

**GIVE ME YOUR SON (part 2)**  
**I Samuel 1; 2:18-21**

And [Hannah] was in distress of soul, praying to the Lord and weeping bitterly. She vowed, saying, O Lord of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your handmaid and remember, and not forget Your handmaid but will give me a son, I **will give him to the Lord all his life**; no razor shall touch his head. When she had weaned him, she took him with her, with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin bottle of wine, and brought Samuel to the Lord's house in Shiloh. Hannah said, Oh my lord! As your soul lives, my lord, I am the woman who stood by you here praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted my petition made to Him. **Therefore I have given him to the Lord; as long as he lives he is given to the Lord.** And they worshiped the Lord there.

So the sin of the young men was very great before the Lord, for they despised the offering of the Lord, but Samuel ministered before the Lord, a child **girded** with a **linen ephod**. (An ephod was a richly embroidered outer vestment worn by Jewish Priests).

When God told Abraham to sacrifice his son, He wanted to show the picture of what was going to happen four thousand years later on those mount ranges when He would have given His only Son to be the substitutional lamb through death on the cross. We well know that the blood of Isaac would never have the power to forgive sins, neither to save the world. Abraham, in his obedience to God, submitted to His command and the silent negative of the picture taken four thousand years early was developed in the cry of God's Son, "My God, My God why have You forsaken Me"?

The test God is putting before us concerning our children has eternal value. It carries the weight of sanctification for all of us. God desires to have our children back for His purpose to be accomplished in their lives. We mothers have become a stumbling block, a hindrance to the process and progress of the maturing of our children, because we can't trust God. God wants to show His faithfulness to the world thru our children. And just like Abraham, we must exercise faith and trust to believe that all will be well when we give our children back to God.

Hannah had a desire, a strong desire- to have a son. In her anguish while praying, she vowed to give him to the Lord, if the Lord would grant her a son. She said, I will give him to the Lord all his life. When the Lord blessed her with a son, she hid not her son from the Lord and the Lord blessed her with five more children: two daughters and three sons. Our heavenly Father will never be undersold! We give Him one and He gives us five- five times the amount given Him. The number five speaks of grace; God's grace imparted to us.

"But Samuel ministered before the Lord, a child girded with a linen ephod"- representing his future role in God's plan for Him. A child is never too young to be given to the Lord. Samuel was a blessed child through the faithfulness of his mother; when we give our child to the Lord and take him/her back we are placing him/her in harm's way. Give him/her to the Lord and blessings will flow to you first and to him/her. "Who is the man who reverently fears and

worships the Lord? Him shall He teach in the way that he should choose. He himself shall dwell at ease, and his offspring shall inherit the land” (Psalm 25:12-13); “Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who delights greatly in His commandments, his offspring shall be mighty upon earth; the generation of the upright shall be blessed” (Psalm 112:2).

Although we are victims of our forefather’s sins, we were also given guidance to make the right choices in life. “See, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil. [If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God which] I command you today, to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His ordinances, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land into which you go to possess’. “I call heaven and earth to witness this day against you that I have set before you life and death, the blessings and the curses; therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live” (Deuteronomy 30:15-16;19).

**“Therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live”**. We either impart blessings, or curse to our children through the way we live and the decisions we have made. If my child will suffer the consequences of my immoral life, why must I continue on the path of destruction for him/her? If I disobey, they will be cursed; if I obey they will be blessed. Choose life my friend, for your future and the future of your children.