

Hannah's praise

1 Samuel 2:1-10

And Hannah prayed and said –

A. Horn and enemies/the Lord's salvation: "My heart exults in the Lord; my horn is exalted in the Lord. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation. 2 "There is none holy like the Lord: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.

B. Rebuke of the arrogant: 3 Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth;

C. A statement about the Lord's knowledge and judgment: for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.

D. Three reversals:

high/low – low/high: 4 The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble bind on strength.

high/low – low/high: 5 Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger.

low/high – high/low: The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn.

D¹. Three reversals:

low/high 2x: 6 The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

low/high 2x: 7 The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts.

low to high: 8 He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor.

C¹. A statement about the Lord's power and judgment: For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world. 9 He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness,

B¹. Rebuke of the powerful: for not by might shall a man prevail.

A¹. Enemies and horn/the Lord's salvation: 10 The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; against them he will thunder in heaven. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king and exalt the horn of his anointed."

- **A** has to do specifically with Hannah's situation. **A¹** look forward to Samuel and what God will do through him (1 Samuel 7:10) and beyond to David and Jesus.

- **B** through **D** works with the theme of the arrogant. **D¹** through **B¹** works with the theme of the powerful.

- The three examples in **D** are stated in the passive and are divine passives. The three examples in **D¹** are all active verbs.

- The last of the three examples in both **D** and **D¹** break the form of the previous ones. Both of these have parallels in Psalm 113. v. 5b - Psalm 113:9; v. 8 - Psalm 113:7-8.