



Part 2 - The LORD Knows

August 31st, 2025

Scriptures: 1 Samuel 2:1-11; Luke 1:46-55, 68-69

Main Idea: Hannah's prayer and Mary's song proclaim that true victory and peace come not through human strength, but through Jesus, our Messiah-King, who humbles the proud and lifts the humble.

Last Week — We saw that despite Hannah's trials, the Lord was **near**.

This Week — "The LORD is a God who **knows**" (1 Samuel 2:3; John 10:14)

Reflection: The Lord's "knowing" is the source of our comfort. It's the power behind His peace that transcends all understanding. And it's what gives us the strength to rejoice in the Lord no matter what comes our way. (1 Cor 1:3; Phil 4:4-7)

1. What happened after Hannah brought Samuel to the tabernacle?

- Hannah didn't abandon Samuel. She visited regularly (1 Samuel 2:19)
- Making robes was Hannah's way to meet his basic needs
(1 Samuel 2:19; Matthew 5:40; Exodus 22:26-27; Deuteronomy 24:12-13)
- Her vow was a lifelong pattern of steady, faithful devotion (1 Samuel 1:11)

Fun Fact: Hannah only appears in 2 chapters of the Bible. But her faithfulness left such an impact on Samuel that he placed her story at the very beginning of Israel's royal history. Her heart for the LORD is what sets the tone for the entire book.

2. Hannah's Prayer — 1 Samuel 2:1-10

- (v1) "horn" = symbol for strength and victory
- (v1) "My mouth boasts" = once silenced and humiliated; now strengthened to speak boldly because the Lord didn't forget her
- (v2) "there is no one besides you" = no god compares to Yahweh God
- (v2) "there is no Rock like our God" → Genesis 49:24; Deuteronomy 32
- (v3) "God who knows" = He knows our actions and our hearts
- (v3) "deeds are weighed" = personal (Peninnah) and prophetic (national) warning

- (v4-5) Notice the pattern: bows/broken; weak/strengthened; the full/never satisfied; the hungry/ satisfied by the Lord

→ **Hannah's story** shows that when God is near and known, He has the power to flip the script! Lives change. He is in control.

- (v6-8a) The Lord has the power and authority to reverse circumstances
- (v8b-9a) “guard the feet” = the path of the faithful won’t end in ruin
- (v8b-9a) “the foundations .. are the Lords” = He’s the Almighty Creator
- (v9b) literal Hebrew translation = “*For not by strength will a man be strong.*”
 - This is just as true for us today as it was for Hannah!
 - Historically, “peace through strength” is an ancient posture of empires and nations. But Hannah shows a different posture (see also Matthew 5:3-12)
 - True peace, justice and security come from the Lord (Psalm 20:7)

→ **Mary's Song** echoes Hannah's prayer — Luke 1:46-55

- (v10) “anointed” = “messiah” - This is the first time in the Bible that the term “messiah” is linked to a king! Moses pointed toward a future prophet-messiah and a future king. But Hannah linked the two, pointing forward to Jesus, our Messiah-King!

→ Our strength is not in ourselves, but in **Jesus, our Messiah-King**, who is *near*, who *knows*, and who *saves*.

6. Going Deeper:

- **READ Psalm 139.** Where in your life right now do you most need to rest in the truth that God is both near and that He knows you fully?
- **READ Psalm 20:7 & 2 Corinthians 12:9-10.** What areas of self-reliance might you need to surrender to the Lord?
- **READ Philippians 3:20-21.** Hannah, Mary, and Zechariah all placed their hope in God's Messiah. What does it look like for you to live out your primary allegiance to Jesus in a world that celebrates self-sufficiency and power?