

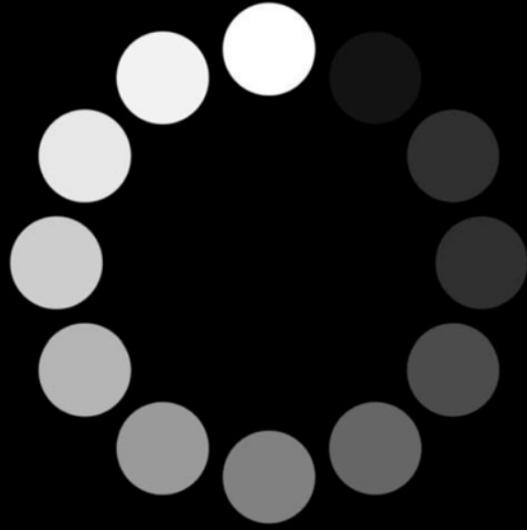


Prayers

*Why sermons? Why study the word?*

## 1 Thessalonians 2:13

13 And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.



LOADING...

# DOMINO'S TRACKER®

1

ORDER PLACED

2

PREP

3

BAKE

4

QUALITY CHECK

5

READY FOR PICKUP

PATENT PENDING



## YOUR ORDER IS IN THE OVEN!

Shahla started baking your order at **06:31 PM**



Lars T Midthun

19m · 👤



No surprise here!! [#spotifywrapped](#)



My Top Artist

**My Own Intrusive Thoughts**

Minutes Listened

**1,000,000**

Top 0.5% of Listeners



13

14

15

16

19

20



# Walmart BLACK FRIDAY **DEALS** FOR DAYS

NOV.  
7-13

EVENT 1

NOV.  
14-20

EVENT 2

NOV.  
21-27

EVENT 3

NOV.  
28

CYBER MONDAY

For more details about the online and in-store portions of these events, please visit [walmart.com/holidays](https://walmart.com/holidays)



# This Week's Sermon

*"Hannah's Prayer of Praise"*

1 Samuel 2:1-10



# Judges 21:25

25 In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.

# 1 Samuel 1

There was a certain man from Ramathaim, a Zuphite from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. 2 He had two wives; one was called Hannah and the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had none.

3 Year after year this man went up from his town to worship and sacrifice to the Lord Almighty at Shiloh, where Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, were priests of the Lord.

4 Whenever the day came for Elkanah to sacrifice, he would give portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters. 5 But to Hannah he gave a double portion because he loved her, and the Lord had closed her womb. 6 Because the Lord had closed Hannah's womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her. 7 This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the Lord, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat. 8 Her husband Elkanah would say to her, "Hannah, why are you weeping? Why don't you eat? Why are you downhearted? Don't I mean more to you than ten sons?"

9 Once when they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh, Hannah stood up. Now Eli the priest was sitting on his chair by the doorpost of the Lord's house. 10 In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly. 11 And she made a vow, saying, "Lord Almighty, if you will only look on your servant's misery and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son, then I will give him to the Lord for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head."

12 As she kept on praying to the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. 13 Hannah was praying in her heart, and her lips were moving but her voice was not heard. Eli thought she was drunk 14 and said to her, “How long are you going to stay drunk? Put away your wine.”

15 “Not so, my lord,” Hannah replied, “I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the Lord. 16 Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief.”

# A Biblical Theology of Barrenness

Genesis 1:28

Genesis 3:16

Genesis 11:30 - Genesis 12:1-3

Ishmael & Isaac

Genesis 25

Esau & Jacob

Judges 13 - Samson

## Genesis 3:16

16 To the woman he said,

“I will make your pains in childbearing very severe;  
with painful labor you will give birth to children.

Your desire will be for your husband,  
and he will rule over you.”

# Samson - Judges 13

2 A certain man of Zorah, named Manoah, from the clan of the Danites, had a wife who was childless, unable to give birth. 3 The angel of the Lord appeared to her and said, "You are barren and childless, but you are going to become pregnant and give birth to a son. 4 Now see to it that you drink no wine or other fermented drink and that you do not eat anything unclean. 5 You will become pregnant and have a son whose head is never to be touched by a razor because the boy is to be a Nazirite, dedicated to God from the womb. He will take the lead in delivering Israel from the hands of the Philistines."

