishes a pattern for later psalmic praise.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does personal experience of God's deliverance lead to broader vision of His redemptive purposes?
2. What connections do you see between Hannah's song and Mary's Magnificat?

Interlinear Text

וַתִּתְפַּלֵּל ל	חַנָּה	וַתֹּאמֶר	עַל י	לְבִי	בְּיְהוָה	כִּי מָה
prayed	And Hannah	and said	rejoiceth	My heart	in the LORD	is exalted
H6419	H2584	H559	H5970	H3820	H3068	H7311
קִרְנִי	בְּיְהוָה	כִּי חֹב	פִּי	עַל	אֶנְיָבִי	כִּי
mine horn	in the LORD	is enlarged	my mouth	H5921	over mine enemies	H3588
H7161	H3068	H7337	H6310		H341	
שָׁמַיְתִי	בִּישׁוּעָתְךָ:					
because I rejoice	in thy salvation					
H8055	H3444					

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 13:5 (Salvation): But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy salvation.

Psalms 92:10 (Parallel theme): But my horn shalt thou exalt like the horn of an unicorn: I shall be anointed with fresh oil.

Philippians 4:6 (Prayer): Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Psalms 89:17 (Parallel theme): For thou art the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted.

Psalms 20:5 (Salvation): We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners: the LORD fulfil all thy petitions.

Psalms 9:14 (Salvation): That I may shew forth all thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion: I will rejoice in thy salvation.

Philippians 4:4 (References Lord): Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

Psalms 35:9 (Salvation): And my soul shall be joyful in the LORD: it shall rejoice in his salvation.

Psalms 118:14 (Salvation): The LORD is my strength and song, and is become my salvation.

Psalms 89:24 (Parallel theme): But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted.