

The Blessing of God's Word in Our Afflictions

1 Samuel 1-3

October 22, 2025

1 & 2 Samuel are not really about Samuel.

- Saul and then David are much more central figures than Samuel.
- 1 Samuel marks a transition in Israel's history, going from a tribal confederacy to a unified monarchy.

1. The Lord Brings Blessings Through Hannah's Pain and Faithfulness :: 1:1-20, 2:1-10

Really, the societal shift doesn't begin with Samuel, it begins with a nondescript woman's pain.

And this barrenness is nothing new. The Lord regularly worked through childless women.

Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel (who also feuded with Leah), Manoah's wife (Samson), Elizabeth (John the Baptist)

- Barren women tended to be God's instruments in raising up key figures in the history of redemption.

1 Samuel 2:6-8

1:5 - The Lord had closed her womb

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

In her weakness, she takes her burdens to God.

2. Samuel Is Given to the Lord :: 1:21-28

Hannah had promised God that this child would be set aside to the Lord, similar to Samson.

But in gratitude, Hannah gave her so to the Lord.

- I have lent him to the Lord. As long as he lives, he is lent to the Lord.

3. Samuel Hears and Listens to God's Word :: 3:1-10

V. 1 - The word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

The way the Word of God worked in the OT is that the Lord would speak or give a vision to a prophet, who would take that word to the intended audience.

How do we hear God's Word today?

2 Timothy 3:16-17

2 Peter 1:20-21

Do we have the heart of Samuel? Speak Lord, for your servant is listening?