17 Eli answered, "Go in peace, and may the God of Israel grant you what you have asked of him."

18 She said, "May your servant find favor in your eyes." Then she went her way and ate something, and her face was no longer downcast.

19 Early the next morning they arose and worshiped before the Lord and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah made love to his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. 20 So in the course of time Hannah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, "Because I asked the Lord for him."

“In all of these instances, barrenness is presented as a historical fact in the personal lives of the great people of Israel's past. In every biblical case barrenness was deliberately and purposefully overcome by God and the barren woman produced a son who became a hero in Israel's history...”

~Karen Jobes, *Jerusalem Our Mother*, Westminster Theological Journal, 1993, p. 307

21 When her husband Elkanah went up with all his family to offer the annual sacrifice to the Lord and to fulfill his vow, 22 Hannah did not go. She said to her husband, “After the boy is weaned, I will take him and present him before the Lord, and he will live there always.”

23 “Do what seems best to you,” her husband Elkanah told her. “Stay here until you have weaned him; only may the Lord make good his word.” So the woman stayed at home and nursed her son until she had weaned him.

24 After he was weaned, she took the boy with her, young as he was, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh. 25 When the bull had been sacrificed, they brought the boy to Eli, 26 and she said to him, "Pardon me, my lord. As surely as you live, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the Lord. 27 I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him. 28 So now I give him to the Lord. For his whole life he will be given over to the Lord." And he worshiped the Lord there.

# 1 Samuel 2:1-10

Then Hannah prayed and said:

“My heart rejoices in the Lord;

in the Lord my horn is lifted high.

My mouth boasts over my enemies,

for I delight in your deliverance.

2 “There is no one holy like the Lord;

there is no one besides you;

there is no Rock like our God.

3 “Do not keep talking so proudly  
or let your mouth speak such arrogance,  
for the Lord is a God who knows,  
and by him deeds are weighed.

4 “The bows of the warriors are broken,  
but those who stumbled are armed with strength.  
5 Those who were full hire themselves out for food,  
but those who were hungry are hungry no more.  
She who was barren has borne seven children,  
but she who has had many sons pines away.

6 “The Lord brings death and makes alive;  
he brings down to the grave and raises up.

7 The Lord sends poverty and wealth;  
he humbles and he exalts.

8 He raises the poor from the dust  
and lifts the needy from the ash heap;  
he seats them with princes  
and has them inherit a throne of honor.

“For the foundations of the earth are the Lord’s;  
on them he has set the world.

9 He will guard the feet of his faithful servants,  
but the wicked will be silenced in the place of darkness.

“It is not by strength that one prevails;

10 those who oppose the Lord will be broken.

The Most High will thunder from heaven;  
the Lord will judge the ends of the earth.

“He will give strength to his king  
and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

# Who is Samuel?

Heaven sent child

Dedicated to the Lord all of his life

Prophet

Judge

Leader / Deliverer

*How is Hannah's Prayer about Christmas?*

# A Biblical Theology of Barrenness

1 Samuel 1-2

Isaiah 54:1 + Galatians 4

Luke 1 - Elizabeth & John The Baptist

Luke 1 - Mary

Romans 8

## Isaiah 54:1

“Sing, barren woman,

you who never bore a child;

burst into song, shout for joy,

you who were never in labor;

because more are the children of the desolate woman

than of her who has a husband,”

says the Lord.

“Isaiah, however, totally transforms the theme of barrenness. Isaiah's transformation of this theme prepares the way for its startling use by Paul in Galatians 4... Isaiah used this theme as it had never previously been used and radically transformed it from "the story of a birth of a child to the story of a birth of a people." According to Callaway, Isaiah uses the theme of barrenness not to speak of God's past faithfulness to his people, as the Pentateuch does, but to proclaim a future manifestation of God's power.”



~Karen Jobes, Jerusalem Our Mother, Westminster Theological Journal, 1993, p. 307



# Jesus, the Greater Samuel

Heaven sent child

Dedicated to the Lord all of his life

Delivers a people from greater enemies

Is our righteousness

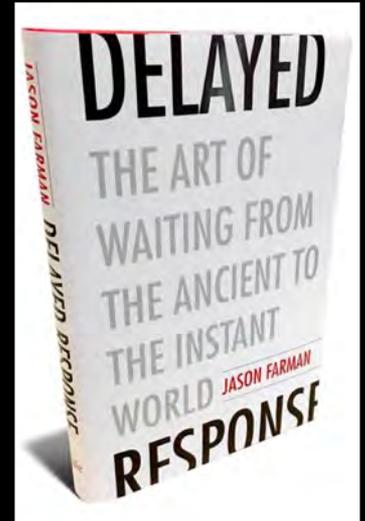
Leads us to true worship

*What does this have to do with prayer?*

“Waiting combines two challenging states of mind: Not knowing what's coming, uncertainty, and not being able to do much or anything about it. So a lack of control. And neither of those are comfortable states for humans to be in. And when you combine them into these waiting periods, it really kind of boosts waiting into this extra suffering kind of state compared to other kinds of stress, which may be difficult in other ways. But waiting does seem to kind of tap into some existential challenges for humans in that it combines those two really challenging states.”

~Dr. Kate Sweeney, Ph.D, <https://www.apa.org/news/podcasts/speaking-of-psychology/waiting-stress>

“Wait times can often reveal our hopes for what might come on the other side of waiting. These desires can teach us about our hopes and also tell us about our present situation. Why do we want the future to be different and in what ways? ”



~<http://jasonfarman.com/delayedresponse/tactics-for-waiting/>

“Lack is strange in the world in which we live. We are all trying so desperately to fill, fill, fill, and when we can't fill it with the thing we want, we try to get another thing to stave off the pain. Boyfriends, babies, big-screen tvs, better phones – none of us are immune from the fill. Emptiness points to insufficiency and none of us can bear that for long. Even the ones who love most don't want to broach the subject of what emptiness might mean.”



~Lore Ferguson Wilbert, *sayable.net*, “The Gift Of Lack: Infertility, Miscarriage, Singleness, And The Long Wait”

# We Wait Upon God

The barrenness theme reveals that God will advance his purposes even in the face of the most seemingly hopeless, insurmountable, and sorrowful circumstances. This theme reaches its greatest fulfillment first in the birth of Christ, and second in the new birth of Christ from the grave, and is now carried onward as believers are born again in Christ and wait upon God in the “birth pains” (Romans 8) of this world, as we wait the final “new birth,” the new Jerusalem emerging from heaven, the return of Jesus to make all things new.

# 1 Samuel 2:1-10

Then Hannah prayed and said:

“My heart rejoices in the Lord;

in the Lord my horn is lifted high.

My mouth boasts over my enemies,

for I delight in your deliverance.

2 “There is no one holy like the Lord;

there is no one besides you;

there is no Rock like our God.

“God is doing something in this lack. He's doing something with this void. He's showing himself to be better than a spouse, better than children, better than security, and better than what our culture perceives as normal. He is the gift within the gift of lack.”



~Lore Ferguson Wilbert, *sayable.net*, “The Gift Of Lack: Infertility, Miscarriage, Singleness, And The Long Wait”

## Romans 8:18-25

18 I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. 19

For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? 25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.



[Bob] What are you waiting for?



I don't know.  
Something amazing, I guess.



[sighs] Me, too, kid.



Hope is the thing with feathers—  
That perches in the soul—  
And sings the tune without the words—  
And never stops—at all—

And sweetest—in the Gale—is heard  
And sore must be the storm—  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm—

I've heard it in the chilliest land—  
And on the strangest sea—  
Yet, never, in Extremity,  
It asked a crumb of me.

—Emily Dickinson

# Gospel Response

*This Christmas season...*

*are you waiting for SOMETHING AMAZING?!*